



Bishop Hill Heritage Association

P.O. Box 92

Bishop Hill, Illinois 61419

Short-Term Artist in Residence Description and Application Form

Bishop Hill was started in 1846 by Swedish immigrants as a communal colony. Today, Bishop Hill is a state historic site and a national historic landmark enjoyed by over 90,000 visitors annually. The village of Bishop Hill still contains 18 Bishop Hill Colony Buildings. The art studio is located in one such building, the 1857 Blacksmith Shop, also known as the Prairie Arts Center. The BHHA is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the unique history of the Bishop Hill Colony. The purpose of BHHA's artist in residence program is to provide artists with the opportunity to create and explore their work independently, using this distinctive pre-Civil War village as their inspiration.

BHHA provides the following:

- 2600 square feet of light-filled Studio and Galley Space on the second floor of the Prairie Arts Center (the second floor is called the VagnHall Galleri): which includes 20 3x4 windows with North, South, West, and East light; tables and chairs as needed
- 24 hour studio access
- All utilities
- Publicity for artist-in-residence related programs: which includes email news blasts, website postings, poster distribution in a fifty mile radius of Bishop Hill, press releases to media outlets spanning northern and central Illinois
- Supplies for workshop student participants, should this option be chosen
- A 4 week exhibition of the artist's work in VagnHall Galleri at the Prairie Arts Center, with the BHHA retaining 40% of the sales.

Artist provides the following:

- Residency fee of \$200/month for the studio space.
- One hands-on workshop or a public talk about your work.
- Studio will be open to public on a regular basis-to be negotiated.
- At the end of the residency, work for an exhibition at the VagnHall Galleri.
- Food, art supplies, and housing are the responsibility of the artist. The BHHA does have a special housing arrangement for an artist at the Twinflower Inn, a local bed and breakfast.

Duration of residency: Since it is an ongoing selection process, the duration of the residency is one to six months.

Eligibility: This program supports emerging and established artists. Joint and group applications will be considered. Applications are invited from primarily visual artists; however, proposals from artists practicing other forms, such as writing, music, poetry, etc., will also be considered.

Agreement: If selected, an Artist in Residence Agreement will be signed by parties, outlining the responsibilities, terms, and conditions of the residency. If the agreement is breached by either party, the residency may be terminated at any time.

Application Procedure:

Must include **all** the following components for your application to be reviewed:

- Completed and signed application form; which includes contact information for two professional references.
- Completed CV-Resume of no more than 2 pages; for joint/group applications, 1 page resume of each artist.
- 10 digital images of your work created in the last two years and presented on disk in high resolution (jpeg format). Please label the CD with your name.
- No application fee is required.

Selection Process: Selection is an ongoing process. Applications will be reviewed and artists will be notified of their status within four weeks after receipt of their application by the BHHA. Artists are selected based on the quality of their work and their artist in residence project proposal. The BHHA Administrator, several BHHA Board Members, and local artists will make up the selection committee. You may be contacted for an informal interview and tour to make sure the space is appropriate for you.

For additional information, please contact BHHA Administrator Todd DeDecker at 309 927-3899 or bhha@mymctc.net. Photographs of the studio space, the gallery, the Prairie Arts Center, and Bishop Hill can be emailed upon request. You can also visit www.bishophillheritage.org or www.bishophill.com for information about the village of Bishop Hill, museums, shops, and a current event calendar.

Please send all application materials to:

**BHHA
P.O. Box 92
Bishop Hill, IL 61419**

Or email to: bhha@mymctc.net

Or drop them off in person at:

**Steeple Building Museum
103 North Bishop Hill Street
Bishop Hill, IL 61419**