

THE SAISON FOUNDATION

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Saison Artist in Residence Guidelines

- For Contemporary Theater and Dance –

Visiting Fellows 2026

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Outline and timeframe for Saison Artist in Residence *Visiting Fellows*

Outline

The Saison Foundation is a grant-making foundation established in July 1987 that supports projects and activities related to contemporary Japanese theater and dance. In order to increase the visibility of contemporary Japanese performing arts on a worldwide level, The Saison Foundation awards grants and priority use of its rehearsal/workshop and residence facilities at Morishita Studio in Tokyo. Morishita Studio, owned by The Saison Foundation, has four studios and three *guest rooms* (accommodation). Our grantees are able to rent the studio for rehearsals, workshops, creative work, residencies, etc., at reasonable rates.

Timeframe for *Visiting Fellows 2026*

Saison Artist in Residence *Visiting Fellows* offers residencies at Morishita Studio to artists and arts managers in the following periods.

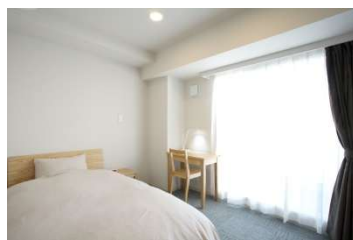
- From December 4 until December 23, 2026
- From January 8 to March 31, 2027
 - ❖ Please refer to the application form for the available dates of the rehearsal studios.
 - ❖ Accommodation and studio fees at Morishita Studio will be covered by the foundation as part of residency support.

Applicants based outside Japan may submit proposals directly or through their artistic partner in Japan to the program.

- The application form is only available and accepted in English or Japanese.



Studio S



Guest room



Saison Artist in Residence *Visiting Fellows*

This program aims to build up an international network for contemporary performing arts and to enhance mutual understanding, and gives opportunities for artists and arts managers to research the contemporary performing arts scene in Japan. The program supports research visits to Japan for those who are expected to play an important role in the international performing arts scene.

i Research Residency for Artists

Research Residency for Artists offers artistic development opportunities to research and spend time building links with artists and arts managers in Japan for artists who wish to create new works involving arts and culture in Japan and/or who wish to do collaboration projects with artists and arts managers in Japan. Fellows are able to conduct research with a base at Morishita Studio

- The program is open to individual artists, i.e. playwrights, directors and choreographers,
 - a) who are based outside of Japan and wish to come to Japan as a foreigner
 - b) who are able to communicate in English or Japanese
 - c) who are able to stay in Japan for more than 20 days up to 35 days between December 4 and December 23, 2026 or between January 8 and March 31, 2027
 - ❖ The main purpose of the visit has to be for researching arts and culture in Japan; therefore artists with the main purpose of presenting and/or promoting a specific piece of performance during residency are not eligible to apply.
 - ❖ Groups of artists are not eligible to apply.
 - ❖ An individual or organization in Japan planning to invite artists may also apply for the program, but it is necessary to gain consent from the invitee.
- The Saison Foundation may help coordinate meetings and interviews, and provide additional support for the research. Accommodation and studio fees at Morishita Studio will be covered by the foundation as part of residency support.
 - ❖ According to the funding and contributions from other sources, applicants who would like to stay in Japan for **more than 20 days up to 35 days between December 4 and December 23, 2026 or between January 8 and March 31, 2027**, are able to request a grant from The Saison Foundation. The grant will be awarded to **one artist** including one round-trip Economy-class ticket and/or living expenses (5,000 yen per day) and/or research & activities costs (up to 5,000 yen per day) , with the total upper limit, 500,000 yen.
 - ❖ It is necessary to purchase travel insurance at one's own expense to cover medical expenses for accidents, injuries, and illnesses, as well as liability for bodily injury and property damage during your stay in Japan.
- Fellows are expected to
 - a) hold a talk or give a presentation on their country's art scene and their work
 - b) submit a report on the research visit
 - c) demonstrate the outcome of the research visit within one year after the visit, e.g. performing events, talk or publications written in any language except Japanese

ii Research Residency for Arts Managers

Research Residency for Arts Managers offers artistic development opportunities to research contemporary performing arts and spend time building links with artists and arts managers in Japan for arts managers who wish to start international projects with contemporary theater and dance communities in Japan. Fellows are able to conduct research with a base at Morishita Studio.

- The program is open to individual arts managers, i.e. producers, program directors and curators,
 - a) who are based outside of Japan and wish to come to Japan as a foreigner
 - b) who are able to communicate in English or Japanese
 - c) who engage in international exchange projects
 - d) who are able to stay in Japan for more than 20 days up to 35 days between December 4 and December 23, 2026 or between January 8 and March 31, 2027
- ❖ The main purpose of the visit has to be for researching the performing arts scene in Japan; therefore arts managers with the purpose of producing or touring a specific piece of work during residency are not eligible to apply.
- ❖ An individual or organization in Japan planning to invite the arts manager may also apply for the program, but it is necessary to gain consent from the invitee.
- The Saison Foundation may help coordinate meetings and interviews, and to provide additional support for the research. Accommodation fees at Morishita Studio will be covered by the foundation as part of residency support.
 - ❖ According to the funding and contributions from other sources, applicants who would like to stay in Japan for **more than 20 days up to 35 days between December 4 and December 23, 2026 or between January 8 and March 31, 2027**, are able to request a grant from The Saison Foundation. The grant will be awarded to **two arts managers, each on an individual basis**, including one round-trip Economy-class ticket and/or living expenses (5,000 yen per day) and/or research & activities costs (up to 5,000 yen per day) , with the total upper limit, 500,000 yen.
 - ❖ It is necessary to purchase travel insurance at one's own expense to cover medical expenses for accidents, injuries, and illnesses, as well as liability for bodily injury and property damage during your stay in Japan.
- Fellows are expected to
 - a) hold a talk or give a presentation on their country's art scene and their work
 - b) submit a report on the research visit
 - c) demonstrate the outcome of the research visit within one year after the visit, e.g. performing events, talk or publications written in any language except Japanese

Application Procedures

Five steps to apply for our Visiting Fellows Program:

1. Read this guideline carefully and check the eligibility of your project

Please read this application guideline and find out if your project is eligible to apply for the program.

2. Download an Application Form and Budget Form

Please fill out the forms at the link below to download the application form and budget form **no later than Sunday, May 31, 2026**.

<https://forms.gle/YPS57ewtRQ3N4hhc9>

3. Fill in the Application Form and Budget Form

Please fill in all sections and do not use the phrase 'see attachment', and submit a completed application.

- ❖ The application form is formatted in Microsoft Word and the budget form in Microsoft Excel. We recommend that you complete the application form in Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. Otherwise, you may not be able to complete the required information, especially for Mac users.
- ❖ Applicants who submit an application form exceeding the five-page limit or paper size will be asked to rewrite their form.

4. Include Supplementary Materials

Applicants to the Visiting Fellows are requested to attach the following supplementary materials.

- ❖ Documents (excluding booklets and/or pamphlets) must be prepared in English and/or in Japanese with a PC and printed on A4 size pages.
- ❖ Please note that we cannot return any of the following materials due to the receiving volume.

Required supplementary materials for Visiting Fellows

- 1) An outline of the research project including the purpose and plan (schedule and itinerary) for the residency. It is important to state why you would like to stay in Japan and how you would like to apply your experience of the residency to your work in the future.
- 2) Photograph (portrait) of the applicant
 - ❖ Please state photo credits/copyrights if necessary.
 - ❖ We will use the photograph for our promotional materials.

5. Send us the Application Package

In order to make a full application, applicants must submit a package including the completed application form [Word and PDF], budget form [Excel] and photograph [JPEG or PNG]. Please upload your files to the following Google form **no later than Wednesday, June 3, 2026**.

<https://forms.gle/uZEvXjWCsCNETZgi9>

- ❖ Please do not send the application form and supplementary materials by email.
- ❖ The results will be notified to the applicant by **the beginning of August 2026 by email**.

Evaluation, Selection and Notification

Each application will be assessed in regard to the Foundation's following criteria:

- 1) Uniqueness of the applicant's activities and of the proposed project.
 - 2) The perspective and potentiality of the applicant.
 - 3) The timing of giving the award to the applicant and to the project.
 - 4) The project's impact on the arts and on the international community.
 - 5) Feasibility of the project in terms of schedule and budget.
- ❖ The results for Visiting Fellows 2026 will be sent to the applicant by **the beginning of August 2026.**
 - ❖ **We will not be able to respond to any inquiries regarding the selection process and results.**

About Morishita Studio

Studio and Guest Room dimensions

Studios A & B – medium*	w. 13.5m / l. 8.1m / ht. 3.9m / fl. space: 109.35sq.m
Studio C – large*	w. 17.4m / l. 13.8m / ht. 6.6m / fl. space: 238.56sq.m
Studio S – small*	w. 11.3m / l. 6.9m / ht. 4.2m / fl. space: 77.97sq.m

- ❖ Each Studio is furnished with lauan plywood floors, while dance mats to cover the wooden floors are available upon request. The walls of Studio S are white.

Guest room Two single rooms / One twin room

Opening Hours

Morishita Studio is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The building will be closed from December 29 to January 3 each year, and on dates specified by the foundation.

Rental rates for awardees

Studios A & B –medium and Studio S - small	2,500 yen per day
Studio C - large	8,000 yen per day
<i>Guest room</i>	2,500 yen per day per person

- ❖ Telephone, fax, and other expenses will be charged
- ❖ For Visiting Fellows, guest room and studio fees at Morishita Studio will be covered by the foundation as part of residency support.
- ❖ Cancellation of the reservation can be made free of charge up until 1 month prior to the first day of the use of studios

Facilities

Studio and common space

Lounge, pantries, locker rooms, laundry room, showers and washrooms, offices, copy and fax machine, and parking (advance reservations required) available.

Internet connection is available.

Guest room (3 rooms)

Furnished, bathroom and kitchen space, beddings, but no towel and bath amenity kits

LAN Internet connection is available.

Contact Information

The Saison Foundation –Office

Address: 3-5-6, Morishita Koto-ku, Tokyo, Japan 135-0004

Telephone: +81 3-3535-5566

Fax: +81 3-3535-5565

Website: <https://www.saison.or.jp/>

Email: residency@saison.or.jp

Office hours: Monday to Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (JST= GMT+9 hours)

Closed on Saturday, Sunday and public holidays