

GUIDANCE NOTES

INTRODUCTION

Delfina Foundation is a non-profit organisation dedicated to facilitating artistic exchange and developing creative practice through residencies, partnerships and public programming.

With support from Delfina Foundation's Network of Africa Patrons we welcome applications from contemporary visual artists from West Africa for a residency in London. This residency will take place during Delfina Foundation's spring residency season 2025 which runs from 31 March - 22 June 2025.

Each year, Delfina Foundation runs four three-month residency seasons. These residency seasons are dedicated to 'open' independent research or to '[thematic](#)' collective research around a specific issue or idea. This residency will take place during our 'open' spring 2025 season.

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

Alongside gaining time and space to develop their work, all seasons of Delfina Foundation residencies offer a programme that includes:

- Guided visits to museums, galleries, non-profits, artist-run spaces and studios, as well as trips to institutions outside London;
- Opportunities to meet and engage with artists, curators, academics and researchers through organised presentations, studio visits, events and meals;
- Professional development activities including presentations and crits, portfolio reviews, and mentoring activities to strengthen the artistic practice; and
- Collaborative exchange between residents through informal gatherings and meals.

A one-minute introduction video to Delfina Foundation can be watched [here](#).

TRAVEL AND LIVING SUPPORT

The selected applicant/s will receive a 12-week residency at Delfina Foundation, including:

- A return economy-class flight
- Airport transfers in the UK
- Reimbursement of visa fee (if required)
- A living allowance of £35 per day
- A materials budget of £1,000
- Local travel pass for tubes and buses
- A single bedroom at Delfina Foundation - a house which hosts up to 8 residents with shared facilities, including: bathrooms, laundry rooms, a kitchen, library and dining room

APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must:

- Be a national of and / or currently living and working in one of the following countries Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo;
- A contemporary visual artist seeking an opportunity to develop their practice through research and access to resources;
- Able to explain how the experience of an international residency will be of benefit, not only to the individual but also to their local networks; and
- Proficient in English (the interview will be conducted in English and applicants are expected to be able to confidently present and discuss their practice and ideas with the interviewers)

APPLICATION FORM

All artists from the countries above are welcome to apply. Those who have not previously lived or participated in residency programmes in London will be prioritised.

To apply, please complete and submit the [application form](#).

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application deadline: **Monday 21 October 2024, 23:59 BST**

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an online interview that will take place in early to mid November 2024.

All applicants will be notified of the success of their

application by the end of November 2024.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can duos or collectives apply?

Generally, it is difficult for us to host residencies with collectives, given the resources and space required to host them. Our accommodation comprises of eight single rooms. We recommend that collectives or duos who wish to apply put forth one member to represent them in-residence if they are prepared to work in such a way.

Can the partners, children, dependents or pets of international residents be accommodated?

Delfina Foundation is a communal residence with limited space. Over the years we have discovered that the nature of our accommodation, as well as our intensive programmes, does not suit non-participants or pets/ESAs being resident on-site. If it is essential that a selected international programme participant be accompanied for part or all of the residency they will need to organise their own accommodation during this time. If you have specific questions, please email opencall@delfinafoundation.

How can specific access support be attained?

Delfina Foundation has always welcomed applicants from all backgrounds, including D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent artists and others who have specific needs. We are open to discussing how our residencies can be adapted to meet the needs of the applicants that have been selected for a residency. If you have specific questions in advance of applying, regarding your access requirements with respect to the application process itself, the residency programme, and/or the Delfina House, where residents live and work, please email our Director of Operations Gillean Dickie on gillean@delfinafoundation.com, with the subject line: 'Open call: access'.