



2026/27 Artist-in-Residence Call for Applications: Arts Education

The Umbrella Arts Center, in Concord MA, seeks applicants for its 2026/27 Artist-in-Residence (AiR) Program. Active artists looking to join a vibrant arts community in Greater Boston and further their careers are encouraged to apply. For the 2026/27 season, The Umbrella seeks one (1) Education AiR.

- Residency Dates: September 15, 2026 - August 31, 2027
- Application Deadline: March 31, 2026
- Decision announcement: By May 1, 2026

The Umbrella Arts Center is an active and vibrant interdisciplinary art center with 50+ Studio Artists, an independent ceramics studio and a fully equipped woodshop, robust education programs, multiple galleries with year-round exhibition, and a performance program encompassing an award-winning Stage Company and celebrated Concert Series in the historic center of Concord, MA.

The Umbrella's AiR program brings together a cohort of artists participating in The Umbrella's residency programs in Visual Arts, Ceramics, Education, and Performing Arts. The cohort is encouraged to support each other and their projects throughout the year, and The Umbrella will provide professional development and networking opportunities.

The AiR program is for emerging artists. We define an "emerging artist" as someone who, within approximately the last five years, has either...

- Completed an advanced degree program (such as an MFA).
- Become an early career artist and teacher. For example...
 - "I worked as a non-arts, non-educational professional for many years but have now decided to turn my professional focus to my artistic practice and teaching what I've learned to others."
 - "I have a BFA and have been working as an arts teacher trying to decide if I should get an MFA as a full time artist or continue teaching as a career."
 - "I am not interested in pursuing an advanced degree, but I am dedicated to building a career as a teaching artist."

If your experience does not fit either of these definitions, but you still define yourself as an emerging teaching artist, please apply and let us know why you identify as such as part of your application.

Applicants may be teaching artists in any artistic discipline or medium, including painting, sculpture, installation, photography, textiles, digital media, film, mixed media, interdisciplinary, or public art.

The Umbrella is particularly interested in teaching artists who will...

- Offer expertise in the fields of craft and woodworking, film and media, dance and performing arts, accessibility in the arts.
- Use their residency as an opportunity to explore, experiment, and elevate contemporary art teaching practices and conversations by developing, testing, and innovating for arts pedagogy.
- Develop an industry conference presentation to explore theory, methods, and studio practice in real-world scenarios.
- Foster internal and external interdisciplinary collaboration and partnerships.
- Engage our local and broader community with The Umbrella's mission to promote creativity, learning, personal growth, and cultural exchange through accessible arts programming.
- Provide opportunities and points of departure for discussions or experiential exchanges with colleagues doing related work.

Residency Requirements: We are looking for teaching artists interested in active engagement with The Umbrella community in Concord and beyond. As part of the residency program, the Artist-in-Residence (AiR) is expected to...

- Make regular, active, and productive use of the classrooms and department resources at The Umbrella for the length of the residency.
- Present at least one Artist Talk, and any additional public program of any format with the goal of engaging The Umbrella community in your work.
- Teach at least 1 full course or 3-4 workshops per seasonal semester. Please note that The Education Department runs seasonal (Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer) catalogue of classes and workshops. Teaching opportunities exist throughout the calendar year for both youth and adult ages in any creative medium. Please

note: there may be some limitations to teaching opportunities governed by the facility and actual enrollment.

- Participate in any AiR cohort events and programs.
- Maintain communication with Umbrella staff and participate in program evaluations.

Residency Award:

- Free access to The Umbrella's classrooms, department resources, and audience through teaching opportunities.
- Opportunity to be involved in the activities and culture of an interdisciplinary arts center. The Education department has a wide variety of tools and materials that can be used to develop the AiR's projects, curriculum, and prototypes across 11 distinct classroom spaces, including ceramics studios, woodworking labs, drawing and painting studios, a dance studio, performance spaces, an early childhood classroom, digital media classroom, fabrication lab, and outdoor classroom.
- Opportunity to instruct a full semester of class(es) as well as the potential for additional workshops for qualified candidates. Instructional activities would be compensated at a competitive rate commensurate with a candidate's experience and in line with our other instructors' rates.
- The Umbrella's marketing and publicity support of and for the duration of the residency.

How to Apply: Please submit the following application materials as one PDF document via email to Jason Springer, Director of Education, at Jason@TheUmbrellaArts.org.

- Teaching artist statement (500 words maximum): Please elaborate on any existing project or a project you'd like to develop during your residency, if applicable.
- Artist resume and/or CV with contact information.

- List of three (3) professional references. Please include at least one reference from a member of the faculty of your BFA/MFA program, if applicable.
- Teaching Artist Portfolio. Please include...
 - A selection of written descriptions or lesson plans supported by images of sample work and/or work of students in programs you have taught within the past two (2) years.
 - 5-10 high resolution images of your own personal work as an artist, if applicable.
 - The title, dimensions, medium, and date of all works.

All applications will be evaluated by a jury of The Umbrella's staff and teaching artists based on the body of work submitted, instructional experience, and enthusiasm for engagement with our community, as well as general experience and quality of resumes.

Select applicants will be invited to a virtual interview.

For inquiries about our 2026/27 residency program, please reach out to Jason Springer, Director of Education, at Jason@TheUmbrellaArts.org. Thank you for your interest!

The Umbrella Arts Center is an interdisciplinary creative hub where artists, learners, and audiences can connect, innovate, and thrive. Through welcoming spaces, cultural conversations, and opportunities for artistic expression and skill development, we support artists at every stage of their journey, strengthen communities, enrich lives, and shape the future through the arts.

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