

Aomori Contemporary Art Centre, Aomori Public University

**ACAC Open Call:
Artist in Residence Program 2023: starquakes
Application Guidelines**

1 Program Overview

This open call program offers contemporary artists, curators, researchers and others who are involved in cultural and artistic endeavors the opportunity to practice exhibitions, performances, workshops, talks and other activities, with ACAC's full support providing assistance every step of the way from the planning stage and research to installation and presentation and archiving in catalogs.

Although holding an exhibition is not compulsory, participants are required to introduce their achievements through some form of Exchange Program in order to get their activities widely recognized. The length of stay is optional, with participants asked to select the desired period of time in 2-week increments, from a minimum of one 2-week term (14 days) to a maximum of seven 2-week terms (98 days). This year, for the first time in three years, we are able to offer the program without setting restrictions on the length of stay for all artists. Basically, an actual residency at ACAC is highly recommended, but remote participation will be allowed for activities that are able to be done remotely.

During the last few years, the world has been in turmoil due to the threat of infectious diseases and looming wars. While under pressure to respond to nearby crises, we have also been required to think about distant places. ACAC has also been exploring ways to stay connected to the world through this residency program, while continuing to take measures against such situations on a case-by-case basis.

For 2023, the program is titled "starquakes", which refers to faint stellar oscillations. No one is able to actually observe the phenomenon, however, energy has certainly been emitted somewhere in the universe, as proof of a star's life. In the same way, the tremors of individuals who have been devoting themselves to creative activities and research, may be generating the power to simultaneously engulf others or resonate with them.

The title of the program is a guidepost to reflect and update the "present situation" of the Artist-in-Residence program at ACAC, and does not necessarily define the activities of participants. Although this 98-day residency is not a long-term program, we hope to make contact through ACAC with the 'heartbeats' of stars scattered around the world, and to encompass and resonate with various expressionists, local residents and students, during the residency period.

2 Guest Judge for 2023 program

HIROTA Midori

Artist, Anthropologist. Born in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture. After graduating from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Aichi University of the Arts, Hirota was based in Indonesia (Bali and Yogyakarta) for 17 years from 1994. While there, she managed an alternative space and organized numerous exhibitions while being an artist. After returning to Japan, Hirota received her doctorate in Anthropology, in the study of Indonesian contemporary art, at Nagoya University's Graduate School of Humanities (Anthropology Major). She is currently an associate professor at the Professional Institute of International Fashion (PIIF). Her major exhibitions

include "Exchange Project '07: Memories of Asia" (Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, 2009). Her major publications include "A Network of Collaboration and Symbiosis: Ethnography of Indonesian Contemporary Art" (grambooks, 2022), and "Balito Yugakuki (Study Travel report in Bali)" (Sekaibunka Publishing, 1997).

3 Number of Participants

1) Non-Japanese nationals living outside of Japan who will stay and work at ACAC (selecting from one to seven 2-week terms): 2 people

* However, if you select two 2-week terms, you may be asked to adjust the length of your stay to more than 1 month (29 nights and 30 days).

2) Residents of Japan who will stay and work at ACAC (selecting from one to seven 2-week terms): 2-3 people

4 Program Schedule

Residence Period:

The period of stay at the ACAC must be chosen from the following terms between September 14 (Thu) and December 20 (Wed), 2023. You must select at one and up to seven terms.

1. September 14 (Thu)—September 27 (Wed)
2. September 28 (Thu)—October 11 (Wed)
3. October 12 (Thu)—October 25 (Wed)
4. October 26 (Thu)—November 8 (Wed)
5. November 9 (Thu)—November 22 (Wed)
6. November 23 (Thu)—December 6 (Wed)
7. December 7 (Thu)—December 20 (Wed)

Application Period:

March 8 (Wed)—April 23 (Sun), 2023, 17:00 JST (GMT +9:00)

Selection Schedule:

April 23 (Sun), 17:00 JST (GMT +9:00) ----- Application Deadline

Late May ----- Screening (By the ACAC curatorial team and guest judge)

From mid to late June ----- Invitations Sent

5 How to Apply

Screening by application form (see appendix) and a portfolio of up to 5 works.

*Please submit the application form by email by the following deadline.

Application Deadline: April 23 (Sun), 2023 17:00 JST (GMT +9:00)

Subject: AIR 2023 Application (Name)

Address: acac-air@acac-aomori.jp

Notes:

- For the application form, please submit the second and subsequent pages as one PDF file.
- The total file size of the application form and portfolio should be no more than 5MB. Please compress them as a zipped file and send it to the above e-mail address.
- Please read page 1 of the application form carefully regarding the guidelines for the portfolio.
- An e-mail will be sent within a week to notify applicants if the documents have been received successfully. Please e-mail us if you don't receive this confirmation notice.

6 Screening and Notification

Based on submitted materials, artists will be selected by the ACAC curatorial team and guest judge Hirota Midori.

The applicants will be informed of the final decision by email from mid to late June.

7 Application Requirements

- a) Individuals or groups engaged in artistic pursuits, including curators, researchers, artists, or otherwise. (Hereafter referred to as “the artist” regardless of background or genre.)
- b) The artist should understand the purpose of his or her visit to the ACAC and be able to stay or participate during the period for which they are invited.
*Remote participation will be allowed if the organizer deems it necessary.
- c) Artists who choose not to exhibit will instead participate in exchange programs, including artist talks, lectures, performances, workshops, and school visits.
- d) The artist should be able to explain their artwork and give lectures or workshops in English or Japanese as part of the exchange program.
- e) The artist should be in good health.
- f) The artist should be able to speak and understand basic English daily conversation.
- g) The artist should be independent and capable of working and living on their own.
- h) The artist will work with the ACAC in the setup and breakdown of exhibits and events.
- i) The artist should be able to lead a community life with other artists on the program.

8 When Holding an Exhibition

Venue: Aomori Contemporary Art Centre (ACAC) and vicinity

*If the participants intend to hold an exhibition, October 28 (Sat) to December 17 (Sun) will be the base dates for the operation of the program. (negotiable)

*Following consultation with ACAC curators, exhibitions may be organized as separated exhibition in the same venue.

*The nature of the work required for the exhibition, and the location of the exhibition, will be decided after due consultation between the ACAC and the artists.

9 Obligations of the Organizer and the Artist

The Organizer and the Artist have the following obligations to each other throughout the duration of the program and enter into a contract on the basis of this. **In principle, it is a precondition that all successful applicants come alone to Aomori.** Artists can apply as a group or unit. In this case, the organizer considers 1 artist's group or unit as 1 artist and provides expenses only for 1 artist's expense.

If successful applicants wish to be accompanied by family members or an assistant, it is necessary to consult with the ACAC beforehand. Should the ACAC approve the Artist's request, the accompanying individuals may stay at the ACAC's facilities. In this case, the artist is financially responsible for paying both the travel fare and the accommodation fee (2,040 JPY per night) for the accompanying individual.

Each amount of money noted in this guideline includes tax.

Subject	Nature of Obligation
Travel to Aomori	
Travel expenses	<p>THE ORGANIZER will pay the following travel expenses according to the Aomori Public University's regulations:</p> <p><domestic resident> A railway fare to Aomori (one time round trip) from the train station nearest to the Artist's residence.</p> <p>*The ORGANIZER provides travel expenses after the ARTIST arrival. *From overseas the amount payable is up to 150,000JPY, for domestic travel it is up to 70,000JPY. *The residence means the place for tax payment. *Expenses for the transportation of goods or materials must be paid by the Artist.</p>
Visa	<p>THE ARTIST should make arrangements for a visa with which they may enter Japan, if it is necessary. (All costs to be borne by the artist.) Please contact us about obtaining a visa after receiving your invitation.</p>
Gallery Usage & Events	
Activities	<p>During the residency, THE ARTIST agrees to certain activities, including organizing an exhibition or exchange program, in addition to conducting activities such as research and production in the pursuit of artistic expression.</p>
Artist in Residence Production Expenses	<p>THE ORGANIZER will provide 40,000 JPY per term (80,000 JPY per a month) for production expenses deemed necessary by the ORGANIZER (including costs for materials, research, transportation, display, removal of the exhibition, etc.). *Regardless of the number of days, a sum of 75,000 yen will be provided for remote participation.</p>

Exhibition-related Event Expenses	If an ARTIST holding an exhibition also organizes a separate exchange program, THE ORGANIZER will provide 50,000 yen for exhibition-related event expenses.
Studio	THE ORGANIZER will provide the artists with a studio in the Creative Hall and display space in the Exhibition Hall at the ACAC. (<u>during the program period only</u>) THE ARTIST must share the studio with other artists.
Care of Studio	THE ORGANIZER will regularly sweep the studio, but THE ARTIST should keep their own studio clean. When THE ARTIST leaves the ACAC, THE ARTIST should return the studio to its original condition.
Artist Production at the ACAC	
Exhibition	<p>Exhibition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --The location of each exhibition and the final contents of the work proposal must be decided after due consultation between the ACAC (curators) and THE ARTIST. --Exhibitions consisting solely of past works are not permitted. --We'd like to ask for your cooperation to hold the exhibition in accordance with the base dates for program operation. -- In principle, THE ARTIST should exhibit his or her work by him or herself and care and maintain his or her own work by him or herself during the exhibition. --THE ORGANIZER should prepare any materials necessary for presentation (panels, explanatory captions, etc.) of the artwork for the audience. Decisions on any such materials shall be made after due consultation between THE ARTIST and THE ACAC. --In order to use the gallery without partitions, for group exhibitions, it is necessary to discuss and coordinate the installation of temporary walls and the use of headphones when a work incorporates light or sound.
Handling of the Works after the Exhibition	The works must be temporary. THE ARTIST should be able to dismantle his or her works by him or herself after the exhibition. Should the artist wish to take that work produced during the residency back home, THE ARTIST must pack his or her work alone and pay any expenses involved in packing and shipping.
Exchange Program	<p>If THE ARTIST does not hold an exhibition, they must be sure to hold one of the following exchange programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Lecture --Performance --Workshop --School visit <p>THE ORGANIZER will pay the cost for any materials used in such exchange programs after due consultation between THE ARTIST and THE ACAC.</p>

About Living at the ACAC	
Living Expenses	<p>THE ORGANIZER will provide living costs according to the Aomori public university's regulations for THE ARTIST. (upper limit is 70 days' worth) The full amount of living expenses is 303,160 JPY. For one term: 59,400 JPY</p> <p>However, the living allowance will not be paid in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- When THE ARTIST goes outside Aomori for personal travel. -- In cases of late arrival to and/or early departure from the ACAC.
Accommodation	<p>THE ORGANIZER will provide the artist with residential facilities at the ACAC during the program period (a private single room / 19.44 m²).</p> <p>THE ARTIST must share bathroom and kitchen facilities. The facilities are self-catering.</p> <p>THE ARTIST must keep his or her private room and the bathroom and kitchen facilities clean. When THE ARTIST leaves the ACAC, THE ARTIST must return the residential facilities to their original condition.</p>
Internet	THE ARTIST can use wireless internet in our facilities.
Insurance	<p>THE ARTIST is covered by injury insurance and sickness insurance for the duration of the residency. Any past illnesses, chronic diseases, or dental treatments are not covered. THE ARTIST is free to enter private health insurance policies.</p> <p><u>Works presented at exhibitions and exchange programs are not covered by insurance.</u></p>
Other	
Cooperation with Record of Activities, and About Copyright	<p>THE ORGANIZER will take pictures of works produced and will film the production process in order to have a record of all activities undertaken during the period of residency. THE ARTIST should cooperate with the recording of these archives. The ORGANIZER would also ask THE ARTIST to cooperate to any extent possible when disseminating the activities of this program (via THE ARTIST's own website, social networking services, etc.)</p> <p>THE ARTIST retains copyright of his or her work. However, THE ORGANIZER reserves the right to record (photo, film, etc.) these works, and the copyright of these archival recordings is owned by the ACAC. The ACAC also retains the right to use any such records for publicity purposes. Any parties who have received the proper permission from THE ORGANIZER may use these records at no cost.</p>

About the Program Catalogue	THE ORGANIZER will produce a Program Catalog and present 20 copies of the catalog to THE ARTIST .
Cooperation with Public Relations	THE ARTIST should cooperate with public relations as much as possible. However, it is possible to refuse when there is fear of an invasion of the artist's privacy and/or interference with the artist's work. In such cases, please consult with THE ORGANIZER .
Assistance for Activities	Aside from ACAC staff members, the ACAC has an independent volunteer organization that supports the resident artists in the fields of creative assistance, translation, and general living needs. The nature of the support available will be decided after discussions with participating artists, volunteers, and the organizer during the orientation period.
About tax	Please be aware that for those participating from countries without tax treaties with Japan and countries with tax treaties but for which taxes are not exempt, an income tax of approximately 20% (20.42% in 2021) will be withheld from the stipend provided. This includes both production and living stipends. (Please contact your local embassy, consulate, or other appropriate organization for more details.) In addition, if you reside in a country that has tax treaties with Japan, documents certifying your residence will be required.
About COVID-19	Depending on the situation of the COVID-19, the program content may change. In that case, please note that the handling will be decided in consultation with THE ARTISTS and THE ORGANIZER .

(Example: length of stay and amount paid)

In the case of a stay of three 2-week terms (41 nights and 42 days), with both exhibition and exchange events conducted

Transportation fee: 150,000 yen (maximum)
Daily allowance and meals fee: 177,980 yen
Residency production and activity expenses: 120,000 yen
Expenses for exhibition-related events and activities: 50,000 yen
Total 497,980 yen

In the case of a stay of three 2-week terms (41 nights and 42 days), with either the exhibition or exchange events conducted

Transportation fee: 150,000 yen (maximum)
Daily allowance and meals fee: 179,960 yen
Residency production and activity expenses: 120,000 yen
Total 447,980 yen

In the case of a stay of seven 2-week terms (97 nights and 98 days), with both exhibition and exchange events conducted

Transportation fee: 150,000 yen (maximum)
Daily allowance and meals fee: 303,160 yen (maximum)
Residency production and activity expenses: 350,000 yen
Expenses for exhibition-related events and activities: 50,000 yen
Total 853,160 yen

10 About Aomori Contemporary Art Center

The Aomori Contemporary Art Center (ACAC) is an art center offering a flagship artist-in-residence (AIR) program through its residential art facility. Since its foundation in 2001, the program has been an active platform for a diverse range of artists for their creative pursuits and presentations. Located at the foothills of the Hakkoda Mountains, residents can enjoy a rich natural environment while still being close to the center of Aomori City. The ACAC's architectural design is the work of internationally-acclaimed architect, ANDO Tadao, and features the concept of "invisible architecture". The center consists of a production studio (Creative Hall) and an accommodation facility (Residential Hall), encouraging interactions with others while providing a comfortable space for visitors to focus on their creations. A huge gallery space (Exhibition Hall) allows artists to work experimentally in their production process and directly practice into presentations as an exhibition at the site—another distinct feature of the center.

ACAC's AIR program is an initiative expected to unlock various creativities stimulated by and solely borne under the ACAC's unique environment. The center aims to be an inspirational space for all involved, emphasizing interactions between domestic/international artists and local communities. Its management was transferred from Aomori City to Aomori Public University in 2009. Exchanges between university students majoring in management and economics and regional development have also been active since that time.

11 Address & Inquiry

For particulars or requests about the materials please inquire at Aomori Contemporary Art Centre by e-mail. *Please note that we are unable to respond by telephone.

atten: AIR 2023
Aomori Contemporary Art Centre
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Email: acac-air@acac-aomori.jp
URL: <https://www.acac-aomori.jp>