

THE GREAT NORTHERN ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE CALL FOR ARTISTS

Call Opens: July 15, 2026

Deadline to Apply: August 15, 2026

Artist Selected: September 15, 2026

Residency period: October 2026 – October 2027

Overview

The Great Northern invites **Minnesota-based artists** to apply for its **Artist-in-Residence (AIR) Program**, supporting the creation of new public artwork to be presented during the annual winter festival.

The AIR Program supports 1 artist each year in developing and presenting new work that engages Minnesota communities and reflects the experiences and cultures of the Twin Cities, with a focus on accessible work for the public. We invite artists to explore winter as something we actively shape, rather than simply endure.

Designed for artists ready to take a meaningful next step in their practice, the AIR program provides financial support, production resources, and mentorship. The residency culminates in a public presentation at **The Great Northern Winter Festival**, connecting artists with broad, diverse audiences across Minnesota.

What We're Looking For

The 2026/27 residency cycle is open to visual artists, installation artists, public artists, and musicians working across a range of media and scale;

- are designed for public presentation at scale — indoor or outdoor, sound-based or visual
- incorporate community engagement (e.g., workshops, open studios, etc)
- offer a creative response to winter, place, and climate — engaging with the season's ecological, cultural, or environmental dimensions in Minnesota

Selected Artists Receive:

- **\$12,500** artist stipend

THE GREAT NORTHERN

- **Full production support**, including fabrication, permitting, staffing, and documentation
- **Mentorship from a nationally recognized artist**, along with studio visits and critiques
- **Professional development and networking opportunities**
- Support to lead **at least one community engagement activity** (e.g., workshop, open studio, or public program)
- **Public presentation** of the final work during The Great Northern 2027 Winter Festival
- **Media amplification** through The Great Northern's platform

Eligibility

- Open to artists currently residing in Minnesota
- Working in visual art, installation, public art, or music
- Artists must be available to participate fully in the residency from October 2026 through October 2027 and attend the opening of their work during or outside of these dates

Key Dates

- **Call Opens:** July 15, 2026
- **Deadline to Apply:** August 15, 2026
- **Artist Selected:** September 15, 2026
- **Residency period:** October 2026 – October 2027

How to Apply

Submit the following [submission form](#) by **August 15, 2026**.

THE GREAT NORTHERN

metro
regional
arts
council

The Great Northern unites communities through art, climate engagement, and outdoor experiences, with a bold winter festival and powerful partnerships. We champion climate leadership, celebrate Minnesota's cultural and ecological vibrancy, and invite the world to experience our signature season in meaningful and inspiring ways.

*This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the **Metropolitan Regional Arts Council**, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.*