Indigenous Youth Artist-in-Residence Program
FAQ

What is an artist residency and how is this residency different?
Artist residencies provide artists with a supportive and inspiring environment that nurtures creativity, skill development, and artistic exploration. By offering emerging artists a focused period of time to work on their craft, the residency provides an opportunity for the artist to immerse themselves in their creative work, refine their skills, explore new techniques, and possibly develop a cohesive body of work.

While every artist residency functions in its unique way; the Doris McCarthy Gallery and 7th Generation Image Makers have come together to collaborate on the Indigenous Youth Artist-in-Residence Program to offer the following:

- Paid studio time ($500/month for 6 months)
- Professional development opportunities
- Mentorship by the Doris McCarthy Gallery staff, U of T Scarborough faculty, and professional artists
- Support, materials, and studio space provided by 7th Generation Image Makers
- The opportunity to audit a course at the University of Toronto Scarborough
- Access to University resources (facilities, events, staff & faculty)

Qualifications vary depending on the residency; for the Indigenous Youth Artist-in-Residency program, the following requirements apply:

- You self-identify as Indigenous
- You are between the ages of 16-29
- You are interested in pursuing an art practice
- You are looking to grow your art practice

What is the Doris McCarthy Gallery?
The Doris McCarthy Gallery is a professional public art gallery within the University of Toronto Scarborough that advances artistic innovation, critical thinking, and cultural exchange through engagement with contemporary art.

What is 7th Generation Image Makers and what do they offer?
7th Generation is a program offered by Native Child and Family Services Toronto (NCFST) that offers urban Indigenous youth the opportunity to experience high quality arts programming.
and receive professional arts training within a culturally supporting and safe environment. 7th Generation Image Makers follow a way of supporting Indigenous people that respects Indigenous culture and the right to self-determination. They are dedicated to giving opportunities to Indigenous youth to learn and grow in various creative arts and technologies.

**What is a class audit?**
A class audit is an opportunity for the artist to attend a class as an observer without earning any academic credits or grades. You may attend lectures, discussions, or other educational activities to gain knowledge or personal enrichment without being formally enrolled in the course. The main goal is to learn and benefit from the educational experience without the academic requirements (such as completing assignments, taking exams, or receiving official evaluations or grades). Class participation is encouraged, but ultimately, the goal is to work with the artist to be able to receive what they would like from this opportunity.

**What practices does this residency support?**
This residency supports artists working in any visual media. This may include:
- Sculpture
- Painting
- Drawing
- Textiles
- Photography
- Video
- Digital Media (including animation)
- Performance

If the media choice you prefer is not listed, you have the option to inform us of your preference in the application.

**What is a stipend?**
A stipend is a fixed amount of money that is given to someone as financial support or payment for their work or participation in a program, internship, or training. It's a regular allowance provided for specific purposes or to cover expenses during a set period of time.

**What is a project proposal?**
In this context, a project proposal is a document that summarizes what an artist wants to do, what they hope to achieve, and how they plan to do it. In the application to this program, the proposal is important because it helps the artist communicate their ideas and goals to the program coordinators. It’s important to make sure the proposal fits the specific rules or
instructions given by the organization or institution you’re sending it to. A good project proposal shows your artistic vision, professionalism, and ability to make the project a success.

A project proposal typically includes the following:

1. **An Introduction** – Provide a brief introduction to yourself, your work as an artist, and any relevant experiences.
2. **A Project Summary** – Highlight the project’s core concept, themes, and goals. What topic(s) would you like to explore through the residency? What medium are you interested in working in or learning more about?
3. **Objectives** – Explain the desired outcomes, stating the anticipated artistic, creative or cultural impact of your project. What would you like to achieve at the end of the residency? Examples might include: create enough work for an exhibition, develop an artist website, learn a new skill, meet and build a community of like-minded artists, etc.

**What is an artist statement?**

An artist statement provides insight into an artists’ creative practice. It serves as a way for artists to communicate their intentions, motivations, and artistic philosophy to viewers, critics, curators, or potential buyers. It is important to find a balance between clear, straightforward language, and artistic expression and passion. It is a great idea to review and revise your artist statement as your practice evolves, ensuring that it accurately reflects your current work and goals.

An artist statement may include the following:

- An introduction to who you are as an artist, your inspirations and influences
- The ideas/concepts/themes that drive your creative exploration
- Your processes, the materials and techniques used in your work
- **Audience Engagement** – if you have an idea in mind, you may wish to explain how you’d like viewers to engage with or understand your work (i.e. is there a particular mood you hope they feel, a specific question they may ask?)

**What are examples of post-secondary and professional goals?**

- You have a future interest in applying to university
- You may want to utilize this period to build an impressive portfolio
- There may be courses that you can benefit from participating in, related to your artistic or career interests
• Building new relationships and connections with like-minded people

What is meant by public presentation?
Examples of public presentations include open studios (an opportunity for others to watch an artist work and ask questions), workshops, artist talks, and/or presentations of new or ‘in progress’ work. Any public presentations delivered as part of this residency program would be developed collectively with the artist-in-residency, based on their interest, goals, and comfort level.

What is a CV?
An artist Curriculum Vitae (commonly referred to as CV), is a document that provides a detailed overview of an artist’s professional background, achievements, and artistic practice. It serves as a detailed resume specifically tailored for artists and is commonly used when applying for grants, residencies, exhibitions, or other opportunities. It is important to be organized and clear when formatting your CV. Use consistent font styles and formatting to arrange the content to emphasize the most relevant information for the specific opportunity you are applying for.

An artist CV typically includes the following, but don’t worry! If you don’t have all of them, include what you do have:

• **Contact Information** – Start with your full name, professional email, address, contact number, website or portfolio link
• **Education History** – May include degrees, certificates, related courses, workshops and mentorship programs (include the institution name, location, and year of completion)
• **Exhibitions** – If you have participated in any solo, group, or juried shows, mention the exhibition’s title, location, city, and year you participated
• **Collections** – If applicable, include any galleries, institutions, or private collectors that have acquired your work
• **Residencies and Fellowships** – If you have participated in any artist residencies, fellowships, or have received awards or grants, be sure to include the names, length of time, and year
• **Publications and Press** - If your work has been included in any publications, catalogues, books, articles or press, be sure to include the title, publisher, date of publication, and link, if digital
• **Professional Affiliations** – If you are a member of any professional organizations, collectives, artist associations, or groups, feel free to mention them here
• **Workshops and Teaching Experience** – If you have any teaching experience, have conducted workshops, or given lectures, include the topic, institution, and year

• **Bibliography** – If there have been any articles, reviews, or texts written about your work, you can include them here

• **Awards and Honors** – Highlight any awards, grants, scholarships, or recognition you have received on your artistic achievements

• **Commissions or Public Art Projects** – Provide a brief description of any completed artwork that has been commissioned of your work including the client, location, and year

### How to apply
To apply, please fill out the online application [here](#).

### What happens after I apply?
All applications will be reviewed by staff from 7th Generation Image Makers and the Doris McCarthy Gallery, with 1-3 candidates shortlisted for a follow-up interview. If you are one of the shortlisted candidates, you will receive an email invitation for a virtual interview conducted by the Selection Committee, which consists of representatives from 7th Generation Image Makers and the Doris McCarthy Gallery. The specific interview dates will be mutually agreed upon by the applicant and Selection Committee and will be scheduled on a weekday.