

Monson Arts Design Residencies

WEBSITE: <https://monsonarts.org/residencies/>

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Application Due: Wednesday, March 3, 2021, 11:59pm

Application opens: January

Awards are announced: April

DESCRIPTION

Monson Arts is a new arts center in Monson, Maine. Programs include residencies for artists and writers, intensive shorter workshops, and educational partnerships with area secondary schools.

Monson Arts is partnering with RISD to offer two, design focused residencies to RISD students or alumni: one two week residency and one four week residency -- 8/22-9/3, 9/5-10/1, 10/3-10/29, 10/31-11/12, or 11/14-12/10. Design residents will focus on developing prototypes and designs, and experimenting with materials. Design residents work alongside artists and writers also in residence.

RISD residents will receive room and board, a private studio, access to Monson Arts' wood and metal working shops, and a \$500 stipend if two weeks/\$1,000 if four weeks. Monson Arts has a studio technician on staff 20 hours a week who will provide support. In addition, residents have access to digital fabrication equipment at the Innovative Media and Research Center (IMRC) at the University of Maine in Orono, a partner of Monson Arts.

Monson is located at the edge of Maine's North Woods, a 3.5 million acres of forest bordering Canada. It is the last town on the Appalachian Trail before the beginning of the 100-Mile Wilderness that leads to Mount Katahdin. Since it was founded in 1822, the community has had an economy based on natural resources. In the late 19th through the early 20th centuries, slate quarries supported a thriving industry. Moosehead Manufacturing produced wood furniture from the 1945 until its closure in 2007. The region also has a rich arts tradition: Henry David Thoreau wrote about the area in *The Maine Woods*, photographer Berenice Abbott lived in Monson and nearby Blanchard, and traditional makers are well established in the area including the North Woods Canoe Company, Atkinson.

Monson Arts is committed to ensuring the health and safety of program participants, staff, and residents of the surrounding community as they continue to operate during the COVID-19 pandemic. If illness, restriction, or risk makes it impossible to participate during a planned residency session, they will work with selected design residents to reschedule at a later date.

ELIGIBILITY

- This opportunity is available to undergraduate and graduate students enrolled Spring 2021 who will graduate June 2021. It is also available to alumni.
- Applicants from all disciplines who have a focus on working in design and making (furniture design, industrial design, architecture, etc.) will be considered.
- Two makers can apply to work collaboratively. Team applicants should apply with one application. Each team member will receive a \$500 stipend if two weeks/\$1,000 if four weeks.
- Non-U.S. Citizens are eligible.
- Working knowledge of English is required.

APPLICATION PROCESS & COMPONENTS

- Apply directly to Monson Arts through Slideroom by their deadline. Which includes a statement of intent, a resume, 5 images (still and/or video), image descriptions, and two references' contact information. The link to the application is found on the RISD Careers Managed Grant page.
- In your application to Monson Arts note your RISD education.
- Applicants are responsible for travel to/from Maine and the cost of their own materials.

CONTACT

Dan Bouthot, Monson Arts Director
director@monsonarts.org

Updated 1/2021