



- connecting people through art ▪

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## CALL FOR GUEST ARTISTS

*In-Definite Arts' Artist Residency Program is designed to connect professional artists with persons with disabilities, offering studio enrichment that contributes to the growth and creative exploration of the IDAS centre. For the visiting artist, this program provides unique opportunities to take part in the social life of the IDAS community by encouraging shared ideas, expression and discourse.*

**Call for Expressions of Interest:** In-Definite Arts is looking to expand its studio curricula, and invites applications from all creative and skilled individuals interested in working with persons with disabilities. Artists are invited to lead short-term, collegial workshops according to their discipline and cultural practice, which may include the following areas of study: drawing and painting, ceramics, fibre, glass, jewellery and metals, photography, sculpture and/or digital technologies. Preference is given to those applicants whose primary media differs from the creative arts already offered at IDAS.

**Term:** Residencies will run for a period of approx. two weeks (Monday – Thursday) depending on the needs and practice of each applicant.

**Responsibilities:** Applicants must complete an application form detailing all relevant experience as well as a brief outline of their proposed workshop, specifying their area of expertise. A cover letter should also be submitted outlining why the applicant wishes to work with In-Definite Arts, and what they feel they can contribute to IDAS' studio programming.

Short-listed applicants will be asked to participate in an interview, and successful applicants will be required to develop a two week curricula and budget.

**Qualifications:** Resident artists should be able to demonstrate specialized training in their field, at least 3 years commitment to studio work and a history of public presentation or publication.

**Application:** Applications are accepted year-round.  
Applications are welcome by email or in person:

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## BACKGROUNDER

**Who We Are:** In In-Definite Arts is a nonprofit visual arts centre where artists with developmental disabilities come together to create, exhibit and sell artwork. Since its beginnings in 1975, In-Definite Arts has continually been a leader and innovator in Calgary's art and disability sectors, playing a significant role in supporting artists with disabilities, promoting their artwork and advocating for inclusion within contemporary art practice.

Today, more than 165 adult artists with developmental disabilities come through In-Definite Arts Monday through Thursday to use our dynamic, multimedia studios. For these individuals, the visual arts present opportunities to achieve personal and professional goals by fostering self-expression, communication and independence.

**What We Do:** In-Definite Arts provides member artists with workspace, instruction and opportunities to explore diverse art media within a supported studio environment. We also encourage artists to exhibit and sell artwork in our gallery, and sometimes at other venues within the Calgary area. The diversity of creative arts offered at IDAS includes fiber-arts, pottery, drawing, painting, glass and sculpture.

Within the studio, instructors (who are artists themselves) help studio members to find their artistic voice by identifying individual interests, expectations, strengths, abilities and needs. To the greatest extent possible, instructors approach artistic activities in a manner that facilitates increased maturity and independence for each artist. Artist residencies and other visiting artist opportunities further enrich core studio programs, fostering relationships between studio members and local Calgary practitioners.



**Past Residency Experience:** In 2010, In-Definite Arts presented two artist residencies in print-making and felting media that significantly contributed to the artistic growth of its studio members. These short-term residencies provided immersion in new media for member artists, while also promoting unique interactions between local community artists and artists with disabilities. More recently in 2012/2013, IDAS received Canada Council for the Arts funding to present new residencies in batik art, fibre sculptures, plaster painting and mosaics. Following the success of these workshops IDAS made the decision in 2014 to prioritize residencies as a core element of the society's artistic mandate going forward. Most recent residencies (2014 to present) include painting on plexi glass, paper-making, pottery and art history. The studio now offers residency placements annually in the spring and fall.



*"I consider myself very fortunate to have shared the experiences, the investigation into a new medium and the true abandonment from what each artist usually experiences in their art making at IDAS. To have the opportunity to work with such amazing artists was both amazing and rewarding. The energy in the studio for the entire four weeks was inspiring for all involved."*

-Sami Ladner-Zech, Printmaking Residency



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## ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

**Overview:** In-Definite Arts' Artist Residency Program is designed to connect professional artists with persons with disabilities, offering studio enrichment that contributes to the growth and creative exploration of the IDAS centre. Successful applicants will be invited to lead a 48-hour workshop (typically two, 24-hour work weeks comprised of 6 hours per day, Monday through Thursday) that will expand the creative and artistic competencies of IDAS' artistic programming.

**FAQ: *Is this a paid residency?***

Yes; IDAS will provide \$35 an hour for a 48-hour residency (two, 24-hour work weeks comprised of 6 hours per day, Monday through Thursday).

**FAQ: *I do not live in Calgary; should I still apply?***

Artists from out of town would receive \$40 an hour for a 48-hour residency; at present IDAS is unable to provide any additional funds towards traveling expenses.

**FAQ: *Is there a budget for studio or material costs?***

Yes; IDAS will provide \$1000 towards the purchasing of new studio materials or specialized equipment as necessary.

**FAQ: *How many artists would I be teaching?***

More than 165 artists come through In-Definite Arts Monday through Thursday to use our studios. Each of these individuals is registered to attend either a morning or an afternoon class during the week. During any given class, expect to teach between 30 – 40 individuals.

**FAQ: *How would my time be structured?***

Morning studio time at IDAS is from 10 am – 12 pm, and afternoon studio time is from 1 pm until 3 pm. Resident artists are also asked to spend an hour in the morning from 9 to 10 am preparing the studio/coordinating with other staff, and an hour after class from 3 to 4 pm to clean the studio for the following day.

**FAQ: *What should I know before developing a course plan?***

IDAS serves different individuals during each 2-hour class (2 classes per day [morning and afternoon], 8 classes in a week [Monday through Thursday]). Demos and artistic activities must be able to be concluded within this 2-hour period for each class group, and resumed the following week to complete the residency project.

In the event that a residency project requires longer than two, 2-hour sessions to be completed with each classroom group, resident artists may be asked instead to work only two days a week for a 4 week workshop (example: four, 12-hour work weeks comprised of 6-hours a day, Monday and Tuesday). In all cases, the total length of time for each residency must equal 48 hours. Please specify in your application the amount of time anticipated to complete your residency idea.

**FAQ: *Are there other facilitators at IDAS? Would I have help teaching?***

Yes, an artist residency is meant to be a collegial experience; IDAS currently employs a team of five studio instructors who help to facilitate creative activity in the studio. These staff would work with you to help you prep materials and carry out classroom activities.

**FAQ: Is previous experience with persons with disabilities required?**

No, although preference might be given to those applicants who demonstrate experience working in the field of disability arts programming.

**FAQ: How is this program funded?**

The IDAS Artist in Residence program is a special initiative funded by the Friends of the Alberta Jubilee Auditorium Society. IDAS receives additional funding from the Alberta Government through the Persons with Developmental Disabilities program, as well as from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Calgary Arts Development and other funders.

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**EXAMPLE RESIDENCY COURSE PLAN:**

*Based on January 2010 Print-making Workshop offered at IDAS.*

**Week 1, Monday:** Introduction to Print-making (portfolio presentation by resident artist)  
Printing demo (spreading ink, working the printing press)  
Creation of Collograph Plates using found materials  
Printing of background colors for use in week 2  
*Repeated in afternoon.*

**Week 1, Tuesday:** Introduction to Print-making (portfolio presentation by resident artist)  
Printing demo (spreading ink, working the printing press)  
Creation of Linocut Plates using purchased linoleum sheets  
Printing of background colors for use in week 2  
*Repeated in afternoon.*

**Week 1, Wednesday:** Introduction to Print-making (portfolio presentation by resident artist)  
Printing demo (spreading ink, working the printing press)  
Creation of Styrofoam Plates using recycled materials  
Printing of background colors for use in week 2  
*Repeated in afternoon.*

**Week 1, Thursday:** Introduction to Print-making (portfolio presentation by resident artist)  
Printing demo (spreading ink, working the printing press)  
Creation of Collograph Plates using found materials  
Printing of background colors *on fabric* for use in week 2

**Week 2, Monday:** Printing of Collograph Plates created in week 1.  
Registering different colors for multiple prints.  
*Repeated in afternoon.*

**Week 2, Tuesday:** Printing of Linocut Plates created in week 1.  
Registering different colors for multiple prints.  
*Repeated in afternoon.*

**Week 2, Wednesday:** Printing of Styrofoam Plates created in week 1.  
Registering different colors for multiple prints.  
*Repeated in afternoon.*

**Week 2, Thursday:** Printing of Collograph Plates created in week 1, on fabric.  
Registering of different colors for multiple prints.  
*Repeated in afternoon.*

## APPLICATION FORM

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

MOBILE:

EMAIL:

WEBSITE (if applicable):

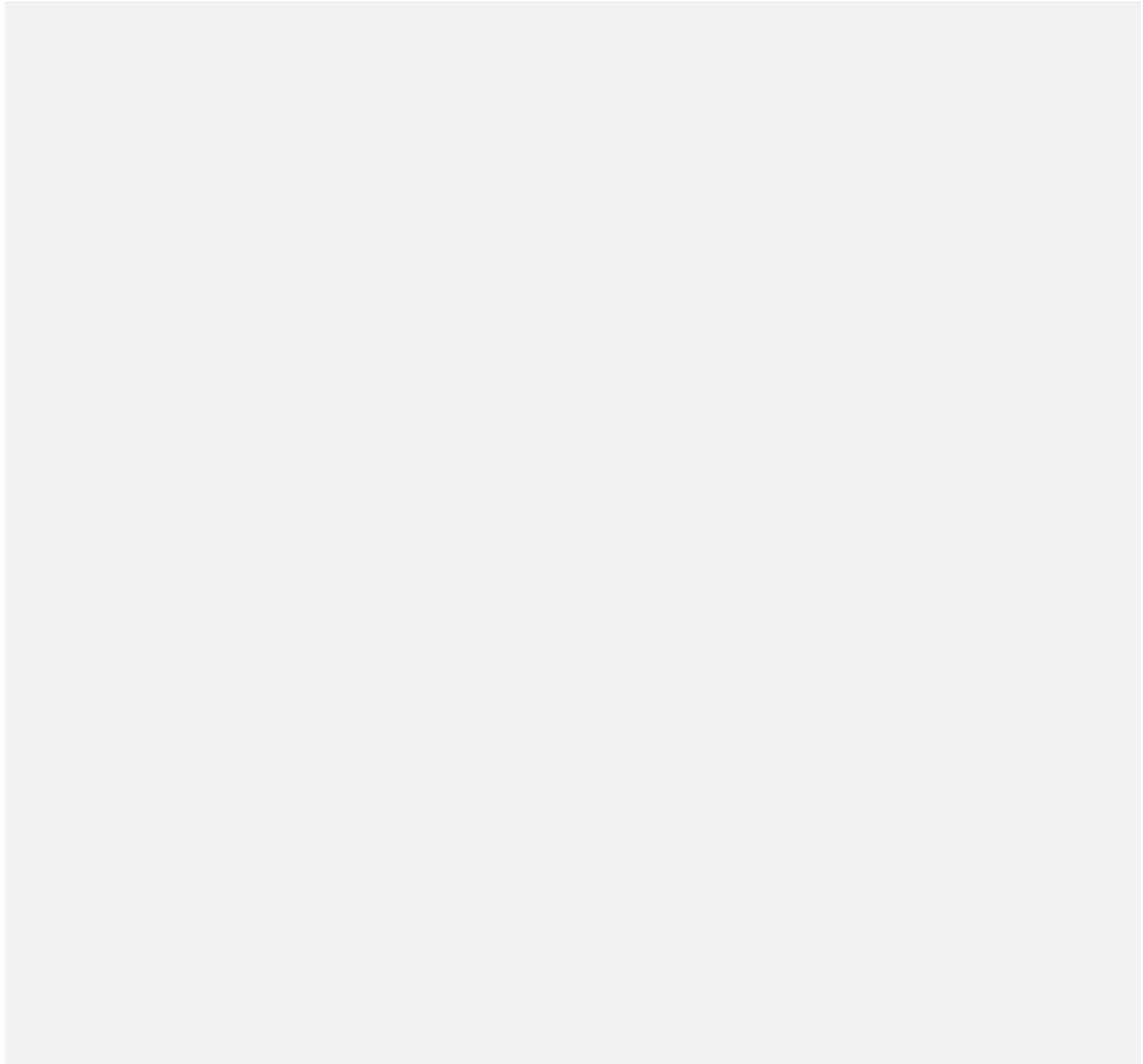
PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PREFERRED MONTH(S) OF RESIDENCY (must be within the 2017 calendar year):

\*IDAS would ideally be looking to program one residency in the spring and fall of 2017.

PLEASE OUTLINE YOUR AREA OF EXPERTISE AND PRACTICE TO DATE (maximum 300 words):

PLEASE OUTLINE YOUR RESIDENCY PROPOSAL (maximum 500 words)

*Workshops may run for a period of two weeks, according to IDAS' course schedule and the needs of the applicant. Morning studio time at IDAS is from 10 am to 12 noon, and afternoon studio time is from 1 pm to 3 pm. IDAS serves different artists with disabilities during each class, Monday through Thursday, cumulatively providing weekly programs for approximately 165 individuals with disabilities.*



THE IN-DEFINITE ARTS SOCIETY · 8038 FAIRMOUNT DRIVE SE · CALGARY AB T2H 0Y1

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THE ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS:

