

Australia House – Artist-in-Residence Program 2011

Application Guidelines

■ Australia House

Matsunoyama in Tokamachi City, Niigata Prefecture is a rural area famous for its beautiful terraced rice fields and heavy snowfalls. Farming in such a harsh natural environment has fostered resilient people with a rich culture. However, the region is now facing a number of issues such as a rapidly declining and aging population and the abandonment of farmland.

Australia House was established as part of the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial, a festival intended to revitalise the region. An old Japanese farm house in the Toyoda community, located in the Urada area, was renovated and transformed into Australia House, providing a base to showcase Australian artworks in Japan. It also serves as a venue for exchange between Australians and the people of the Echigo-Tsumari region.

Building upon the success of the Australia House projects which started with the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial 2009, the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial Executive Committee (the Organiser) will hold an Artist-in-Residence Program in 2011 (the Program). One Australian artist will be chosen in an open selection process. The purpose of the Program is to provide an opportunity for the successful applicant to stay in Tokamachi and create his/her artwork(s). The artwork(s) created will be shown in a temporary exhibition at the Australia House. By doing so, the artist will showcase outstanding Australian art to the people of Japan. The Program also aims to facilitate the dissemination of information and intercultural exchanges that transcend regional culture.

The Program will be held with the assistance of the Australian Embassy, Tokyo and the Australia-Japan Foundation.

For more information on the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial and its related activities as well as that on the Australia House, please see the following websites:

<http://www.echigo-tsumari.jp/>

<http://echigo.australia.or.jp/en/>

■ Program details

Period of residence (Residency Period): 7 July to 7 August 2011

Period of exhibition: 1 to 31 August 2011

* 7 to 31 July: production of the artwork and workshops

* 15 to 20 July (afternoons): open studio

* 1 August: exhibition opens

Artist's workspace and exhibition:

Australia House
6682 Urada, Matsunoyama,
Tokamachi, Niigata Prefecture

Accommodation: Australia House or a facility in Tokamachi to be decided after consultation with the Organiser.

■ Application details

One artist producing works in the field of contemporary art to be selected for the Program.

It is strongly preferred that the selected artist to once travel to Tokamachi for a site inspection for two to three days in May/June before the actual Residency Period.

The Program will be managed by NPO Echigo-Tsumari Satoyama Collaborative Organisation and Art Front Gallery. A coordinator on-ground (yet to be appointed) will facilitate the residency.

■ Eligibility

The successful applicant must:

1. be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident.
2. support the purpose of the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial and the aims of the Program (including the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Program's funding bodies), be flexible and willing to overcome cultural differences, and work in cooperation with the Organiser and local residents. For the grants conditions of the Australia-Japan Foundation, please see:
<http://ajf.australia.or.jp/english/awards/ajfgrants/>
3. in addition to producing and exhibiting works, participate in activities which help revitalise the local community, actively engage with the local community, and participate in workshops and exchange programs that are part of the Program. Unless prior approval is obtained from the Organiser and the Australian Embassy, the artist is required to stay in Tokamachi for the entire Residency Period. Trips to other regions in Japan should be undertaken with prior written consent from the Organiser and the Australian Embassy before or after the Program at the artist's expense.
4. make active contributions to publicising the Program. Any photographs, etc taken during the Program may be used free of charge for publicity by the Organiser or other parties designated by the Organiser.
5. be in good health and able to take responsibility for his/her own wellbeing during his/her stay in Japan.
6. be willing to actively communicate with the local community, even if he/she is not able to communicate in Japanese.
7. be able to drive a car in Japan.
8. take responsibility for procuring any extra equipment, etc. he/she requires in addition to the basic amenities provided at Australia House (see below for details).

9. ensure that each aspect of the Program is carried out with the consent of the Organiser and the Australian Embassy. The artist must report regularly to and coordinate closely with the Organiser, the Australian Embassy and other parties involved in regard to all aspects of the Program. The successful applicant must have briefing and debriefing meetings with the Australian Embassy staff at the beginning of the first trip and at the end of the residency.
10. demonstrate a high level of professionalism during the residency.
11. submit necessary documents including a report, financial statements and receipts, etc to the Organiser and the Australian Embassy within one month of the conclusion of the program.
12. provide necessary information and material in a timely manner for the updating of the Australia House website.
13. work to publicise the outcomes of the Program, both in Australia and overseas, in order to ensure the continuation of activities at Australia House. All publicity undertaken by the successful applicant would need the prior approval of the Organiser and the Australian Embassy and acknowledge the support provided by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
14. provide advice and cooperation to the organiser and the Australian Embassy in regard to future projects.

■ Funding

The Organiser will provide a grant of up to AUD 14,131 (approx. JPY 1,130,510 based on an exchange rate of AUD 1.00 = JPY 80) to the artist to assist with the following costs:

- Two return economy airfares for flights between Australia and Japan up to AUD 4,000 (approx. JPY 320,000) in total.
- Travel expenses between Narita Airport and Tokamachi up to AUD 500 (approx. JPY 40,000) in total. (The artist may purchase a J-Rail pass but only max. AUD 500 will be reimbursed)
- Rental car and petrol costs for the Residency Period (maximum three days for the first trip and maximum 32 days for the Residency Period) up to AUD 2,125 (approx. JPY 170,000)
- Art materials, exhibition and freight up to AUD 4,000 (approx. JPY 320,000). Costs for food and other daily necessities will not be considered as these costs.
- Living expenses and meals (JPY 3,000 per day for up to three days for the first trip and 32 days for the Residency Period), travel insurance, international driver's licence and mobile phones expenses for official calls, maximum AUD 1,725 (approx. JPY 138,000) in total.
- Utility costs including water, gas, electricity and Internet access at the Australia House up to AUD 482 (approx. JPY 38,560).
- Accommodation up to AUD 1,299 (approx. JPY 103,950) for two nights during the first visit and 31 nights during the Residency Period at the Australia House or in a facility in Tokamachi.

- * The grant must be spent on direct costs to conduct the residency and no personal expenditure of the artist can be paid out of the grant.
- * The grant will be paid to the artist according to the following schedule;
 - First payment: AUD 9,000 Date: before first inspection visit to Tokamachi
 - Second payment: remaining amount subject to satisfactory acquittal by the artist to the Organiser Date: October 31, 2011
- * Utility costs (e.g. water, gas, electricity, telephone and official calls, Internet access at the Australia House) and the fees for the rental car and accommodation in Tokamachi will be directly paid to the relevant companies by the Organiser (excluding petrol for the rental car when filling up during the Residency Period). Any excess costs incurred must be borne by the artist.
- * Capital expenditure in real property, equipment or computer software cannot be paid out of the grant.
- * The figures indicated are the maximum amount for each of the items. Transfer among each of the items requires prior written approval from the Organiser.
- * The artist would need to obtain prior written approval from the Organiser and the Australian Embassy for the legitimate expenditure incurred before and after the Residency Period to be reimbursed.
- * Within two weeks after the Residency Period, the artist must submit a report, used boarding passes and copies of all receipts relating to the expenditure items above to be paid for by the Program according to the format provided. If the artist fails to fulfil this obligation, the Organiser may refuse to pay the rest of the amount and/or request the artist to return the funds provided.
- * Any other costs incurred in relation to the Program in excess of the funding provided above will be borne by the artist.
- * Without prior written approval from the Organiser and the Australian Embassy, the artist may not let other people stay at the Australia House. (Once approved, any other person to stay at the Australia House must pay to the Organiser JPY3, 000 per night)
- * The artist will not be paid for, or must return, any left-over funding to the Organiser.
- * The artist may use the following amenities as part of his/her workspace and exhibition space (and possibly accommodation) during the Program:
 - < Australia House (two-storey wooden house with seven rooms) >
 - Amenities provided:
 - Kitchen, shower, toilet, Internet access (PC not included), washing machine, refrigerator, microwave, cooking equipment, dishes, vacuum cleaner, bedding, parking space
- * Upon completion of the Program, the property must be returned to the Organiser in the same condition it was at the beginning of the Program.
- * The artist is responsible for the management of Australia House during the Program, including cleaning.
- * The cost of repairing damage to the property caused by the artist, his/her friends or family

members, shall be borne by the artist.

- * Any incidental problems with the property or general wear and tear must be reported to the Organiser. The Organiser must take appropriate reasonable action to provide the working environment that the artist requires.
- * Successful applicants will be advised of the detailed conditions of the Program prior to the first visit to Tokamachi.

■ Application Details

The attached application form should be sent by e-mail to cultural.tokyo@dfat.gov.au by 10 March 2011.

■ Selection Process

Applications will be considered by the organiser based on the application documentation and possible telephone interviews.

■ Results

The successful candidate is due to be selected by 10 April 2011.

■ The Organiser

Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial Executive Committee

■ Australia House – Artist-in-Residence Program 2011 is supported by:

The Australian Embassy, Tokyo and the Australia-Japan Foundation