

OPEN CALL: 6 x Detroit Visiting Artist Fellowship

Lead paragraph

Open call for six Detroit Visiting Artist Fellowships at Cranbrook Academy of Art or College for Creative Studies within the specialist fields of critical studies, fiber, 2D (graphic design), 3D (industrial design), glass and ceramics in Detroit, Michigan, USA.

Note about the application deadline

Please note that you cannot apply until one month before the deadline of 13 January 2026, at 14:00. Please also note that there may be changes to the fund description up to the day when the application form becomes accessible.

Who may apply?

- Craft artists and designers as well as curators, art critics, writers and scholars who want their work and networks to be international, to gather inspiration from Detroit, and to work on their artistic development during a stay in Detroit.

You may not apply for grants for:

- Activities completed before the application deadline
- Projects that the committee have previously supported

Please note the following:

The Visiting Artist Fellowship will be posted in the spring of 2026 and in the spring of 2027.

The application for Detroit Visiting Artist Fellowship must be in English as a jury from either Cranbrook Academy of Art or the College for Creative Studies (CSS) will also read it. We therefore encourage you to become familiar with this English version of the open call notice and the language that the schools use.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAMME?

The purpose of the Danish Arts Foundation is to promote and raise the profile of Danish crafts and design internationally and in Denmark.

The Danish Arts Foundation has entered into a cooperation with Cranbrook Academy of Art and the College for Creative Studies (CCS), Detroit. On offer are a total of six Detroit Visiting Artist Fellowships intended for craft artists and designers as well as curators, art critics, writers and scholars who want their work and networks to be international, to gather inspiration from Detroit, and work on their artistic development within the schools' inspiring, artistically strong, and highly professional environments. The six fellowships are of a six-week duration and are within the following specialist areas:

- Curating/writing/academic research
- Fiber
- 2D (graphic design)
- 3D (industrial design)
- Glass
- Ceramics

Each specialist area can receive one fellow during the period. The programs take place during the following

periods:

- **Curating/writing/academic research:** 21 September to 23 October (arrival 17 September and departure 26 October), Cranbrook Academy of Art
- **Fiber/textiles:** 21 September to 23 October (arrival 17 September and departure 26 October), Cranbrook Academy of Art
- **2D (graphic design):** 2 November to 4 December (arrival 28 October and departure 7 December, Cranbrook Academy of Art
- **3D (industrial design):** 2 November to 4 December (arrival 28 October and departure 7 December, Cranbrook Academy of Art
- **Ceramics:** 1 February to 6 March 2027 (arrival 27 January and departure 8 March 2027), the College for Creative Studies (CCS)
- **Glass:** 1 February to 6 March 2027 (arrival 27 January and departure 8 March 2027), the College for Creative Studies (CCS)

As a Visiting Artist Fellow, you have access to the schools' workshops and other facilities, and you will be integrated into the local environment by actively participating in teaching, giving lectures, holding a master class based on your practice or (research) work, and by giving individual critical reviews or feedback sessions with the schools' students.

As a new addition to the Detroit Residency program it is now also possible to apply for a fellowship in "Critical Studies" for curators, art critics, writers and scholars. See more information below.

The stay will also give you the opportunity to actively reach out to either new or existing contacts/networks and carry out research at a strong professional art scene in the United States. This may take place both within the framework of the schools and the city of Detroit. If you wish to visit specific places with the aim of networking, you can apply for an additional subsidy for a network-oriented trip in the United States. You can read more about this opportunity in this Open Call under the section "What must the application contain?"

Finally, the stay must support and strengthen the connections between the Danish and American crafts and design scenes.

Cranbrook Academy of Art

[Cranbrook Academy of Art](#) is an internationally recognized school that teaches exclusively at the graduate level. Founded in 1932, Cranbrook Academy of Art offers MFA degrees (2 years of tuition) in ten departments – 2D, 3D, 4D, Sculpture, Fiber, Painting, Ceramics, Metalsmithing, Photography, and Print Media – and MArch degrees (2 years of tuition) in the department of Architecture. Every department is led by one artist who is both Head of Department and Artist-in-Residence. There is no fixed curriculum as Cranbrook's pedagogy uses an independent study model: each department consists of approx. 15 students all of whom pursue their individual practice under the mentorship of the respective Head of Department. There are periodic group reviews where Artists-in-Residence come together to review the work of students across multiple departments. Throughout the academic year, many specialists – such as the fellows - enrich student learning.

In addition to the mentioned departments, Cranbrook also has a Program in Critical Studies led by the Head of Critical Studies. In the Critical Studies program, Visiting Fellows and researched-based artists teach students in seminars or small study groups. In Critical Studies there is a curriculum involving aesthetics, philosophy, art history, sociology, and intellectual history.

College for Creative Studies (CCS)

[The College for Creative Studies](#) (CCS), [Art and Design College for Undergraduate & Graduate Degrees | College for Creative Studies](#) located in midtown Detroit, strives to provide students with the tools needed for successful careers in the dynamic and growing creative industries. CCS fosters students' resolve to pursue excellence, act ethically, engage their responsibilities as citizens, and learn throughout their lives. With world-class faculty and unsurpassed facilities, students learn to be visual communicators who actively use art and design toward the betterment of society. Its graduates are exhibiting artists and teachers, design problem solvers and innovators, as well as creative leaders in business.

Founded in 1906 as the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts, CCS plays a key role in Detroit's cultural and educational communities. The Studio Art & Craft program emphasizes the development of creativity and critical thinking skills that can be applied beyond specific disciplines, and graduates will have the expertise and versatility needed to thrive in diverse industries.

Studio Art & Craft is rooted in the disciplines of ceramics, digital fabrication, digital media, drawing, fiber/textiles, glass, installation, metalsmithing/jewelry, painting, performance, print media and sculpture and combines traditional making with contemporary processes and progressive technologies. Students focus on producing meaningful works of art and/or learning the artisan's role in designing well-crafted functional form.

Working alongside internationally recognized faculty who serve as mentors, students also benefit from direct access to extraordinary facilities – allowing them to pursue a focused study in any of the disciplines within Studio Art & Craft, or explore a multi-disciplinary approach that integrates a diverse range of Studio Art & Craft courses and skill development.

You can read more about the various offerings of the schools here:

- **Curating/writing/academic research:** [Critical Studies Program | Cranbrook Academy of Art](#)

The fellowship provides an opportunity to research the history of Cranbrook Academy of Art and its central role in the development of design and crafts in the United States from the 1940s onward. At the same time, there is the opportunity to work on contextualizing the institution's relationship with Scandinavian modernism. As a fellow, you are expected to participate in teaching through a 'guided research' program, where you will also mentor 6-8 of the academy's students in their artistic research. As a fellow, you will have access to the academy's library and the Cranbrook Art Museum's collection and archive.

- **Fiber:** [Department at Cranbrook Academy of Art](#), The Fiber Department is led by Artist-in-Residence Joey Quinones, PhD., who arrived in September of 2023 from Alfred University. Joey Quinones is a PhD in English, and taught college-level English before seeking an MFA in Fiber. They bring intellectual and creative rigor to their practice. Quinones is especially interested in getting their students to think of Fiber in terms of new public art.

- **2D (graphic design):** [Departments | Cranbrook Academy of Art](#). 2D is led by Artist-in-Residence Elliott Earls who is also a graduate of Cranbrook Academy of Art. He is a multidisciplinary artist working in graphic design, book design, and performance art. His work is widely exhibited. 2D is known for its rigorous but

communitarian critical environment (seeking dialogue not argument) and a strong emphasis on writing.

- **3D (industrial design):** [Industrial Design Program | Cranbrook Academy of Art](#), Industrial Design is lead by Artist-in-Residence Leon Ransmeier. Ransmeier is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design and the founder of design office Ransmeier Inc. He brings 25 years of international experience to his role at Cranbrook. The Industrial Design program emphasizes a discipline based on collaboration: working together with large and small industries, local communities and international partners creates opportunities beyond individual practice.

- **Glass:** [College for Creative Studies Craft & Material Studies](#), Kim Harty is Section Lead and Associate Professor of Glass at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, MI. Harty is an artist and scholar whose work investigates the connection between craft and performance through sculpture, installation, video, and performance.

- **Ceramic:** [College for Creative Studies Craft & Material Studies](#), Claire Thibodeau is a visiting associate and graduated from Cranbrook Academy of Art in 2022. Thibodeau's studio practice focuses on interplay between ceramics and fiber arts, both in practice and in respect to history of craft and women's work. Her work manifests in hand-built forms, slip-castings, wheel-thrown vessels, and performances.

Practical information

The artist Anders Ruhwald, who has lived in Detroit for 10 years and therefore has a deep knowledge of the schools, the local scene, and relevant networks, coordinates the Visiting Artist Fellowships. Anders Ruhwald conducts all dialogues concerning practicalities regarding the stay as well as dialogues with the schools. He will also be responsible for introducing the schools and the artistic scene in Detroit by telephone, video meetings, and email before the stay starts.

When you arrive in Detroit, Jose Arenivar will welcome you and introduce the city, the local area, and the residency flat at 3583 Dubois Street. Jose Arenivar lives at this address himself and will be available for dealing with any practical concerns on an ongoing basis.

You must arrive in Detroit before the first week before your stay starts (see the specific dates relating to your area of expertise listed above). This is so that you have time to settle in and coordinate with the school before your residency begins.

During the first week at the school, you will have a meeting with the head of department and give a lecture to the school's teachers and students within your professional area. The lecture should be based on your practice, research, or work you intend to carry out during your stay. During the subsequent weeks, you can concentrate on your own work.

In parallel with this, you must provide individual critical reviews with the students. You will also have the opportunity to hold a master class, if this makes sense in relation to your practice.

If you are awarded the grant to establish networks elsewhere in the United States, your network-oriented trip will have to take place either just before or right after the fellowship.

Towards the end of the stay, you will have the opportunity to have a conversation with the department head, who can provide feedback on both your practice and your involvement with the students.

The Detroit Visiting Artist Fellowship offers:

- Residence in Detroit in one of the two residency flats at 3583 Dubois Street
- Access to workshop facilities at Cranbrook Academy of Art or the College for Creative Studies (CCS) in Detroit
- Access to the schools' artistic and intellectual community and networks

- The opportunity to give lectures/presentations/a master class on your practice, the research, or the work you plan to do
- Feedback from Department Head on both your practice and your involvement with the students
- The opportunity to support the internationalization of your work, your networks and your artistic development
- A grant of DKK 60,000 that covers a round-trip flight ticket, local transportation/car rental, insurance, expenses for materials, possible return shipping of works. If you are a glass artist, you can indicate whether you need a subsidy to pay an assistant of an additional DKK 3,500
- The opportunity to establish networks with a further grant of DKK 15,000 for a one-week network-oriented trip elsewhere in the United States
- A bike
- An introduction to Detroit as a city and the arts and design scene before arrival by Anders Ruhwald.
- An introduction to the local area by Jose Arenivar in Detroit, who is available to the residents throughout the period.

It is possible to bring your family, who can live in the residency flat, which can accommodate up to four people.

You must have a driving license.

It is the responsibility of the Visiting Artist Fellow to take out insurance and apply for a visa in plenty of time. If you cannot apply for ESTA, it is important that you state this in your application so that the schools can best support you in securing access.

HOW YOUR APPLICATION IS EVALUATED

The main criteria for all grants awarded by the Danish Arts Foundation are the artistic quality of the project and the artistic talent related to the project. The Committee for Crafts and Design Project Funding processes the applications and evaluate the project's artistic quality based on the following criteria:

Professionalism

The project develops and challenges practice, ideas, traditions and materials.

Coherence

The project has a thoroughly thought-through connection between ideas and the methods and/or effects chosen.

Significance

The project exhibits the artist's reflections on how the project creates significance in relevant situations.

[The Committee for Crafts and Design Project Funding](#) evaluates all applications and, on this basis, prepares a shortlist for Cranbrook Academy of Art and the College of Creative Studies. You will be informed if you are selected for the shortlist. The schools' department heads select the Visiting Artist Fellowship candidates. After this, Anders Ruhwald follows up with a conversation with the candidates. Before the residency starts, the selected candidates and the department heads will hold an online meeting. Every applicant will receive his or her reply at the same time. This will be no later than 12 weeks after the application deadline.

Please be aware:

After your stay has ended, we will send you an evaluation form which must be answered and returned to us.

It will be taken to consideration in the evaluation of your application if you have applied for grants from the Danish Arts Foundation within the past three years.

The committee reserves the right to not grant Visiting Artist Fellowships if the applicants does not meet the standards of artistic excellence and talent as well as the other requirements of the open call combined.

WHAT MUST THE APPLICATION CONTAIN?

The application for the Visiting Artist Fellowship must be in English as a jury from either Cranbrook or the College for Creative Studies (CCS) will also read it. In your application you must:

- Describe the project, research, or work you will carry out during the Detroit Visiting Artist Fellowship, and how it can nurture and support your artistic development. Emphasis will be placed on the extent to which you plan to participate in teaching at the schools and in networking activities. It is important that you show that you are willing to use the stay to create artistic development, opportunities and networks.
- State whether you want an additional subsidy for a network-oriented trip in the United States and what this would contribute to your professional development. You must include a specific programme and intention for the trip, i.e., what it should lead to and how it supports your artistic development. If you are a glass artist, you can indicate whether you need a subsidy to pay an assistant of an additional DKK 3,500.
- Describe how you wish to disseminate your stay for a relevant Danish audience. Please be aware that if this might be a project in its own right, you can apply for additional funding for realising the project via [“Crafts and Design Projects in Denmark and Aboard”](#).

You must attach the following:

- **The application:**

- The application must be in English. It must be no more than one page of 2,400 keystrokes including spaces (PDF or Word)

- **Images of the project or work you will carry out:**

- No more than three A4 sheets featuring relevant images that visualize the project, e.g. photographs, sketches or other images may be included (PDF or Word)

- **Images of previous work:**

- No more than three A4 sheets featuring relevant images documenting previous work (PDF or Word)

- **A short CV in English:**

- CVs must be no more than one page. For applications involving several participants, enclose only shortened CVs of no more than half an A4 page each. (Word or PDF)

Do not attach images of other people's work, e.g., inspirational images and mood boards. If there are particular reasons for attaching pictures of other people's work, you must clearly state that they are not yours. Similarly, you must state whether the artistic work submitted was collaborative or not.

PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- The total size of the attached files may not exceed 25 MB
- We accept the document formats PDF and Word
- We do not accept Pages or ZIP files
- You can edit your application until the deadline. Remember to re-attach all the files when you are editing,

otherwise they will not be included. Once the application deadline has passed, you can no longer edit your application. Any attachments received after the deadline will not be attached to your application

- The committee will only process the most recently submitted application
- Your application must include all the required attachments in order to be processed by the committee, Cranbrook Academy of Art, and the College for Creative Studies
- You are responsible for ensuring that your application has been filled out correctly and that all the required documents are attached. You can always check your receipt in the Grant Portal

You must submit your application using our [Grant Portal](#). We do not accept paper forms. We recommend you to use the browsers Chrome or Firefox.

The Grant Portal requires that you log in using MitID (the secure digital login used in Denmark).

If you are exempt from Digital Post or due to very special circumstances cannot use the digital self-service solution, you must write to post@slks.dk

A complete application must meet the mentioned formal criteria and argue concisely for why the project is important and relevant to the applicant, the crafts and design scene, and society in general.

HOW MUCH MAY YOU APPLY FOR?

The chosen Visiting Artist Fellowship candidates are awarded a grant of DKK 60,000 each. This amount covers the duration of working hours, the round-trip flight, local transportation/car rental, insurance, expenses for materials, possible return shipping of works, and communication of your project to a Danish audience after the end of tour stay. If you are a glass artist, you can indicate whether you need a subsidy to pay an assistant of an additional DKK 3,500.

Moreover, you may apply for an extra grant of DKK 15.000 for a network-oriented trip in the United States.

The grants will be paid directly to the chosen Visiting Artist Fellows by the Danish Arts Foundation.

Payment

If you are a Danish citizen, organization, or business and you receive a grant, you must have a NemKonto available for the payment transfer. We transfer all grants to the NemKonto linked to the Danish CPR/CVR number stated in the application. If you, for example, apply with a new CVR number, you have to make sure that you have linked it to a NemKonto. You have to do this before a potential grant is awarded.

If you have moved away from Denmark i.e., emigrated according to the Danish Customs and Tax Administration's definition, or if you are a foreign applicant, you are able to have a potential grant transferred to a foreign bank account. For applicants with foreign bank accounts, a completed bank information form must be attached to the application. You can find the form for wire transfers to [countries using IBAN](#) or the form for wire transfers to countries [NOT using IBAN](#).

If you receive a grant of:

- DKK 100,000, we pay the grant as soon as possible.

The Danish Arts Foundation reports all awarded grants to the Danish Tax Agency. Please note that the tax has not been deducted from the payment.

WHEN

You will receive a response no later than April 7 2026.

In the period between the submission and the response, the committee and Cranbrook Academy of Art and College for Creative Studies (CCS) will read and process all submitted applications. Once all the applicants have received answers from the committees regarding their decisions, we will publish all the awarded grants [on our website](#) (in Danish).

You will receive an email notification when your answer is available on your profile in the Grant Portal.

The names of all applicants are publicized on our website in the [committees' minutes](#) (in Danish).

WHEN YOU HAVE SUBMITTED YOUR APPLICATION

Once you have submitted your application, you will receive an on-screen receipt, which you can download if desired. Please note that you can see your application and your application status in the Grant Portal under "My Applications" at any time.

You will not receive an email receipt confirming your application submission.

On your case in the Grant Portal, you can see your application attachments. It is your responsibility that the required documents have been attached and sent, so remember to look through your application with care.

As long as it is before the deadline, you can edit in an application even if you have already submitted it. If you edit in a submitted application, keep in mind that you must verify that all the required documents are included. The committee deals exclusively with the most recently submitted application.

If you need to contact a case officer in the secretariat, you can send a message via the contact form on your case in the Grant Portal.

LAW BASIS

Decisions are made in accordance with section [3\(1\), cf. \(2\) and \(3\) of the Danish Act on the Danish Arts Foundation's Activities \(Act no. 458 of 8 May 2013\)](#).

COMMITMENT

When the Danish Arts Foundation awards grants, it is important, and not least legally required, that the money is used for the purpose described in your application. Therefore, you must report on your project to the Agency for Culture and Palaces. How you must report depends on the grant amount you have received. [Read more about how to report on your project.](#)

WHO WILL EVALUATE YOUR APPLICATION?

The Danish Arts Foundation's Committee for Crafts and Design Project Funding processes the applications and makes a short-list to Cranbrook Academy of Art and the College for Creative Studies. In dialogue with Anders Ruhwald, the different department heads will then review the short-list. Afterwards, the committee make the final decision. You should therefore be aware of that your application may be shared with the above-mentioned institutions.