



The KFW x JSP Artist Residency

Program Overview:

KFW and Josephine Sculpture Park (JSP) in Frankfort, KY are partnering to provide a paid self-directed, process-based artist residency for emerging feminist social change artists of any discipline who reside in Kentucky. The program provides the resident artist the opportunity to support their artistic growth by developing and researching a project or ideas informed by Josephine Sculpture Park, an inspiring 40-acre park and organization with the mission to connect people to each other and the land through the arts.

The artist will commit 40 hours to residency activities, scheduled across 1-8 weeks in 2027. (Weeks do not need to be consecutive). During this time, the artist will create at least one public community engagement event (i.e. artist talk, workshop) or self-guided product (i.e. how-to worksheet, meditation prompts) that will be available to download on JSP's website or access in print in the park Visitors Center.

The selected artists will not have access to a studio and are responsible for their own transportation, lodging, supplies/materials, meals and residency activities.

Selected artist will be awarded \$2000 from KFW for artist fees and to cover costs associated with the residency.

Program Goals:

- Provide emerging feminist social change artists in Kentucky an opportunity to focus on developing and researching an artistic project or ideas informed by Josephine Sculpture Park that will support their artistic growth.
- Provide the public with creative experiences that deepen their relationship to Josephine Sculpture Park and feminist social change, through the artist's public community engagement event or self-guided product.

For questions about residency details or JSP, contact jeri@josephinesculpturepark.org.
For questions about the application process or KFW, contact Leah at leah@kfw.org.



Who Can Apply?

The KFW x JSP Kentucky Artist Residency 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 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.

Eligibility:

Artists must be residents of Kentucky and be creating feminist art for social change. Please see KFW's [Eligibility Checklist](#) for full eligibility guidelines.

Selected Artist Will:

- Commit 40 hours to residency activities, scheduled across 1-8 weeks in 2027.
- Provide 1 or more community engagement events at JSP or products related to their residency for JSP visitors, such as a workshop, artist talk, or self-guided park activity sheet (i.e. how-to worksheet, meditation prompts) that will be available to download on JSP's website or access in print in the park Visitors Center.
- Complete program evaluation within 30 days of residency completion.

JSP Will:

- Provide selected artist with the inspiring space and time to develop their own practice, including access to the park's 40 acres, over 70 artworks, event barn, and lockable trailer for storage (note: artist will not have access to a studio while in residence).
- Facilitate at least 1 flash mentorship session with JSP Executive Director & Chief Curator, Melanie VanHouten.
- Provide pre-residency planning, and weekly check-in while in residence.

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Submission Timeline

- Applications will open July 17th, 2026
- Applications due August 17th, 2026
- Decision notification by October 30th, 2026

The residency is intended to take place every other year: 2027, 2029, 2031...

How To Apply:

You can apply through KFW's online application portal. **Apply between July 17-August 17, 2026** for a residency in 2027. Here is the link to the application portal:

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

Once logged in, complete the application.

1. Application questions: ** note questions may change in the final application.*

- What activities would you complete during this residency? (activities can include process, research, in situ artmaking, etc.) What issues are most prevalent in your art that would be the focus of this residency?
- How is your artwork related to feminism and social change?
- How are your proposed activities informed or inspired by Josephine Sculpture Park?
- Describe your proposed community engagement event(s) or self-guided activity/product.
- How would this residency further your artistic practice or support your artistic growth? How would this residency support you to be innovative, take risks, and try something here that you could not elsewhere?

2. Enter proposed dates and timeframe of your residency. Please include specific start and end dates in 2027, and to what extent those dates are flexible.

3. Submit an artist bio.

4. 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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Example Residency Projects

Here are a couple of examples of how an artist might propose a process-based residency integrating feminism, growth as an artist, and JSP's mission to connect people to each other and the land through the arts.

TEMPLATE

Artist will _____(process, research, in situ making in artist's discipline)_____ about ____ (how related to JSP & feminism). Artist will engage with the public through ____ (describe event or self-guided activity worksheet)__. Artist will _ (activities and timeframe)_. This residency will further my artistic practice by _____.

EXAMPLE 1

Rix will journal and draft poetry about their feminist identity through the metaphor of converting fallow farmland to native wildflower and grass meadow, an ecological restoration project that Josephine Sculpture Park has been doing for several years. For 8 weeks in August to September, 2027, they will:

Journal and draft poetry at JSP's two meadow sites weekly for 6 weeks (~20 hours)

Interview local ecologists and JSP staff and volunteers that steward the land (~10 hours)

Inspired by this research and process, they will design a digital zine of self-guided feminist journaling prompts (~10 hours).

Rix's residency will engage with the public by making the zine available for visitors to download on JSP's website and in print in the Visitors Center. They will also document their residency experiences each week via photos and videos to post on their social media, tagging Josephine Sculpture Park and the Kentucky Foundation for Women. This residency will produce powerful content that will be edited into Rix's inaugural, forthcoming book of poetry.

EXAMPLE 2

Leila will make field recordings and compose music and lyrics about her journey healing from gender-based violence through connecting with nature's seasonal cycles. Nature connection is a key element of Josephine Sculpture Park's mission. During the months of
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March (15 hours) and September (15 hours), Leila will visit JSP to make field recordings of the sounds of spring (rain, birdsong) and fall (crunching leaves, wind) and bring her cello to start composing music in situ. In October (10 hours), she will host 2 public song circles at JSP (inviting people to share songs about the seasons or nature) and a 1-hour performance/artist talk from *The Porch Project: Take it to the Bridge* by Heather Hart that blends Leila's original music, reflections on the residency, and drafts of some of the songs and field recordings. This is the first time Leila will compose music about her personal healing journey from gender-based violence, which in and of itself is a huge growth step in her personal artistic practice, and will result in powerful new music to share with her audiences, which she hopes will reduce the stigma about discussing gender-based violence and help victims in her audience feel less isolated and like they can heal/recover.

Selection Process

Josephine Sculpture Park will organize a selection committee made of staff, artists, and arts administrators with experience in a diversity of media. The committee will score submissions using a rubric based on the following:

- Work Samples: Do the artist's work samples demonstrate an appropriate level of experience and skill in their medium to successfully complete the residency activities?
- Relevance to JSP and KFW: Are the proposed residency activities clearly and specifically informed or inspired by Josephine Sculpture Park? Would the proposed residency activities promote feminist social change and/or support women, girls or gender nonconforming people in Kentucky?
- Feasibility: Are the proposed activities and timeline/schedule feasible within the scope of the residency (40 hours over 1-8 weeks, [weeks do not need to be consecutive] including project research/development and at least 1 community event or self-guided product)?
- Artistic Growth: Does the applicant present a compelling proposal for how this residency would expand their artistic practice? JSP encourages residents to be innovative, take risks, and try something at JSP that they could not elsewhere.

The artist will be selected and notified by no later than October 30, 2026.

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