

WINDGATE ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Arkansas Tech University



The Artist-in-Residence (AIR) program at Arkansas Tech University is an immersive experience within an art and educational community. AIR is a program intended to advance the careers of practicing artists, present the residents as role models for the ATU community, and to strengthen the public's awareness of the significance of making art and its effect on the surrounding community. The residency will take place over a five-month period, giving the artist time and space to focus on the creative process. The AIR program for Fall 2026 will select an artist to create a public artwork that will enhance the ATU campus. Both two-dimensional and three-dimensional proposals will be considered.

The AIR program is supported by a generous grant from the Windgate Charitable Foundation.

ABOUT ARKANSAS TECH

Founded in 1909, Arkansas Tech is a state supported comprehensive institution, maintaining regional accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission and classification as a Southern regional Education Board level III institution. It has an enrollment of approximately 12,000 students. The Russellville campus is located between the Ozark and Ouachita Mountains in the scenic Arkansas River Valley and is just one hour from the capital city of Little Rock. It offers over 100 undergraduate and more than 25 graduate degree programs across four academic colleges and two campuses. Arkansas Tech University strives to provide a solid educational foundation for life-long learning in a diverse community.

The Department of Art at ATU offers dynamic degree programs in Fine Art, Graphic Design, Game and Interactive Media Design, and Art Education. The art faculty is comprised of professional and award-winning artists, active scholars and passionate educators who offer their skills and guidance to prepare students for the arts professions. Our state-of-the-art facility in Norman Hall features a professional gallery, computer lab, lecture hall and fully equipped art studios for painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, and graphic design.

RESIDENCY DETAILS & EXPECTATIONS

Residents must be artists with significant exhibition records, strong communication skills, sustained studio practice and a desire to engage with the larger campus community. This involvement may include guest lecturing classes, giving public talks, providing mentorship to students, participating in open studios and/or collaborating with faculty and students. The resident sometimes teaches one course in 2D design, 3D Design, or Introduction to Drawing during their stay when enrollment allows. Artists are expected to commit as a full-time resident for the specific term of the residency, Fall academic term 2026.

PROJECT (To be completed Fall 2026)

The resident artist will create a permanent public artwork such as a mural or free-standing sculpture to be installed on the ATU campus. Murals will be completed on marine plywood or other panels that will be installed on the exterior of a brick building. The artist will work with the ATU facilities department for planning and installation. Murals may range from approximately 250 – 500 square feet. Possible location images are available upon request. The final project must be completed and installed on campus by the end of the residency period.

QUALIFICATIONS

- *Practicing visual artists with experience producing public artwork, sculptures or large-scale paintings.
- *Proven record of consistent professional achievements and exhibitions.
- *MFA or MA degree in Visual Arts or equivalent professional experience.

RESIDENCY TERM

- *Start Dates: August 8, 2026 - Housing will be available. The artist must arrive before the first day of the fall semester (August 12, 2026).
- *End Date: December 18, 2026 for housing. Project deadline will be no later than Friday, December 12, 2026.

BUDGET

- *Stipend: \$30,000 (minus fringes)
- *Supplies: \$18,000
- *Housing: a 2 bed two bath campus apartment will be provided. We apologize, but children cannot be accommodated.
- *Studio space: a large climate controlled, dedicated studio space off-campus will be provided
- *Meals: No meals will be provided

HOW TO APPLY

Submit a single PDF document that includes:

- *A written description of the project proposal outlining the project theme and creation process
- *A drawing/diagram showing the proposed design
- *A general budget for materials and costs
- *Resume or CV, including courses taught
- *Artist statement addressing community outreach
- *Ten images of your work
- *Three references with contact information including phone number and e-mail address

The selection will be made based on the quality of the artwork, the project proposal and potential for working with the community.

Applications or questions should be emailed to: Lynnette Gilbert, lgilbert3@atu.edu
Applications must be submitted by 11:59 pm Friday, July 3, 2026
Selected artist will be notified mid-July.