

How'd You Get That Awesome Residency?

with Lexa Walsh





Why do you want to do a residency?

Travel
Stay home
Make work
Make connections
Make love
Be alone
Be together
Get free rent
Have a show
Add to your CV
Get paid

.....



Types of Residencies

- Art vacations
- Cultural explorations
- Deep work/research/alone time
- Social networking
- DIY
- Institutional
- Government (National Parks, etc)
- University - Teaching Residencies
- Studio - you don't live there, but use their facilities/resources for a period of time
- Invent-Your-Own-Residency- invite yourself to be a resident in a school, a library, a grocery store, etc.
- Make a PHD a Residency



Research

Artistcommunities.org – huge network/consortium, very searchable

Transartists.org - international residencies, festivals, etc, very searchable

<http://source.nyfa.org/> – grants, residencies, and jobs, many NY & US based, very searchable

Resartis.org – international residencies with its member orgs

Rhizome.org/community- opportunities of all kinds

E-flux.com - opportunities/artist info (newsletter is more user friendly than site)

Creative-capital.org has so many great resources, including application advice

<https://www.collegeart.org/jobs-and-opportunities/opportunities/> has unique opps

<https://www.artworkarchive.com/call-for-entry> has lots of resources

Social media has loads of opportunities that exist nowhere else:

“Open Calls / Residencies / Opportunities for Artists”

“Bulletin Board”

“Art Open Calls”

“Open Call for Artists”

Once you find a place of interest, GO TO THEIR WEBSITE!



LAMB, BEEF
GYROS = \$6
SHAWARMA #6

Sultan's Kitchen

Sultan's Choice

Handwritten menu items and prices on the board.

HAND MADE
DAILY
BAKLAVA
\$2.00



KITCHEN
FOOD

Things to Consider:

- Who are the other artists who have been there? What career stages are they compared to you? Go to the artists' websites! Do they accept mostly social practice -based artists or painters or sound artists or all? Like in grant writing, apply to places you are more likely to get in.
- Do they have a rotating curatorial staff? Do you want to make an impression on a particular curator?
- The nicer the weather/more beautiful the location, the more the residency is likely to cost
- Do they want you to interact with the public? Are you willing?
- Do they expect you to teach, do a talk, leave an artwork behind...? Is that ok?
- Will you get to network with the local Art Scene?
- Are you the only artist living in a remote farmhouse in Finland in the winter? Is that ok?
- Are you in a shared housing situation? Is that ok?
- Are you the only BIPOC, LGTBQ+ artist, artist with disabilities there?
- How does eating/food purchasing/cooking work? Are you required to be communal?
- Can you do your project in the allotted time?
- Are you willing to be away from your family & friends & life for the allotted time period?
- Can you bring your partner/children/pet?



Paid vs. Unpaid Residencies

This is one of the few cases where 'paying to play' can be acceptable. Some of these places give you amazing admin. support, or a nice AC apartment, or a mentor, etc. Check the economic status of the country and see how the cost fits in. Others are straight up rip offs. Maybe buying a plane ticket somewhere is a better idea... Again, RESEARCH



Thank you!

www.lexawalsh.com

lexa@lexawalsh.com

[@lexawalshinc](https://www.instagram.com/lexawalshinc)