2027 Self-Funded Artist Residency

Terms & Conditions

OVERVIEW

The Northern Rivers Community Gallery (NRCG) and Ignite Studios is a community-engaged cultural hub in northern NSW, owned and operated by Ballina Shire Council.

Located in the heart of Ballina and housed in the historic former Ballina Fire Station, Ignite Studios includes shared accessible spaces supporting creative development and participation across creative industries. Facilities include two studio spaces, a visiting artist-in-residence studio and accommodation, a ceramics studio and two spaces available for workshops, creative events, pop-up exhibitions, meetings and special projects.

ABOUT THE ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Ignite Studios Artist Residency program provides a single artist with time and space to expand and develop their creative practice. Residencies may be between two and six weeks in duration (except when otherwise stated), depending on the needs and practice of the artist and their proposed residency.

The program is open to emerging and established Australian and international creatives from a range of disciplines, including visual art, design, writing, theatre, film, music, dance and performance.

NRCG may work with the resident artist to deliver a public program outcome towards the end of the residency, such as artist talk, workshop, open studio, or pop-up exhibition. This is not a requirement of the residency and does not impact selection.

Upon completion of the residency artists will be asked to provide a selection of high-quality images of their work and process during their time at Ignite Studios, and a written testimonial and feedback about their experience for use by NRCG and Ballina Shire Council.

Funded residency opportunities may be developed by NRCG in association with partner organisations.

Applicants must be 18 years of age or above and have public liability insurance coverage to the value of $20million or be willing to arrange it for the residency period.

If you are not in a financial position to arrange public liability insurance, please contact us to discuss your situation.

ABOUT THE SPACE

Artists in residence share the Ignite Studios facility with creative studio tenants, NRCG staff, workshop facilitators and participants, and others hiring spaces for one-off workshops, meetings and creative events.

The residency facilities include:

- A securable, light-filled working studio, approximately 14 square meters, with wooden floors.
- Studio equipment (upon request) including canvas drop sheets, easel, wall hangers, plinth, desk and trestle tables.
- Small bedsit residential space containing a single bed, linen, dining table, couch, sink, fridge, oven, microwave, crockery, cutlery and cooking equipment.
- Laundry facilities.
- Bathroom with shower and toilet.
- Reverse-cycle air conditioner.
- Shared lawns, outdoor sink, and water.

INCLUSIONS

- All outgoings including standard electricity and water usage.
- Outdoor cold water wash basin area.
- 24-hour access.
- Bathroom facilities.
- Wheelchair accessible.
- Standard waste collection and grounds maintenance.
- Unmetered street parking.

CONDITIONAL INCLUSIONS

- Wireless internet is installed at Ignite Studios, and resident artists may use this free of charge. Please note - this is a courtesy and not a feature of the residency agreement, as NRCG cannot always guarantee the quality of the internet connection.
- For an additional fee, resident artists may utilise additional for-hire spaces or services to run workshops or special projects. Standard hire fees apply.

RESIDENCY FEES & SECURITY DEPOSIT

- Selected artists will be charged a residency fee of $300 per week (including GST).
- The residency fee must be paid in full, no less than 30 days in advance of the residency dates, and may be paid via credit card, cash, or by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) on request.
- A security bond deposit of $400 for stays of less than 3 weeks, or $600 for stays of 3 weeks or more, is payable at the time of executing the residency agreement, and no less than 30 days in advance of the residency dates. This will be held in a trust account, and refunded following the completion of the residency, less costs associated with damage or excess cleaning, or other breaches of the agreement. One week's notice will be provided to the artist advising of deductions made from the security bond deposit.
- Ballina Shire Council may adjust its annual fees and charges. Any changes affecting the Ignite Studios facilities will be communicated to residents as early as possible, and where applicable, will come into effect from the 1 July each year.

STUDIO VIEWING

If you would like to view the residency accommodation and studio before applying, you are welcome to contact our Creative Programs Producer:

- phone 02 6681 0530 | email ignitestudios@ballina.nsw.gov.au

STUDIO AGREEMENT

Resident artists will be issued with a lease agreement governing the residency arrangement, terms and conditions, and information regarding access to Ignite Studio facilities.

RESIDENCY TERMS & CONDITIONS

General:

- Due to the heritage listing of the building, access and use must be in accordance with the following conditions:
    - Drilling into, modifying or fixing on to the walls is prohibited, unless with the explicit permission of the Gallery Coordinator.
    - Chalk drawings on walls of workshop spaces are heritage-listed and must not be removed or interfered with.
- Artists in residence must have their own Public Liability insurance with cover to the value of $20 million and are responsible for maintaining any other insurances that may be required by the conduct of their activities.
- In some cases of financial hardship, NRCG may offer an exemption to the requirement for Public Liability Insurance. This is at the discretion of NRCG.
- Artists in residence must comply with all necessary workplace health and safety laws and regulations, and council policies communicated by NRCG.
- Facility access is available 24/7. Standard residential noise restrictions apply after 10pm seven days a week.
- As the facility is a shared space, resident artists are required to observe cleanliness, safety, noise restrictions and mutual respect for other users of the space.
- Artists in residence will be considerate of other users of the facility when it comes to noise and disturbance and will follow directions or requests given by NRCG staff when it comes to noise management. Due to the shared-use nature of the facility, artists may be requested to use headphones for phone/video calls or listening to music, if these activities are providing a disturbance to other users of the facility.
- The residency is not open to the public, except by prior arrangement with NRCG, or for planned open days or special events.

- Resident artists must ensure the premises are fully secure whenever they leave the facility, unless there are others on site.
- Replacement of keys or failure to return a key will result in a $50 fee being payable by the resident artist or deducted from the security deposit.
- Resident artists may not have additional guests stay in the space with them, without prior arrangement with NRCG.

Cleaning and Waste disposal:

- Resident artists are responsible for cleaning of the studio, residency and bathroom during their stay, and for any laundry.
- Resident artists must manage their own waste disposal in the studio.
- There are bins located outside the Ignite Studios building which are put out by staff for collection each Thursday afternoon.

The following uses are not permitted:

- Industrial or semi-industrial creative processes.
- Retail sales outlet.
- Public events (except with prior permission from NRCG).
- Unlicensed alcohol sales.
- Use of solvents (including low odour solvents).
- Use of volatile compounds (eg spray paints, turpentine, acetone).
- Loud noise or music.
- No smoking or vaping permitted within the premises or on the grounds.
- Incense or open flames.

Art Supplies and Cleaning up:

Resident artists are responsible for providing their own art materials, equipment, and cleaning products required for their personal use. Please note:

- Odourless solvents are the only solvents permitted. Solvents must be properly stored, labelled, and any waste disposed of in an appropriate container.
- Only low volatile compounds may be used.

- When cleaning up oil-based products, solvents, varnishes, or other compounds, all waste must be placed in the receptacle provided and never be put down the drain.
- When cleaning up acrylic materials, leftover acrylic paint must be placed in the receptacle provided and never be put down the drain.
- Contact NRCG staff for waste management solutions for any compounds unable to be disposed of in regular waste.

SELECTION CRITERIA

In the selection of resident artists, NRCG will consider art form, career stage, and studio experience, in order to encourage diversity, dialogue, exchange, and innovation within the program and facility.

Key selection criteria include:

- Quality of work and originality of ideas.
- Value of studio time and space to the development of the practitioner.
- Suitability of the proposed creative activity for the facility.
- Commitment of time to using the studio.
- Equity and diversity of applicants and creative practice across the year.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Read the Terms & Conditions
2. Complete an online application form at nrcgballina.com.au
3. Submit your support materials (including bio, CV, images and other examples of creative work)
4. Complete and sign your online application form and click to submit.

If you would prefer to submit an application by email or post, you may contact us at ignitestudios@ballina.nsw.gov.au or 02 6681 0530 to discuss.

Unless otherwise stated, NRCG will review and respond to residency applications within four weeks.