



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 Rambourg Foundation and strategic coordination from Hani Zaitoun, Delfina Foundation welcomes applications from artists from Syria for two twelve-week residencies in London.

The two selected applicants will be each offered a residency covering the periods: 22 September-14 December 2025, or 6 January - 29 March 2026. Applicants' availability for these various residency periods should be indicated on their application form.

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' autumn 2025 or winter 2026 seasons.

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

A twelve-week residency at Delfina Foundation, including:

- A return economy-class flight
- Airport transfers in the UK
- Reimbursement of visa fees (if required)
- A living allowance of £40 per day
- A materials budget of £1000
- A travel pass for London's public transport network
- A single bedroom with a desk at Delfina Foundation, a house which hosts up to 8 residents with shared facilities, including: bathrooms, laundry rooms, a kitchen, library and dining room

Please note that travel insurance is not covered. Selected residents are required to obtain travel insurance at their own initiative and expense, and to send a copy of the insurance schedule to Delfina Foundation prior to travelling to the residency. This insurance should cover medical emergencies, as well as the protection of personal possessions from theft, accidents, and loss for the duration of the residency.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be:

- A national of Syria; or currently living in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia, Turkey, or UAE but have lived in Syria before 2012;
- Able to explain how the experience of an international residency may benefit his/her/their career development;
- Must have at least a graduate-level qualification in the arts or a related field;
- Must have proven ability and willingness to work collaboratively;
- Able to explain how the experience of an international residency may benefit their career development;
- Proficient in English.

APPLICATION FORM

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

SELECTION

The artist will be chosen based on their application materials. A selection panel, composed of Delfina Foundation representatives and external advisors, will be formed to evaluate applications and ensure a comprehensive selection process. Delfina Foundation will make the final selection of the candidate.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application deadline: Sunday 8 June 2025, 23:59 BST.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an online interview in mid-June.

All applicants will be notified of the panel's decision by 30 June 2025.

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 gained?

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 fill out the application form or email our Director of Operations Gillean Dickie on gillean@delfinafoundation.com, with the subject line: 'Open call: Access'.

I previously applied unsuccessfully to an open call at Delfina Foundation. Is it worthwhile applying again?

Yes. We encourage applications from practitioners who have applied to previous calls. We always receive more strong applications to our calls than we have opportunities available, so we are always happy to consider updated or new applications from previous applicants.