

# Curator Residency Program 2027

## Application Outline

Tokyo Arts and Space (TOKAS) offers artist-in-residence programs for international creators working in various creative fields to stay, engage in creation, and conduct research activities in Tokyo. It also provides creators with the opportunities to exchange creative ideas and to present outcomes of their residency at TOKAS-organized events, such as the OPEN STUDIO.

The open-call program “Curator Residency Program” aims to invite distinguished and highly motivated curators in the fields of curation, art criticism, and cultural research from all over the world and offer them with opportunities to conduct research in Tokyo. We provide financial support to allow curators to develop and present their research and ideas. Selected curators are required to give mentoring sessions to local emerging creators, and deliver a public talk.

### 1. Target for this program

This program is aimed at those curators

- who are eager to exchange with local emerging creators
- who are willing to conduct new research in Tokyo
- who practice in any of the following cultural / artistic fields:  
curation, art criticism and cultural research

### 2. Residency Period / Number of Curators

[Residency Period]

1 to 3 months within the following residency periods:

- ① From the beginning of May, 2027 to the end of July, 2027
- ② From the beginning of September, 2027 to the end of November, 2027
- ③ From the beginning of January, 2028 to the end of March, 2028

[Number of Curators (tentative)]

6 curators in total (2 curators per period)

### 3. What TOKAS offers

- Living space (single room)
- Airfare: A round-trip economy-class air ticket between the nearest airport from the place of residence and Tokyo (either Narita or Haneda Airport) will be provided
- Fee for research/project: JPY 100,000 (consumption tax excluded)
- \*Income tax (20.42%) will be deducted from the above amounts

#### 4. Eligibility

- ① Resides outside of Japan
- ② Has 3 years or more of experience in the fields of curation, art criticism and cultural research
- ③ Has sufficient ability to communicate in English with other residing creators and TOKAS staff for mutual understanding
- ④ Independent and capable of working and living on his/her own
- ⑤ Curators working as a duo are ineligible
- ⑥ Students are ineligible (except for Ph.D. candidates) \*At the time of participation in the program

#### 5. Requirements / Conditions

- ① Able to stay consecutively at TOKAS Residency during the proposed residency period.
- ② Shall present their research at a public talk event and submit a comprehensive report on the proposed project.
- ③ Give mentoring sessions to local emerging creators, participate in the OPEN STUDIO and talk events if asked by TOKAS, and cooperate with its public relations activity.
- ④ Do not carry out any commercial or profitable activities throughout the residency period.
- ⑤ Do not conduct any activities that would make big noise or vibration in TOKAS Residency.
- ⑥ The accommodation is provided for the participating curator only. Family members, partners, friends or guests are not permitted to stay at TOKAS Residency.

#### 6. Application Period

May 19, 2026 - **June 16, 2026, 18:00 (JST | Japan Standard Time, GMT+9)**

#### 7. Selection Schedule

- (1) First document screening: Mid-June - August 2026  
\*Review by TOKAS Residency team. The result of the first document screening will not be informed.
- (2) Second document screening: Late-August 2026  
\*Review by external juries. Only successful applicants will be informed of their final results individually by mid-September, 2026.
- (3) The final results will be announced through the TOKAS website by early October, 2026.

\*We do not respond to any individual inquiries on the selection process and result.

#### 8. Application Method

- ① Please download Application Package from TOKAS website.
- ② Please read carefully through this Outline and fill in Application Form (.pdf file).
- ③ Please fill in your information on **Online Submission Form** and upload (I)**Application Form (.pdf file)**, (II)**Two letters of recommendation**, and (III)**Portfolio**, no later than June 16, 2026, 18:00 (JST).

## 9. Application materials

### ① Application Form (.pdf file)

Please fill in English.

- Please make sure to use “**Adobe Reader**” when you fill in the application.  
\*For Mac users: Please DO NOT use “Preview” as the data will not be displayed properly.
- Please fill in the form according to the character limit so that the text fits within the frame.
- Please rename the file of Application Form to your name.  
e.g. Application Form Curator2027\_Application.pdf → Curator2027\_YourNAME.pdf

### ② Two letters of recommendation (.pdf file)

Two letters of recommendation have to be prepared by two different referees from art and cultural institutions, related educational organizations, or professionals specialized in the fields of art and culture.

- \*Letters must include **signatures of the referees** and **the date of issue**, written **in either Japanese or English** in A4 format
- \*Please fill in the names and affiliations of the referees on Online Submission Form.
- \*Digital signature as well as hand-written signature will be accepted
- \*Please upload the scanned PDF files of letters on the online submission form by June 16, 2026, 18:00 (JST)
- \*We do not accept letters of recommendation sent directly by referees to TOKAS
- Please name the file of recommendation letters to your name and add numbers (1 and 2).  
e.g. Letters of Recommendation Letter\_YourNAME\_1.pdf  
Letter\_YourNAME\_2.pdf

### ③ Portfolio (.pdf file)

- Your portfolio should be no longer than **6 pages (A4, landscape orientation)**, and include summaries of past activities, images and/or URL links of videos or sounds. Please save it as **one PDF file**.
- You can submit up to **3 projects** within 6 pages. \*After page 7 will be excluded from consideration.
- The size of the portfolio file must be **no larger than 10MB**.
- Please include your past projects which are related to your activity plan stated in application form **【8) Artistic/Curatorial Statement, Purpose of your residency and Activity Plan】**
- Please make sure that **texts** in the portfolio (PDF) **are selectable**.
- Please write your name on the first page of the portfolio.
- If the portfolio contains images of installation view, please specify the name of exhibition, venue, and year.
- Please state clearly how you are associated with the past projects.  
e.g. Artist, Curator, Organizer, Producer, Collaborator
- Please name the portfolio title as follows: **Portfolio\_YourNAME.pdf**

## How to Organize Portfolio

Maximum Number of Pages	Maximum Number of Projects	Type of Materials	Submission Method	Maximum Number per project	Notes
		<b>Image</b>	Paste on portfolio	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The size of each image must be <u>no larger than 1MB</u>.</li> </ul>
<b>6 Pages</b>  <b>max. 10MB</b>	<b>3 Projects</b>	<b>Video</b>	URL (must be hyperlinked)	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please indicate the URL on the portfolio. If your videos/sounds are not online, please upload the files on video/sound sharing sites such as YouTube, Vimeo, SoundCloud.</li> <li>Please set general access to "Anyone with the link" in case you indicate Google Drive link.</li> </ul>
		<b>Sound</b>		1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please make sure that the links of your videos/sounds are valid until <b><u>September 15, 2026</u></b>.</li> <li>Please mention the password of your link on the portfolio, if the link is private.</li> <li>Please indicate the time of highlights.</li> </ul>
		<b>Publication</b>	images or URL (must be hyperlinked)	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If it is published online, please indicate its URL on the portfolio.</li> <li>Academic dissertations are not acceptable.</li> </ul>

\*Any application which does not meet the requirements stated in the outline will not be accepted.

## **10. TOKAS Residency Facilities**

Location: TOKAS Residency (2-14-7 Tatekawa, Sumida-ku, Tokyo)

-Single room (25 m<sup>2</sup>) / Twin-bedded room (49 m<sup>2</sup>)

\*Each accommodation is equipped with kitchen, toilet, bath, furniture (bed, desk, chairs, etc.), refrigerator, air-conditioner, tableware, towels, and sets of linen

-Wi-Fi internet connection: All day accessible

-Common spaces: Available from 9:30 - 23:00

\*Networking room (equipped with kitchen, dining and living room sets, computer, printer, TV, etc.), library, laundry, and shared studios (125 m<sup>2</sup> and 48 m<sup>2</sup>)

## 11. Online Submission Form

<https://form.run/@2027Curator>

\*Please note that we do not accept any changes or replacements to the application materials after submission.

## 12. Inquiries

For inquiries not listed in the FAQ page on our website, please contact us through the inquiry form by June 7, 2026. We will update the FAQ on our website after June 11, 2026.

Inquiry form | <https://form.run/@2027SpringContact>

\*Please note that we cannot answer each inquiry individually.

## 13. Policy of Personal Information Usage

TOKAS uses your personal information solely for contacting you on this program. TOKAS never uses or shares your personal information provided to us in ways unrelated to the one described above, also providing you an opportunity to opt-out otherwise prohibiting such unrelated uses.

\*This program is finalized to be implemented under the condition of obtaining the approval for the Annual Plan 2027 of Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture by the Board of Directors by the end of March 2027.

### **Please check the following before submitting your Application.**

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|---|-----------------------------------|
| · Rename the files of the Application Form to your name.<br>e.g. Curator2027_Application.pdf → Curator2027_YourNAME.pdf | Check<br><input type="checkbox"/> |
| · Your Portfolio is no larger than 10MB and A4 landscape orientation.   | <input type="checkbox"/>          |
| · Your Portfolio is no longer than 6 pages and includes no more than 3 projects.  | <input type="checkbox"/>          |
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