



Loretto Artist Residency

"You're invited to do your art in the midst of Loretto hospitality."

KFW is partnering with the Sisters of Loretto/Loretto Community to offer **Artist Residencies of 1-3 weeks** at the Loretto Motherhouse in Nerinx, Ky. (If you have need for a longer residency, contact KFW at 502-562-0045 or rae@kfw.org).

Residencies are open to feminist artists who are residents of Kentucky who have demonstrated achievement in creating work high in artistic merit and based on social justice issues/concerns. Any art form can apply: Visual, Literary, Media, Performing.

Residents will be provided with housing, a food stipend and the option of studio space.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The Loretto Residency Program is open to feminist social change artists who reside in Kentucky. Artists with varied backgrounds, worldviews, cultural heritages, and sexual orientations are encouraged to apply. KFW is committed to making the residency program accessible to a wide range of women, trans and nonbinary people regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, educational level, economic condition or geographic origin.

TYPICAL APPLICATION DATES:

Winter/Spring Residency cycle:

Residencies take place: Mid-January-mid-June

Application deadline: around November 15*

Notification: around December 15*

Summer/Fall Residency cycle:

Residencies take place: Mid-June to first full week of December

Application deadline: around March 15*

Notification: around April 15*

**Note exact dates may change each year. Check the application portal for the next deadline.*

The Artist in Residence Program at the Loretto Motherhouse in Nerinx, Kentucky is a collaboration between the Kentucky Foundation for Women (KFW) and the Sisters of Loretto. Working for justice and acting for peace are central to the Loretto Community's mission. <https://www.lorettocommunity.org/>

FOOD & HOUSING

The Loretto Motherhouse has a cafeteria where artists can make arrangements for a meal plan if they choose.

KFW will provide a food stipend of \$15/day, to be paid directly to the artist, to offset the cost of food during the residency. Artists will be responsible for the remainder of their food costs, whether taking the meal plan or providing their own food.

Since Loretto offers a cafeteria, each housing space includes only a small kitchenette with a mini fridge to prepare light meals. (Extensive cooking in these spaces may be difficult).

The Loretto Motherhouse has two options for accommodations. The online application will provide more information about each housing option. One housing option has a steep flight of stairs. The other does not have stairs. Neither housing option is ADA accessible.

LORETTO COMMUNITY, AMENITIES and MEDIA

The Loretto Motherhouse offers extensive grounds, including three ponds, for walking, hiking and exploring the natural world as an inspiration for your art while living in community on a campus where 100 people live. The campus includes an artist studio/gallery, a piano in a shared space and the Loretto Heritage Center. Loretto loves to communicate what is happening within its community. They have an internal TV channel "News from the Hill" on Thursdays. They highly encourage artists in residence to share with the community what they are working on during their residency at Loretto.

Participants will be asked to grant permission for their work to be included if Loretto wishes to use or publish artwork on their website or social media.

COVID, SMOKING AND TRANSPORTATION

Since Loretto is the home of many elders, accepted residents may be required to show proof of vaccination for COVID-19. Guidelines are always changing, and masks may be required at times to enter certain areas of campus.

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Residents will need to comply with the campus no-smoking policy. The entire campus, including farm and woods, is a no-smoking area.

All residents must provide their own transportation to and from the Motherhouse campus, as well as any supplies, provisions, clothing and outdoor gear for the duration of their stay. Parking is available, and a hangtag vehicle pass will be provided.

Artists are welcome to come and go as they desire. There is a grocery store 1 mile away, and the campus is only about a 20-minute drive from Bardstown, Springfield, Lebanon and Hodgenville if other needs arise.

HOW TO APPLY

You can apply through KFW's online application portal here:

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=kfw>

Check the link for current deadlines. Typically:

Around Nov 15th for mid-Jan through June residencies, and

March 15 for July through beginning of December residencies.

Questions you will find on the online application: [about 250 words per question]

1. Please describe yourself as an artist. What kind of work do you create? What specifically do you plan to work on during this residency?
2. How does your work address social justice concerns or work for peace and justice?
3. What are your goals for your residency?
4. KFW and the Loretto Community cares about accessibility. Please describe any ways you make your work accessible for those with disabilities. (Ex: for literary artists, printing in advance what you will read for d/Deaf, hard of hearing or neurodivergent audience members, or ensuring visual work is accompanied by an audio description, etc. For more info click [here: https://www.aam-us.org/programs/resource-library/deai-education-interpretation/#Accessibility](https://www.aam-us.org/programs/resource-library/deai-education-interpretation/#Accessibility)).
5. Submit an artist bio.
6. Submit a short work sample (3-5 visual images OR 3-5 minutes of video or audio, OR 4-6 pages of writing).

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Testimonials from previous residents:

“I felt more connected to the community of sisters knowing their values and focus on social justice and peace. And feeling part of a community drives me to continue the work of being a feminist social change artist.”

“In so many ways the experience was so healing because I grew up Catholic and as a queer, BIPOC person have some religious trauma from interactions with the church as a kid/ young teenager. Being in this strong, inspiring community of women who are committed and actively doing social justice work was so inspiring and healing for me. I’m so grateful for the experience and the impact it had on my work.”

“Watching and listening to these women during my time there reminded me to prioritize hope in my writing--because hope is a thing that still exists in places like Loretto.”

“Being there surrounded by the influence of women who have worked for changes regarding such important social justice issues was truly inspiring. Learning their history at the Heritage Center, spending time exploring the land, and hearing some of their stories was profound. I could fill an entire book with wonder and praise for my time there. They are a shining example of how kind, thoughtful, and productive our world could be if only we cared for one another and the land. I am humbled by this experience, and I still have so much to learn. I am deeply moved by their legacy, and I hope to carry that feeling and my gratitude with me into every project I do going forward. I am ready to be more bold in my own feminist pursuits of social change, and to share the spirit of this community with everyone around me.”

“Spending a week at Loretto Motherhouse was just what I needed to get deeper into a poetry project I recently started. It was a really productive time of reading, writing, and walking, listening to the cows, birding, and occasionally talking to the sisters. All food for a poet's soul, thank you KFW and Sisters of Loretto.”

“This residency allowed me to slow down, to explore my connection to the world around me- the natural world of bees, bunnies, turtles, ticks, leaves, lakes; the interior world of my being and how it reflects both the beauty and ugliness of our world; the human-created world that too often severs our sense of interconnection with All. I was able to write and reflect, to draw and paint, to dream of the world I want to live in and take steps, even if first only in imagining, to create that more connected, more just, more sustainable world.”

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