

Residency cards for an artist in exile at an art school

context

This project originated within the framework of “PUZLP – artists in exile in art schools,” which brings together Belgian art schools (ESA Saint-Luc Brussels, ERG), the National Association of French Higher Art Schools (ANdÉA), and the workshop for artists in exile (aa-e) with support from the European Union's Erasmus+ program.

A transnational reflection on the challenges of organizing residencies in art schools has made it possible to identify areas of concern, and then to create a facilitating welcome tool designed as a deck of cards. The proposed tool synthesizes recommendations and "best practices," to be adjusted according to the artist's situation, context, and the possibilities of each school. Everything stems from the desire for mutual enrichment of schools and artists in exile.

These “welcome cards” are enriched by discussions with PUZLP partners, art schools, and actors from the Belgian project “Exile and Creation,” and dialogues with artists in exile hosted in art schools. An initial residency prototype conducted in 2020 at ESAAA in Annecy with members of the aa-e contributed to adapting the Pause program carried by the Collège de France for artists. Since then, half of the French art and design schools have hosted or are hosting dozens of artists in exile from all backgrounds for research, creation, or teaching residencies.

Musicians, performers, dancers, painters, sculptors, photographers, directors, scenographers, filmmakers... from Afghanistan, Burma, Hong Kong, Kurdistan, Lebanon, Palestine, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Russia, Syria, Tunisia, Ukraine... The entire world circulates, moves, and meets in higher art schools, and these “welcome cards” are here to help and guide.



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Brussels, ERG, ANdÉA, aa-e**

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credits

school



artist in residence

- Introduction of the artist and their work *to the school team, teachers, and students. To be planned at the beginning of the stay.*
- Inclusion of the artist in school projects according to the orientations of the artist and the school: *workshops, research programs, teaching, public events...*
- Definition of the artist's role and responsibilities, *toward the school, teachers, and students.*
- Expression of the respective interests and intentions of the artist and the school.



reference persons

- Assignment of two reference persons for the residency: *one person from the team living in the urban area, one teacher related to the artist's practice. Preferably persons who share a common language with the artist.*
- Connection of the reference persons with the artist.
- Definition and parameters of the support provided by the reference persons.



school introduction

- Tour of the facilities.
- Overview of how an art school operates.
- Explanation of the function of different buildings, rooms, and workshops.
- Hours and access procedures.
- Internal regulations.



workspace

- Arrangement of a workspace inside or outside the school, or facilitated access to a studio, *depending on the artist's field of artistic practice and the nature of their project. As well as the school's resources.*
- Communication of the workspace's hours and access procedures.
- Provision of internet access.



equipment & materials

- Procedures for accessing the school's equipment and materials.
- Definition of the materials or production costs covered by the school.
- Definition of the materials or production costs covered by the residency program.

city



accommodation



city discovery



transportations



social life



professional life

- ☐ Facilitation of access and assistance in finding accommodation, *based on local resources: school housing, renting an apartment or a room, agreement with a residency or municipality... Preferably a furnished solution.*
- ☐ Arrangement of basic equipment, *including donations, recovery, second-hand.*
- ☐ Provision of internet access.
- ☐ Subscription to a homeowner's insurance in the artist's name.

- ☐ Organization of city and surrounding area tours, *with the help of volunteer contacts.*
- ☐ Identification of useful addresses for the artist, *including cultural sites, places of worship, wellness, shops, and administrative services.*

- ☐ Explanation of the city and surrounding area's modes and networks of transportation. *Preferably an eco-friendly solution.*
- ☐ Information on subscriptions and discount cards, *according to the artist's administrative status.*

- ☐ Connection with volunteer contacts, *from local associations, residents.*
- ☐ Organization of evening or weekend outing, *with the help of volunteer contacts.*

- ☐ Invitation to artistic and cultural events.
- ☐ Introduction to partners, institutions, associations *or any other entity related to the artist's project.*
- ☐ Networking with other artists.

general



administrative support

- Amount and distribution of the grant, terms of payment and declaration.
Possible use of a third-party association.
- Affiliation with social and professional insurance funds, *with the help of a specialized association.*
- Obtaining or renewing a residency permit, *with the help of a specialized association.*



bank & phone

- Opening of a bank account, obtaining a payment card: *physical or online bank. Depending on the artist's administrative status and origin.*
- Subscription to a telephone plan. *After opening a bank account.*



training

- Registration for French courses, after placement test, unless beginner level.
Resources: university, associations, municipal courses, school-taught courses, online education...
- Internal or external training depending on the needs of the artist:
guidance, English language, technical training...



family

- Consideration of the artist's family composition, *appropriate housing, schedule arrangements...*
- Schooling and recreation for children: *registration for school, university, specialized institute, recreation or animation center, conservatory...*
- Spousal assistance, *where possible and according to needs.*



care

- Registration for Healthcare (Assurance maladie), the Complementary Solidarity Health scheme, or even State Medical Aid (AME), *depending on the artist's administrative status.*
- Explanation of how the healthcare system and mutual insurance funds operate, *depending on the artist's status and health coverage.*
- Identification of general and specialist doctors, therapists. Clarification of fees.
- Provision of emergency numbers.