



## Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus Artist-in-Residence Program Request for Proposals

### Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus Overview

The mission of the Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus is to create extraordinary experiences that champion the wonder and joy of childhood. We believe in kid-powered learning and every day, our expertly designed exhibits and programs open doors for Colorado's curious young minds to express what they know and to discover, create and explore - on their own terms.

Since 1973, the Children's Museum has served the metro-Denver community as a learning institute dedicated to the education and growth of young children and their caregivers. The Museum provides rich play experiences and a dynamic learning environment for children to joyously learn through innovative and interactive hands-on exhibits, engaging daily programming and year-round special events. Last fiscal year, the Museum served more than 500,000 children and their grown-ups.

For more information, please visit [www.mychildsmuseum.org](http://www.mychildsmuseum.org).

### Artist-in-Residence Program Overview

2018 marks the third year of the Artist-in-Residence Program at the Children's Museum. This program provides an opportunity for children and families who visit the Museum to observe and interact with professional artists and, through special events and custom workshops, affords opportunities for engagement to low-income school groups. Additionally, awarded artists create and curate a custom piece for the Museum.

The Artist-in-Residence Program is open to professional artists working in a variety of media including, but not limited to painting, sculpture, installation, photography, clay, textiles, illustration and digital media. The goals of the Artist-in-Residence Program are to:

- Enhance the role of the Museum as a center of cultural and artistic investigation for families and children
- Make emerging artists' work more accessible to the public
- Provide new avenues of art exploration for guests of the Museum
- Connect young children to the power of art-making and art as an expression of identity, experience and community

### Summary of Artist Commitments:

1. Training
  - a. Participate in an initial 4 hour training and orientation with the Children's Museum to meet the staff and gain an understanding of the Museum's pedagogy, programs and facility.
  - b. Participate in an additional one-hour best practice training of inclusive education and developmentally appropriate language, in preparation for working with diverse children ages newborn through age 8 and their families.
2. Participate in a closing reception to celebrate the residency, to be scheduled at a mutually agreed upon time.

3. Work onsite in the Museum's artist-in-residence studio at least once a week for 2 - 4 scheduled hours, and allow children and families to interact with the art-making process.
4. Co-facilitate a minimum of 1 fee-based family workshop with Museum staff.
5. Option to co-facilitate extended public programming sessions with Museum staff, to be mutually agreed upon.
6. Co-facilitate 1 - 3 workshops with students (K-2), delivering instruction and art-making experiences.
7. Create a piece of art or other artifact or product exhibition that will remain part of the growing community art collection at the Museum.
8. Remain available and or accessible for trouble-shooting and repairs (if needed) while the piece created for the Museum is on display.

**What the residency offers you:**

- Access to the studio during the Museum's normal hours of operation, when available.
- An opportunity to create a program unique to you.
- Opportunities to showcase your artwork and methods to Museum visitors.
- Drop-in studio time where children and families can work one-on-one with you and your art form.
- A monthly stipend of approximately \$1,000 per month for the duration of the residency, to be mutually agreed upon.
- A materials stipend for supplies, to be agreed upon but not to exceed \$1,000.

**Upcoming dates and deadlines:**

**August 1, 2017:** Proposals due for 2018 residencies

**September 5, 2017:** Finalists contacted

**September 19 – 29, 2017:** Interviews and teaching demonstrations

**October 13, 2016:** 2018 Artist-in-Residences announced

**2018 Artist in Residency Quarters:**

**Winter Quarter:** January 1 - March 31, 2018

**Spring Quarter:** April 1 - June 30, 2018

**Summer Quarter:** July 1 - September 30, 2018

**Fall Quarter:** October 1 - December 31, 2018



## Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus Artist-in-Residence Program Application

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email:**

**Artistic Medium/Media:**

**Applications must include:**

- Completed application form
- Letter of interest. Please detail why you are interested in working with the Children's Museum, community children, parents, school groups and early childhood educators.
- Resume or curriculum vitae. Please include experience you have working with children newborn – age 5 and/or families.
- A one-page narrative presenting the idea/concept for your leave-behind piece. How your project will support the themes of arts, culture, community, family, identity or communication, and how your project will engage directly with our daily visitors and school groups.
- A one-page narrative of potential topics for classes/programs to be taught to Museum guests and/or school groups.
- Work samples or proposal images (maximum 5 hi-res images)
- A draft budget for project expenses (not to exceed \$1,000).

Proposals selected for further consideration will be asked to submit full portfolios and detailed project budgets.

**Additionally please select your residency preference. Check all that apply:**

- Winter: January 1 - March 31, 2018
- Spring: April 1 - June 30, 2018
- Summer: July 1 - September 30, 2018
- Fall: October 1 - December 31, 2018
- I'd also be interested in providing short term workshops for guests and families.



## Application Submission Instructions

Completed applications **must** be submitted via email. Work samples must also be submitted electronically, via email, Dropbox and/or Google drive. No paper applications, please.

Please submit completed applications by **5 pm on August 1, 2017** to:

Salim Khoury  
Art Studio Coordinator  
Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus  
303-561-0121  
[SalimK@cmdenver.org](mailto:SalimK@cmdenver.org)

### The Selection Process

Artists will be selected by a panel organized by the Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus. Decisions are based on artistic merit, proven experience working with children and families, and proposed projects or ideas and how they relate to the themes of arts, culture, community, identity, family and communication. The Museum encourages creativity; however, work must not require heavy machinery or major construction. All artists will be notified after the selection process is complete. The Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus reserves the right to interview candidates and observe instruction before making a decision.

*Please note: Due to the sensitivity and requirements of working with children, artists must clear a background/criminal check prior to their residency acceptance.*