

## 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 St Paul's Cathedral and The Irma Pastrana Borrero Foundation for Humanity's Peace and Development ("The Pastrana Foundation"), Delfina Foundation welcomes applications from contemporary visual artists based in Latin America and the Caribbean for a residency in London. With practical support from both the Delfina Foundation team and the St Paul's Cathedral team, the selected artist will use the residency to explore the relationship between space and spirituality, in the context of the Cathedral and the UK as places that welcome people of all faiths and none. People of all beliefs are welcome to apply.

This residency will take place during Delfina Foundation's autumn residency season 2026, which runs from 21 September - 13 December 2026.

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 2026 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

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 £1,000
- 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:

- Be living and working in Latin America or the Caribbean
- A contemporary visual artist seeking an opportunity to develop their practice through research and access to resources;
- Be able to demonstrate their interest in the relationship between space and spirituality through previous projects
- Be 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
- Be 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 based in Latin America or the Caribbean are welcome to apply. Those who have not lived or participated in residency programmes in London will be prioritised.

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 30 November 2025, 23:59 GMT.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an online interview by the end of December.

All applicants will be notified of the panel's decision by mid-January.

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### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

#### ABOUT THE PARTNERS

##### **St Paul's Cathedral**

St Paul's Cathedral is a vibrant working church, a national treasure, and an internationally renowned icon of the city since 604AD. Today, it is a place of worship, history, learning and community. In 2024, we hosted over 790,000 paying visitors at the Cathedral, and welcomed 396,000 people to worship with us at our services without charge. Across April-June 2025, 1,938,783 people explored our website and online resources. We welcome everyone irrespective of faith, and our visitors enjoy a varied programme of free and ticketed events including tours, exhibitions and interactive art installations.

##### **The Irma Pastrana Borrero Foundation for Humanity's Peace and Development**

The Irma Pastrana Borrero Foundation for Humanity's Peace and Development ("The Pastrana Foundation") is dedicated to fostering inter-religious dialogue and education through the arts and academia in cities such as New York and London, which have diverse communities that enrich the experience of living in a multicultural environment. The Pastrana Foundation believes that God's purpose for us is to come together and learn from one another's cultures and religions, rather than fighting over them. We believe religious literacy could end violence and conflict and lead to unity, and that art which engages with religion and spirituality can show us that all religions are beautiful, and can not only coexist but also learn from one another.