

CanberraPotters'Society WatsonArtsCentre

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ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Our artist-in-residence program is open to Australian and international potters and ceramic artists. It provides an opportunity for a short-term change of environment to develop new work, change direction or simply re-invigorate through engagement with a different community.

The society's objectives are to promote excellence and innovation in ceramics, foster an appreciation of handcrafted ceramics in the broader community and encourage the professional development of its members. The residency program is an important part of its overall program, which incorporates teaching, professional development, exhibition and retail activities. Artists-in-residence are encouraged to interact with society members and the public through various aspects of these activities.

The society, a not-for-profit arts organisation, is an ACT Government Key Arts Organisation. As such it receives some funding from the ACT Government and manages Watson Arts Centre, an ACT Government arts facility. It runs an extensive education program of classes and workshops for members and the public.

The Watson Arts Centre premises include a large teaching workshop, a smaller teaching workshop, a members-only workshop, spacious gallery, retail shop for the work of a selected group of members, library, administration areas, kiln room, glazing room and clay storage. There are five individual studios for rent to ceramic artists and a studio with adjacent furnished residential unit for the artist-in-residence program. The artist-in-residence studio is wheelchair accessible, as is the residential unit and most areas of the WAC premises. (The residential unit and five of the studios were purpose built in 2011.)

The artist-in-residence studio is equipped with a potter's wheel, table, large ware trolley, clay trap, built-in under-bench cupboards, built-in shelving, wedging slab and a sink with cold running water. (Wheelthrowing and handbuilding tools can be supplied if artists are unable to bring their preferred tools.) There is access in the main workshop to a slab roller and pugmill, and in the secondary workshop to a slab roller. Due to noise and disturbance to classes and groups using the workshop, use of the pug mill has to be scheduled with the workshop managers.

The Society currently has a number of electric kilns of various capacities, two gas kilns, a soda kiln and a gas raku kiln. It is important to note that there are no kilns specifically set aside for the use of artists-in-residence; kiln use has to be booked and fit in with other use. Facilities for wood and salt firing are available at Strathnairn Arts Association in Holt, Canberra, with which CPS has a close relationship. Strathnairn is approximately half an hour's drive from Watson Arts Centre.

Watson Arts Centre is on the north side of Canberra, approximately 15 minutes drive or bike ride from Canberra's CBD.

Types of Residencies

Three categories of residency are available via application:

- Professional
- Self-directed
- Indigenous

A fourth category is an award presented annually by the society through the Australian National University's School of Art Emerging Artist Support Scheme (EASS).

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Professional Residency

This category is aimed at high-profile experienced potters and ceramic artists who are looking to spend time developing new work in a new environment. To be considered for this program applicants are expected to have considerable experience as a maker and/or exhibitor and to have achieved recognition for their technical and artistic work. Residencies can be for up to three months.

Residents in this category will receive:

- A stipend of up to AU\$3000 depending on the length of the residency;
- A studio and access to the society's kilns and equipment;
- Free accommodation in the residential unit.
- (Currently for 2016 residencies we are unable to offer assistance with travel costs or an allowance for material and firing costs.)

Residents in this category are required to:

- Conduct a 2-day masterclass;
- Give a presentation/slide show about their work and practice;
- Pay for their own materials and firings over and above any allowance given (currently no allowance is envisaged for 2016);
- Develop and make a body of work for an exhibition in the society's gallery (subject to the availability of exhibition space; if space is not available then a small exhibition can be held in the artist-in-residence studio);
- Donate one piece of work to the society's artist-in-residence collection.

For longer residencies, there may also be an opportunity to undertake paid teaching or presentations over and above the masterclass teaching required as part of this category.

Self-Directed & Indigenous Residencies

These categories are aimed at potters/ceramic artists seeking an opportunity to develop their work in the Canberra Potters' Society's environment. To be considered for this program, applicants must be experienced potters able to work safely and independently and must provide two professional references with their application. Residencies can be for up to three months.

Residents in this category will receive:

- A studio and access to the society's kilns and equipment;
- Accommodation in the residential unit (electricity use to be paid for).

Self-directed and indigenous residencies do not attract a stipend.

Residents in this category are required to:

- Pay for all their materials and firings;
- Donate one piece of work to the society's artist-in-residence collection.

Application Process for Professional, Self-directed & Indigenous Categories

Applications should be submitted on the residency application form and should include an outline of what you want to do creatively and technically, what you hope to get out of the residency, a current CV and up to eight images of recent work or work relating to your proposal.

Selection will be made by considering the merits of the proposal, artistic reputation of the applicant, availability of time in the residency program, perceived value to the society's program of activities, the examples of work and, for the self-directed and indigenous residencies, professional references.

Applications may be submitted at any time by email to admin@canberrapotters.com.au or by post to WAC Program Manager, Canberra Potters' Society Inc, PO Box 7021, Watson ACT 2602. If

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submitting via email, please ensure that image files are sent as jpegs and that no single file exceeds 1.5MB.

EASS Residency

This category is restricted to ANU ceramics graduates only. It is an award presented annually by Canberra Potters' Society and consists of a two-month residency. Interested graduates should apply during their final semester. The successful applicant will be announced simultaneously with the CPS EASS exhibition awards in December.

Applicants will need to include a letter of support from a tutor or supervisor confirming that the applicant is able to work safely and independently.

EASS residents will receive:

- A studio and access to the society's kilns and equipment;
- Accommodation in the adjacent residential unit, if required.

EASS residents are required to:

- Pay for all their materials and firings;
- At the end of their residency, give a presentation to society members;
- Donate one piece of work to the society's artist-in-residence collection.

EASS Application Process

Applications should be submitted on the residency application form and should include an outline of what you want to do creatively and technically, what you hope to get out of the residency, a current CV, up to eight images of recent work or work relating to your proposal and a letter of support from a tutor or supervisor confirming your ability to work safely and independently.

Applications **must be received no later than the 15th November 2015** and may be submitted by email to admin@canberrapotters.com.au or by post to WAC Program Manager, Canberra Potters' Society Inc, PO Box 7021, Watson ACT 2602. If submitting via email, please ensure that image files are sent as jpegs and that no single file exceeds 1.5MB.

Selection will be made by considering the merits of each application for the EASS residency in a particular year and may include seeking advice from teaching staff at the ANU School of Art Ceramics Workshop.