

Artist in Residence Program
ZEN AIR
FY2024 Application Guidelines

1. Purpose of the Program

Eiheiji Town in Fukui Prefecture, home to Eiheiji, the head temple of the Soto sect of Buddhism, is known as the “village of Zen.” This project will provide artists and other art professionals (hereinafter, “artists”) the opportunity to experience Zen culture, conduct research on Zen and the region, and engage in creation and research while engaging with local residents. The artists will be asked to communicate the results of their work and research through these activities. As such, this program is intended to support artists, and at the same time, to draw out the spirit and culture of Zen that live on in the town from an artist’s perspective, thereby encouraging a sense of attachment to the region and interest in art and culture, and fostering a variety of connections, both among people and between people and culture.

2. About Eiheiji Town

Eiheiji is a town of 18,000 inhabitants adjoining Fukui City. The Kuzuryu River, the largest river in the prefecture, flows through the center of the town, and in summer many people from inside and outside the prefecture visit the town to fish for sweetfish.

The town is home to many historical and cultural assets, including Daihonzan Eiheiji Temple, Kippoji Temple, and the Matsuoka Kofun Cluster. Its specialty products include onions, sweetcorn and garlic. The town is also famous as one of the best sake-producing areas in the prefecture with three sake breweries. In recent years, field testing of automated driving has been conducted in the town, and it was the first in Japan to begin level-4 operation. Eiheiji Town also has a well-developed educational environment, boasting academic and research institutions such as the University of Fukui School of Medical Sciences and Fukui Prefectural University.

<https://www.eiheiji.jp/en/>

3. Features of the Program

■ Two types of courses:

The residency program offers two courses, the Production Course and the Research Course. Artists in residence may choose either course.

■ Zen experience and Zen culture research

Artists in residence will participate in a one-night stay “sanro” program and experience Zen meditation at Daihonzan Eiheiji Temple to deepen their understanding of Zen and will also have the opportunity to learn from the historical buildings and cultural assets related to Zen and Buddhism located within the temple’s grounds.

■ Provision of housing and studio space

The program provides a vacant house in town for use as an accommodation and a studio.

■ Support during residence

During their residency, the program will support the artists' research on Zen culture and the region, exchanges with local residents, production activities, and opportunities to present their work.

■ Presentation of the results of activities

Artists are required to present the results of their activities in the form of a presentation or exhibition during their residency.

4. Program overview and application requirements

	(1) Production Course	(2) Research Course
Eligibility	Currently active artists (any genre)	Currently active artists, curators, arts researchers, etc. (any genre)
Number of openings	Two groups in total for the two courses	
Residence period	<p><u>Minimum 60 days to maximum 90 days between August 26, 2024 (Mon) and November 28, 2024 (Thu)</u></p> <p><u>*From November 9th to November 24th, it will be the public production and presentation term. Therefore, you have to be present on site during this weekend, as well as during setup, exhibition, and takedown.</u></p> <p><u>*If it takes time to obtain a visa, the length of your stay can be discussed.</u></p>	
Residence location and activity sites	Vacant house in Eiheiji Town	
Nature of activities	Production of artwork during residence in Eiheiji Town. Work in public for a specified period of time. Presentation of the results of activities, such as artwork exhibitions, performances and talks.	Research and study of Zen culture and Eiheiji Town. Presentation of the results of activities in forms of presentations, talks, etc.
Exchange program	At least one workshop or school visit.	
Application requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Artists, researchers and curators aged 20 and over ● No restrictions on nationality ● Ability to communicate in Japanese or English ● In good health ● Ability to communicate well with local residents ● Must present the results of their activities ● Must participate in the exchange program 	

5. If holding an exhibition

Venue: Facilities in Eiheiiji Town (including open-air exhibitions)

- As a general rule, the location of the exhibition will be the following candidate facility, the former Eiheiiji Health Center. Artists can also use it as a production site.
- The exhibition of works and the framework of the exhibition will be decided through consultation with the organizer.

The former Eiheiiji Health Center



6. Program content

The artists and the organizers will implement the program by concluding an agreement that includes the content written in the following table. The content of the program is premised on artists participating individually. Group applications or other applications involving multiple people will be accepted, but in such cases, only one person's worth of support will be provided.

Item	Content	
	(1) Production Course	(2) Research Course
Travel		
Travel expenses	<p>The organizer will provide expenses, within a given limit, for a round-trip by public transportation to the place of residence from the airport (train station) nearest to the invited artist's home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In accordance with Fukui Prefecture's travel expense regulations, this will cover the amount of the most reasonable and efficient route using public transportation. <u>This will be provided for one round trip during the program period</u>, and any subsequent trips will be at the artist's own expense. ● The maximum amount is 100,000 yen for travel inside Japan and 200,000 yen for international travel. ● For international travel, payment will be made in Japanese yen, calculated based on the exchange rate on the date of purchase. ● Expenses related to the transportation of materials will be borne by the artist. ● Travel expenses in excess of the maximum amount will be borne by the artist. 	

Visa	Artists resident overseas are required to obtain a passport and visa for entry into Japan as necessary (at their own expense). Please contact the Japanese embassy in your country for details.	
Production, activities, workshops		
Production expenses	The organizers will provide 340,000 yen to cover production expenses (purchase of materials, research expenses, etc.) during the residency.	The organizers will provide 2,500 yen per day of stay to cover research expenses during the stay.
Nature of activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the residency period, artists will conduct research and production activities and report the results in some form. In addition, participation in at least one workshop or school visit and talk event is required. • Artists are required to request and obtain permission from the organizers in advance if they intend to leave their place of residence for a certain period of time to conduct research or surveys in connection with their activities. 	
Equipment	Artists are required to prepare equipment and tools for their research and production.	
Residence and activity sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organizers will lend artists, free of charge, a house as a place to stay and a production site. • In principle, the artists will be responsible for cleaning. In addition, artists must return the facilities and equipment they used to the organizers in their original condition after completing their production activities during the program period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organizers will lend artists, free of charge, a house as a place to stay and as a base for activities. • In principle, the artists will be responsible for cleaning. In addition, artists must return the facilities and equipment they used to the organizers in their original condition after completing their research activities during the program period.
Workshops/school visits	Artists are required to conduct either workshops or school visits in cooperation with the organizers. The organizers will prepare the materials necessary for workshops/school visits and pay the associated expenses (up to a maximum amount).	
Public production work	Artists are required to conduct public production work for a specified period of time. The period is scheduled from November 9th to November 15th. (The completed works are scheduled to be exhibited from the 16th to the 24th.)	

Artworks after completion of the residency	Artists must remove their artworks from the premises themselves upon completion of their production activities. Artists are responsible for packing their artworks to take them home. The costs of transporting artworks shall be borne by the artists themselves.	
Presentation of results	The presentation of results (exhibition of works, performances, presentations, panel displays, etc.) will be held at the former Eiheiji Health Center, scheduled from November 16th to 24th. The location of the presentation (talk, exhibition, performance, etc.) and the final presentation plan will be decided upon mutual consultation between the artists and the organizers.	
(For exhibitions/performances)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As a rule, exhibitions consisting solely of past works are not permitted. ● As a rule, preparation work for exhibitions/performances will be done by artists themselves. ● The organizers will prepare materials (captions, panels, etc.) deemed necessary for holding the exhibitions/performances in consultation with artists. ● The transportation costs for past works will be borne by the artist. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentations or panel displays consisting solely of past works or materials are generally not permitted. ● The preparation work for presentations, panel displays, etc., is generally to be carried out by the artist themselves. ● The organizers will provide materials deemed necessary for presentations and panel displays (captions, panels, etc.) in consultation with the artist. ● The transportation costs for past works and materials necessary for presentations and panel displays will be borne by the artist.
Talk Event	During the presentation period, a talk event with the artist and the director will be held. The organizers will prepare the necessary materials for the talk, in consultation with the artist, and will cover the expenses.	
Daily life during the residency		
Living expenses	The organizers will provide 3,000 yen per day for living expenses during the residency (up to a limit of 89 nights and 90 days). However, this will not be paid for days spent outside of Eiheiji Town for personal reasons, such as travel. The same shall apply for late arrival/early departure.	
Utilities	The organizers will pay utility costs during the residency.	

Location of residence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organizers will lend, free of charge, a vacant house in the town (furnished in advance) as a place to stay. • Artists are responsible for cleaning the residence themselves. When returning home, artists must return all facilities used to the organizers in their original condition.
Communication	Artists may use the Internet via wireless LAN in available areas.
Insurance	Artists are responsible for obtaining their own accident insurance and liability insurance, and the organizers will not be held responsible for insurance coverage.
Other	
Support	<p>Artists will be provided the following support as necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of information on how to obtain art materials and supplies • Support relating to research activities • Recruiting support volunteers
Records of activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organizers will document the works and activities of artists during the program with photographs or videos. Artists are asked to cooperate with such recordings. • All copyrights to the works and concepts created through this program belong to the artists themselves, but the copyrights to photographs, videos, etc. recorded by the organizers and the right to use them for publicity and advertising purposes that contribute to the public interest shall belong to the organizers. In addition, all of these may be used free of charge by any party approved by the organizers.
Records of activities	The organizers will create a record of the program's activities (once a year).
Cooperation with media relations	Artists are requested to cooperate to the extent possible with requests for coverage from media companies. However, if it is deemed that it would interfere with production activities or infringe on privacy, they can consult the organizers and refuse the coverage.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event of unavoidable circumstances such as disasters or various infectious diseases, the content of the program may change. In such cases, the response will be decided through consultation between the artist and the organizers. • Please note that income tax will be deducted from the amounts for production costs, research costs, travel expenses, and accommodation fees mentioned above. • Fuel costs and other expenses for using a private car during your stay will be at your own expense. If you rent a car, the rental costs will also be at your own expense. <p>*Although staff may be able to provide a car and accompany you, please understand that we may not be able to accommodate all requests.</p>

	*Since this is a regional city, public transportation is limited. If you have a driver's license, it will be convenient for you to have your own car or rent a car.
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7. Application process

Please submit your application through the following application form:

- (1) Please fill in the required information.
- (2) Download the designated application from the ZEN AIR website [<https://zen-air.org>], fill in the required information, and attach it to the application form.

[[Application Form](https://shinsei.e-fukui.lg.jp/fpJKJDpq)] <https://shinsei.e-fukui.lg.jp/fpJKJDpq>

*If you are unable to access the application form, please contact info@zen-air.org.

<Documents to be submitted>

Please fill out the application form with the following items:

Full Name, Artist Name, Artist Profile, Motivation for Applying, Activity Plan, Activity Materials and Captions.

★ For the "Activity Materials and Captions" section, please attach and provide information about the following:

① [Up to 5 images](#) of past works and activity records:

- You must submit at least 3 images.
- [The data size of each image should be within 2MB.](#)

② Up to 3 past video works (optional):

- Consolidate video files using a file transfer service or online storage.
- Attach the URL.
- The total duration of all videos should be within 10 minutes.

➤ [Please compile the entire application form \(including activity materials\) into one PDF file with a size limit of 10MB.](#)

➤ Applications submitted in sizes, formats or methods other than those specified may be excluded from the selection process.

➤ Please note that, in principle, submitted documents will not be returned.

➤ Handling of personal information: Application documents will never be used for any purpose other than for the Executive Committee's work.

8. Application period

[May 21, 2024 \(Tue\) – July 10, 2024 \(Wed\) \(must arrive no later than 23:59 Japan time\)](#)

*Applications received outside of this period will not be accepted.

9. Selection and results

1st round: Selection based on submitted materials

2nd round: Selection based on online interviews

All applicants will be notified of the results by e-mail by late July 2024 (provisional schedule).

Individual inquiries regarding the selection process or results will not be accepted.

<Members of the selection committee (in Japanese syllabary order)>

-Kenji Kubota (Independent curator/Director of ZEN AIR)

-Hiromi Kurosawa (Chief Curator, Director of Curatorial Affairs, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa)

-Shichio Minato (Visual Artist/Professor of Visual Arts, University of Fukui, School of Education)

10. Applications/Inquiries

Inquiries about applications are accepted by e-mail.

ZEN AIR: Fukui Arts Center and Residence Project Executive Committee Secretariat

E-mail: info@zen-air.org

WEB: <https://zen-air.org/>