

# IRB Barcelona Artist in Residence Programme

## Open call for 2026

### 1. About the programme

Art and scientific research have several things in common. Artists and researchers investigate the nature of our presence in the world, push boundaries in knowledge and technology, and venture into the unexplored. The questions our researchers study naturally inspire artistic inquiry, which in turn can offer a fresh perspective of the scientific endeavour. Both disciplines require **creativity, curiosity, and imagination**, combined with scrutiny, technique and determination.

IRB Barcelona's Artist in Residency Programme aims to connect artists interested in interdisciplinary science with the wide range of research, scientists, data and infrastructure available at the Institute. It provides a unique opportunity for artists to immerse themselves in the IRB Barcelona community for a free exchange of ideas and to explore, learn, and form relationships with our scientists and stakeholders. The programme seeks to provide artists and scientists alike with time and space for reflection and inspiration.

### 2. Criteria and conditions of the call

- Participation in this call is open to individual artists worldwide working in any field of creation.
- Applicants will submit a detailed proposal of the project to be developed within IRB Barcelona in accordance with the fields of study of the Institute. The proposal should include the following:
  - Title of the project
  - Aim of the project
  - Specific researchers to work with (or specific fields of research)
  - Detailed schedule/planning of the residency
  - Expected outcome
  - Plans to apply for grants (in case additional financial support is needed)

### 3. Terms and conditions of the residency

- The residency duration will be up to three consecutive months and will be scheduled in agreement with the artist in residence.
- The residency will take place before the end of 2026.
- The residency will take place on IRB Barcelona premises.
- IRB Barcelona will provide the artist with a 5000€ (VAT excluded) to support the residency, including artists fees, materials, and traveling expenses.
- The artist is expected to develop artwork resulting from the residency that will be exposed in a previously agreed exhibition space.
- The developed artwork must be based entirely on the IRB Barcelona residency.
- The developed artwork will be presented in a public exhibition within one year after completion of the residency.
- The artist retains legal ownership and rights over the artwork created in the Artist in Residence program.
- Any revenues generated from the commercial exploitation of the artwork shall first be applied to reimburse the production costs. Once these initial costs have been fully recovered, any additional net revenue shall be shared equally between the Artist (50%) and IRB Barcelona (50%).
- To this end, the artist assigns 50% of the worldwide exploitation rights of the artwork to IRB Barcelona for a period of 10 years. This assignment renews automatically for 10 more years unless the artist explicitly opposes the renewal, in which case the artist recovers 100% of the exploitation rights.

IRB Barcelona will provide the Artist in Residence with:

- Full IRB Barcelona member status for the duration of the residency.
- Direct access to scientists.
- Direct access to core facility staff.
- Access to images and data created in the laboratory, when possible.
- Facilitated contact with its network of collaborating institutes.
- Access to all scientific lectures, conferences and workshops.
- Visibility for the artist and his/her work through its communication channels (print and online publications, digital platforms and social media).

The Artist in Residence will be expected to:

- Define the details (duration, specific topic of the project, researchers involved, etc.) of the residency with the IRB Barcelona Coordination Team at the beginning of the residency
- Provide a written proposal of the final idea of his/her artwork after 6 months of the start of the residency.
- Coordinate and meet regularly with the IRB Barcelona Coordination Team.
- Establish dialogue with scientists and researchers at IRB Barcelona, with the support and guidance of the IRB Barcelona Coordination Team.
- Give a talk and/or workshop during the residency.

- Submit grant applications to open calls to support the specific project to be developed if additional funding is needed.
- Participate in IRB Barcelona's fundraising initiatives and campaigns.
- Participate in public engagement activities such as Open House, science and art events, etc.
- Promote the visibility of IRB Barcelona and the programme through professional networks, websites and social media channels.
- Complete the residency at IRB Barcelona in accordance with the proposal submitted.

#### 4. Application submission and selection

Artists intending to apply should submit a proposal adhering to the criteria of the call. Applications should be written in English and submitted via the online form at <https://www.irbbarcelona.org/en/outreach/public-engagement/art-and-science/artist-residence-programme>. The form requires the following:

- Contact details
- Resumé/CV
- Portfolio (recent work, exhibitions, residencies, research)
- Project proposal describing, in detail, the project that the artist intends to undertake during the residency at IRB Barcelona.

The project proposal should include the following information:

- Title of the project
- Aim of the project
- Specific researchers to work with (or specific topics of research)
- Detailed schedule/planning of the residency
- Expected outcome
- Plans to apply for grants (in case additional financial support is needed)

A Selection Committee comprising artists and scientists will be in charge of evaluating applications and choosing the Artist in Residence.

All applicants will be informed of the outcome by email. The winning proposal will be published on IRB Barcelona's website by the end of February 2026.

#### 5. Key dates

- Application deadline: **31 January 2026** 23:59 Central European Time.
- Selection Committee meeting and final decision: **end of February 2026**.
- Emails sent to the selected candidate and all applicants: **by mid-March 2026**.
- Residency period: the exact timing of the residency will be discussed between the artist and the IRB Barcelona Coordination Team and it will take place during 2026.

## 6. Contact and information

Web: <https://www.irbbarcelona.org/en/outreach/public-engagement/art-and-science/artist-residence-programme>

Address any enquiries to [art@irbbarcelona.org](mailto:art@irbbarcelona.org).

*Participation in this Call shall imply compliance and full acceptance of these Terms and Conditions.*