

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County is inviting visual artists to submit applications for the Southeastern Artist in Residence (SEAR) program. The mission of the SEAR program is to provide a mid-career visual artist of exceptional artistic merit with an opportunity to lean into their craft through dedicated time, space, and funds to execute the completion of a body of work.

To be considered for the SEAR program, all materials must be received no later than November 15, 2025. Artists will be considered for one 6-month residency term for the Spring 2026 Residency (January 15 – June 30, 2026)

Activities

The Arts Council will provide the following benefits to the artist in residence:

- \$1,250/month stipend (\$7,500 contract total).
- 24-hour access to studio space at the Arts Center located in downtown Fayetteville, NC.

The artist will be asked to complete the following:

- Create a body of work for display during a gallery exhibition
- Serve as a Teaching Artist for Arts Council programming and lead two (2) public workshops.
- Hold studio hours where the public can view works in-progress.
- Curate one of the Arts Council's Exhibitions at the Arts Center.

Eligibility

Applications will be accepted from mid-career visual artists, defined as a post-undergraduate artist who has a growing body of work supported by a CV that includes some professional exhibits and teaching artist activities. Applicants must reside in Cumberland, Hoke, Sampson, Scotland, or Robeson County.

Application Process:

To be considered for the SEAR program, all materials must be received no later than November 15, 2025. Artists should digitally submit the following materials to SarahB@theartscouncil.com:

- Artist Statement to include the proposed project set to be completed during the residency
- Teaching Artist Philosophy to include proposed public workshops completed during the residency
- Resume or CV
- Five (5) high-quality work samples indicative of the planned body of work developed during the residency

Applications will be reviewed by a panel composed of Arts Council staff and Board. Finalists may be asked for a short interview. Evaluation is based on artistic excellence, artist merit, and potential for artistic/professional growth.

Questions: Sarah Busman, Director of Community Engagement. SarahB@theartscouncil.com