



ARTS DISTRICT
LIBERTY STATION

— Past Emerging Visual Artist Nina Montejano



CALL FOR ARTISTS

EMERGING ARTIST RESIDENCY – VISUAL ARTS

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Submittal Deadline: May 2nd, 2025 @ 11:59 PM PST

We are seeking applications from emerging artists interested in a six-month residency with access to studio space at Arts District, an arts and culture hub at the heart of Liberty Station.

RESIDENCY OVERVIEW

The Emerging Artist Residency is intended to help early career visual artists develop their work, build their confidence and career in the San Diego/Northern Baja region, engage with other artists, and grow their client base for future success. This program aligns with the Arts District's goal of elevating emerging artists in our transborder region by offering access to studio space in the dynamic cultural environment of Arts District Liberty Station. In addition to providing space, the residency further supports artists-in-residence with the opportunity to showcase original work, as well as provide promotional support, business advice, and engagement with the wider creative community.

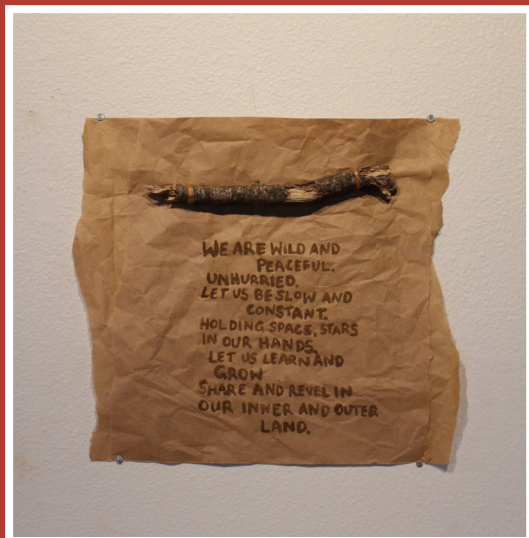
EMERGING ARTIST RESIDENCY - VISUAL ARTS

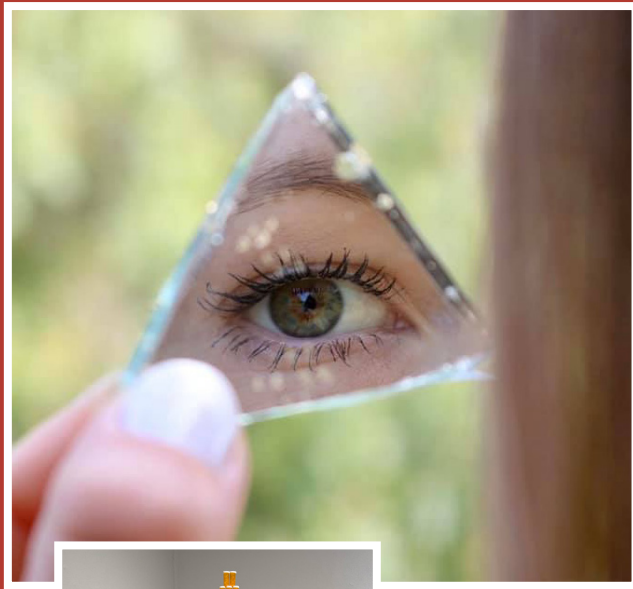
2025 ARTIST

HELENA WESTRA

San Diego CA

Based in San Diego, Helena Westra is a multifaceted artist specializing in sculpture, ceramics, performance and land art. Utilizing a diverse range of accessible and often locally harvested materials such as clay, dirt and found objects, her work serves as a meditation on introspection, release and grounding. Helena delves into the realms of symbology and archetypes, employing themes of flora and fauna to forge a deep connection between the land and environment.





EMERGING ARTIST RESIDENCY - VISUAL ARTS

2025 ARTIST

AMANDA DIGIOVANNI

San Diego CA

Born and raised in San Diego, local artist Amanda DiGiovanni has always been captivated by the dynamic nature of multimedia art and its ability to transcend boundaries. Her creative journey began at a young age, experimenting with various techniques and mediums, leading her to continue her artistic pursuits. Through her work in sculpture, performance and photography, Amanda evokes profound reflections on human existence.



OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

Artists selected for this six (6) month residency will have access to studio space at Arts District, an arts and culture hub at the heart of Liberty Station.

Four (4) individuals will be selected for this upcoming residency cohort. Two (2) artists will be selected to complete the residency during July-December 2025 and the other two (2) artists will be selected to complete the residency during January-June 2026. The two artists selected for each residency period will be sharing the studio space.

Each resident will receive a stipend of \$500 to support studio expenses throughout the residency.

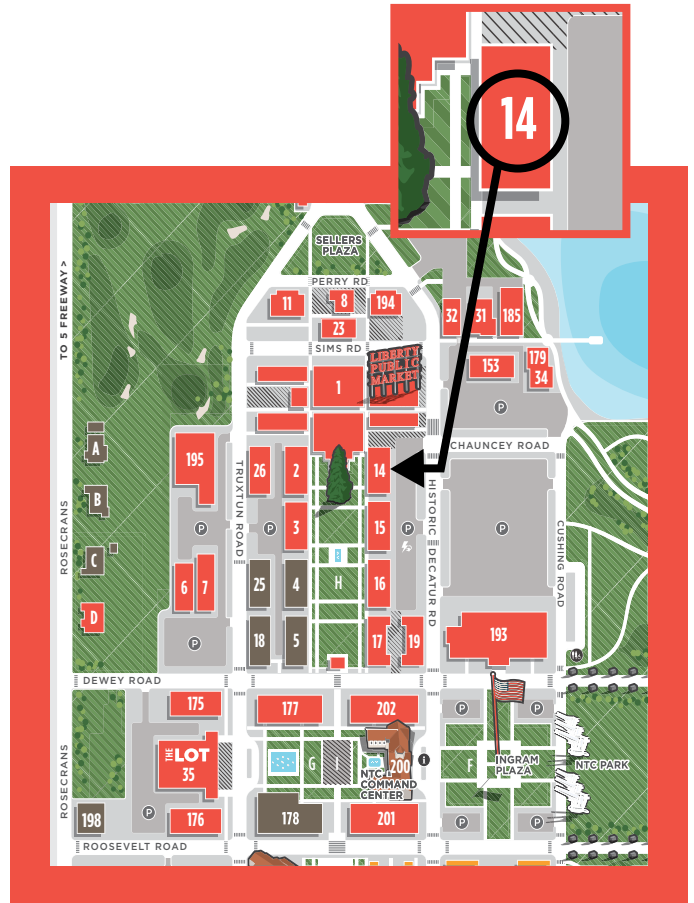
PERIOD OF THE RESIDENCY

July 2025 - December 2025

January 2026 - June 2026

STUDIO SPACE - DETAILS

- 324 sq. feet studio located on the second floor of Barracks 14



The two artists selected for each residency period will share the studio space.

Each resident will receive a stipend of \$500 to support ancillary expenses throughout the residency.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Early career artists who are working towards or have graduated with an AA, BA or MFA in Visual/Studio Arts or a similar field.
OR
Early career artists seeking to begin/continue careers in visual studio arts without a formal education in visual or studio arts.
- Artist(s) must reside in San Diego or Imperial County, Northern Baja California (Mexico), or a sovereign tribal territory in the borderland region.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Selected artists will need to:

- Utilize the studio space a minimum of 15 hours a week
- Hold 3 events throughout their residency to engage with the public e.g. participate in Arts District events, host workshops, host themed talks, etc.
- Collectively, the Artists in Residence must coordinate to have the studio space open on Saturday and Sunday hours to be coordinated with Arts District Staff.
- Participate in an End of Residency exhibit alongside other selected artist at Arts District's Gallery 201.

EMERGING ARTIST RESIDENCY - VISUAL ARTS

2024 ARTIST

SEAN SARMIENTO

San Diego CA

As a photo-based artist, Sean Sarmiento manipulates architectural and photographic norms to challenge traditional perceptions of photography and two-dimensionality. His work has been exhibited at the Athenaeum Museum in La Jolla, Palos Verdes Art Center and the Student Life Pavilion and Metro Building at the University of San Diego, among others. His imagery often explores themes of home, capturing his own body in domestic settings to evoke feelings of being in-between, moments that are both unknown and familiar.



EMERGING ARTIST RESIDENCY - VISUAL ARTS

2024 ARTIST

GRACIE MOON

San Diego CA

As a Japanese American and white artist, Gracie Moon explores themes of racial and cultural intersectionality through her sculptural and performative work. She is currently developing a new body of work that integrates ceramics, performance and sculpture, utilizing materials such as food, found objects, and both industrial and domestic items to create visual poetry. These stories navigate the tension of the in-between spaces where the complexities of her multicultural identity are examined.



Photo Credit: Griffin Anderson



Photo Credit: Griffin Anderson

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

Selected artists will need to:

- Submit a refundable security deposit of \$300 prior to residency start.
- Be willing to share studio space with the other selected artist.
- Provide monthly and overall calendar proposals and updates to Arts District Liberty Station staff, and coordinate with ADLS staff regarding other promotion of events occurring in the studio space.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Though not a requirement of the residency, ADLS is committed to supporting the growth and success of residents in other ways beyond the scope included here. Selected residents will have access to ADLS team to learn more about building a creative small business as an artist, leasing and rental agreements/contracts, and the fundraising/ development landscape for artists.

TO APPLY

▶ Interested artists will be required to submit the following items in one single PDF document with subject line: “Emerging Artist Visual – Submission” emailed to admin@artsdistrictlibertystation.org

Items required

- a) Contact information (phone number, address, email)
- b) How you found out about this residency and its Call for Artists.
- c) Resume/CV
- d) Artist statement (500 word maximum)
- e) Letter of Interest in having a studio at Arts District (500 word maximum)
- f) Preferred residency time frame
 - Jul-Dec 2025 OR • Jan-Jun 2026 OR • Flexible
- g) 5-10 work samples (images, video links, etc.) with brief descriptions of each

Learn more! Click a date below to join a **VIRTUAL Q&A SESSION**

Friday, April 11 • 11 am - 12 pm

Monday, April 21 • 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Attendees can join at any point in the hour for both sessions.

If you have any questions about this **CALL FOR ARTISTS**, please email admin@artsdistrictlibertystation.org with subject line: “Emerging Artist Visual – Question”

APPLICATION REVIEW TIMELINE

Bilingual (ENG/SPAN) Virtual Q&A Sessions **Friday, April 11th from 11 am-12 pm**
..... **Monday, April 21st from 5:30-6:30 pm**
Submission Deadline **May 2nd, 2025, by 11:59 pm PST**
Selected Artists for Interview notified by **May 14th, 2025**
In-Person Interviews **May 23rd, 2025 from 10 am - 2 pm**
Final Selection and awards announced by **May 30th, 2025**

Submissions will be reviewed and selected by Arts District Staff and members of the Arts District’s Art in Public Places Committee.





ARTS DISTRICT LIBERTY STATION



ABOUT ARTS DISTRICT LIBERTY STATION

Mission Statement

The mission of Arts District Liberty Station is to activate a dynamic and historic campus where enriching cultural experiences, impactful learning opportunities, and inspiring events are accessible to all.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be a world-class arts district in the transborder region where creativity, culture, and community thrive.

Commitment

Our overarching foundation, NTC Foundation, formalized its commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access (IDEA), recognizing that arts and culture can inspire social change. We will ensure that Arts District Liberty Station mirrors the rich diversity of our binational region, is welcoming and inviting to all, embraces the diversity of artists and art forms, and constantly provides new opportunities for creating and for enjoying. IDEA will be a guidepost for our intentions and actions in enhancing staff and Board leadership, tenant relations, visitor services, program offerings, partnership development, and communications and outreach to communities. We do this to earn the public's trust in perpetuity.

 **Follow Arts District Liberty Station on Instagram**

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE

The AiPP committee advises Arts District's board and staff on strategy, directions, and opportunities to support and elevate emerging artists, curators, and culture bearers whose work enhances the public experience of arts and culture at Arts District Liberty Station.

Learn more about the committee's members and history, [HERE](#).

EMERGING ARTIST PROGRAM

Arts District's Emerging Artist Program is an initiative to foster emerging San Diego/Northern Baja Region artists with studio space and the chance to participate in a vibrant, creative environment. The initiative is designed to help them build their career in San Diego, engage with other artists, and grow their audience and patron base for future success. Learn more about this initiative [HERE](#).

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