

Sprout Artist in Residence 2026

Information for Applicants

Dates available for Residency: Mon 3rd August – Saturday 29th August 2026
(minimum requirement of 3 weeks)

Sprout Community Arts gallery in south London invites applications for an Artist in Residence (AIR) for the month of August as part of our community engagement offer; and to enhance our visitor experience during the summer. The opportunity is open to individuals or groups of artists, makers (including 3D) and writers, to use the gallery, as a workshop/studio, making their practice visible to the local community.

The residency can be between 3 and 4 weeks and, depending on the length of residency, the AIR is encouraged to offer workshops, talks and/or demonstrations where visitors can learn about, or take an active part in a range of creative activities.

Sprout Community Arts offers:

- Free use of the Sprout Arts gallery for up to 4 weeks for an individual or group. Please note that, unfortunately, **there is no payment for the residency**

Our gallery enjoys:

- Good natural light
- Large wall and window display areas
- Good floor space with large melamine top table (if required)
- A wall hanging system for displaying works
- WIFI connection
- A digital screen
- Kettle, fridge, radio*, one toilet and one small wash-hand basin, one large table, with chairs and folding tables available, electric points, First Aid kit, Fire extinguisher, Lighting and infrared ceiling heaters, card reader
- Free on street parking

**Please note that we have a music licence permitting the use of a radio only, so no streaming of any kind is permitted (i.e. Spotify, BBC player, Netflix etc).*

- Publicity and marketing through Sprout's promotional channels
- A nominated person to act as a link person during the Residency. Support from the Sprout Arts committee and/or volunteers may also be available

- Access to Sprout Arts membership of the 'Work and Play' scrap store where the artist may obtain an interesting assortment of materials
www.workandplayscrapstore.org.uk

What Sprout Art asks for in support of the application:

- The artist/maker/writer is encouraged to have a theme for the residency or a focus on a particular medium or creative practice. This will be used in publicity and is an important aspect of engagement.
- A short proposal to explain the theme/focus and how the public might be engaged. Please include the dates you would like.
- Examples of previous work (links to social media, images, websites)

Shortlisted artists will be invited to present their ideas to Sprout Arts for discussion before a final decision is made.

What the Artist(s) can do during the residency:

- Explore and develop their working practice within the Sprout Arts space
- Invite fellow artists/makers to join in with their AIR project
- Invite their own mailing list and friends
- Give talks about the work, Q & A sessions, videos, slide shows
- Provide teaching workshops*. Further guidance on running workshops is available as needed
- Sell work*

**Sprout Arts will expect a 20–30% (depending on price) commission on all income*

Other information and requirements for AIR applicants:

- The AIR must become a member of Sprout Arts, annual membership £20
- The AIR will be asked for a refundable deposit of £100 before starting the residency in case of any damage or mess.
- The AIR must meet with a Sprout committee member before the residency and complete a formal agreement
- The AIR must be adequately insured e.g. via A-N, and provide evidence of insurance
- Sprout Arts is normally open 11am to 5pm from Tuesday to Saturday (30 hours per week). At a minimum the AIR must commit to being present in Sprout Arts for 20 hours per week. Previous AIR have had friends and fellow artists to help support them eg selling merchandise while you're working. Or Sprout may be able to find volunteers to help
- You can use the space earlier than 11am (but must close by 9pm). Opening hours will be agreed beforehand and form part of our agreement with you. In unforeseen circumstances, volunteer help may be available at short notice if needed but is not guaranteed. DO NOT close the shop at short notice, or fail to open without warning.
- Public engagement is part of the residency, the AIR will have to allow the public to see them at work at set times
- Sprout Arts would require photographs of the residency to use for future reference, reporting and marketing purposes
- You must be willing to sell cards and merchandise by other artists from the gallery as these are an important revenue stream for Sprout. The AIR must record and process sales in the gallery and ensure the security of the till (training will be given)

Housekeeping

- The AIR must ensure the security of Sprout Arts by locking up when leaving. Any evening work or events **must finish by 9 pm**
- Any food and perishables must be removed at the end of the Residency
- Recycling and waste must be bagged up for collection on a Tuesday evening at a designated place.
- The AIR must leave the space as found and have the handover at the end of Residency signed off by a Sprout representative.
- Do not leave Sprout Arts unlocked and unattended at any time
- Do not fix anything directly onto the display walls or use paint or leave any marks on the walls. The AIR must use the hanging system, shelves and/or plinths provided

Timeline

Deadline for applications

- Applications must be received by email at sproutcommunityarts@gmail.com by midnight **Sunday 8th March 2026**
- Sprout AIR Committee will evaluate all applications and arrange to meet with the preferred shortlist of artists/makers between 10th – 28th March 2026 at a venue near the gallery or by Zoom
- We aim to make the final decision by Monday 30th March 2026. This allows up to four calendar months for artists/makers to prepare before taking up the residency.

Grants

NB As no payment is provided for the Residency it is the artist/maker's responsibility to ensure that they are able to be there for a minimum of 20 hours per week and/or that any paid work fits in around the Residency. Grants may be available through [Wandsworth.gov.uk](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk)