

## **LANESBORO ARTS BIPOC ARTIST RESIDENCY - Frequently Asked Questions**

This new residency program specifically offers residency support for BIPOC artists and their families. There is no output/product required for this residency. The artist (and their family, if desired) is welcome to use studio space for art if desired, but it is not required. The length of residency is optional between one and two weeks long, as it fits within Lanesboro Arts events calendar.

Lanesboro is a rural hub of artistic and outdoor activity, nestled in the bluffs of southeastern MN along the Root River. Lanesboro Arts is a non-profit, multidisciplinary arts organization that seeks to support both emerging and established artists, revitalizes public spaces, and builds a sense of community among the 754 people who call Lanesboro home. Lanesboro Arts has brought innovative arts experiences to community members and visitors alike for nearly 40 years, becoming a national model for empowering communities through the arts.

We acknowledge that predominantly white rural spaces like Lanesboro can be isolating, alienating, or even unsafe for BIPOC individuals and yet rural spaces also hold an inequitable share of land and resources not often easily accessible to BIPOC artists living in urban areas. The goal of this project is to offer the use of Lanesboro Arts facilities and personnel to artists and their families, as well as provide a community liaison who is available if desired, to provide connection to the community and/or outdoor recreation that the area has to offer.

There is no outcome or product required of this residency. This residency is meant to provide whatever the artist needs within the context of our community, whether that be restoration, family getaway, connection to nature, access to rural community, artistic practice, or whatever it may be.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

### **At A Glance:**

- Participate in optional program FAQ via Zoom, and/or view testimonials (written and video) of past pilot-round artists in residence for more information before applying.
- Submit application via Lanesboro Arts website.
- If chosen via lottery system, Lanesboro Arts will notify applicant via email.
- Next steps would be to set up a Zoom meeting between Lanesboro Arts staff and artist to discuss the options outlined above, give further contextual information, and answer any questions, in an effort to curate and personalize the residency experience to the artists' wants and needs.
- From the meeting, a partnership agreement will be drafted by Lanesboro Arts staff to reflect all that was discussed in the meeting, and sent to the artist to review and edit as needed. Once all parties agree, the letter of partnership agreement will be signed by both parties.

### **How Artists Are Selected:**

Artists of Native American/American Indian/Native Alaskan, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino/Chicano/Latinx, Middle Eastern/North African, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, SWANA

(South West Asian and North African) descent are the focus of this residency. Lanesboro Arts strives to mitigate gatekeeping structures within funding, resulting in a selection process that doesn't place judgment on worthiness through a traditional funding lens.

In this application process, a panel of reviewers will check each application for eligibility requirements. If there are questions or clarity needed, a staff member will reach out to you.

All eligible submissions will be entered into a lottery and randomly selected until all available slots are filled. There are 12 weeks-worth of residencies that we are able to award. Because some artists might select two weeks or one week, and some may choose to be in residence in the cohort model (simultaneous with another artist-in-residence in a nearby location), this process of randomly selecting an order from the lottery pool allows Lanesboro Arts to fill the full amount of weeks available with the artists that applied in order of the lottery order.

Due date: Applications for this program are due for the initial submission review date by **11:59 pm on Sunday, October 1, 2023**. After that, the lottery process will begin, and applicants will be notified by Thursday, October 5th of the order of selections based on the lottery system (we will record the lottery process and also share this video with all applicants for transparency basis). We will then reach out in order of the lottery selection list to fill in the available 12 weeks of residencies. If there are still available residencies left after this initial deadline, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, ending once residencies fill up or by April 1st, 2024. Residencies for the pilot program will happen between October 2023 - April 2024.

**After The Lottery Process:**

**Once artists are chosen via the lottery process, a meeting will be arranged to discuss the following questions, in addition to any other details relating to the selected residency:**

-If chosen for this residency, would you be interested in being connected with a community member beyond Lanesboro Arts staff to act as a Lanesboro Liaison during your time in the community?

-If so, what areas would you like a liaison for?

-Would you be working on a new or ongoing creative project during your residency? (Note: this is not required.)

-If so, provide a short description of this project.

-If so, what materials, spaces, etc would be necessary for you to access during this time in order to work on said project?

-From your perspective, what would an equitable partnership agreement include?

**ST. MANE THEATER SECOND FLOOR HOUSING / STUDIO SPACE**

One of the options for private housing that will be provided is at Lanesboro Arts' Artist Residency Center in the St. Mane Theatre, at 206 Parkway Ave N, Lanesboro. This space is a second floor facility of a historic building and does not have ADA accessibility currently.

- Private bedroom includes: full bed & bedding, desk, lamp, chair, mirror, and closet.
- The Residency Center can sleep between one to four people: 1 full bed, 1 full futon, and 1 twin roll away bed.
- Private bathroom includes: shower/bathtub, toilet, sink, towels.
- Kitchenette includes: dishes, cooking utensils, microwave, stovetop, refrigerator, teapot, coffeemaker, etc.
- Studio includes: tables, chairs, couches, paper, and various art supplies.
- Laundry machines are available at admin offices above the Gallery, at 103 Parkway Ave N (hallway access).
- WIFI is available throughout the building.
- Transportation: A bike is available (please bring your own helmet). Some artists enjoy having their cars during their stay so they can explore more freely, and others have done well without a vehicle. The community liaison can act as a limited taxi and shuttle service.

#### **ART LOFT SECOND FLOOR OF GALLERY HOUSING SPACE**

One of the options for private housing that will be provided is at the Lanesboro Arts Art Loft at 103 Parkway Ave N. This space is a second floor facility of a historic building and does not have ADA accessibility currently.

- Private bedroom includes: two queen size beds & bedding, dresser, lamp, chair, mirror, closet.
- The Art Loft can sleep between one to five people: 2 queen beds, 1 queen sleeper sofa, and 1 twin roll away bed.
- Private bathroom includes: shower/bathtub, toilet, sink, towels.
- Full kitchen includes: dishes, cooking utensils, microwave, stovetop, oven, refrigerator, teapot, coffeemaker, etc.
- There is no separate studio space here, but there is a large carpeted living room/open space with a couch, lounge chairs, dining table, as well as a kitchen island counter with stool seating.
- Laundry machines are available at admin offices above the Gallery, at 103 Parkway Ave N (hallway access).
- WIFI is available throughout the building.
- Transportation: A bike is available (please bring your own helmet). Some artists enjoy having their cars during their stay so they can explore more freely, and others have done well without a vehicle. The community liaison can act as a limited taxi and shuttle service.

#### **WEEKLY STIPEND**

Lanesboro Arts will provide a \$1,250 weekly stipend to cover food and mileage costs and other costs while in residence. Half of the stipend will be paid two weeks prior to the residency, and the remaining half will be paid on the last day of the residency. The Lanesboro liaison (see more about this below) can

assist with grocery shopping if desired, including the opportunity to deliver groceries once a week if a list is provided prior. There is an additional budget of \$500 total per residency for art supplies if an artistic project is pursued during the residency.

Stipends are not available for individual family members of artists, unless that partner is applying as an artist themselves in the cohort model. In that case, both would be given the stipend, and can choose to be given the same lodging space.

### **COHORT OPTION**

This residency comes with the option of being a solo experience or a cohort experience. The cohort model has two options: 1) you can apply in tandem with another BIPOC artist that you would like to be in residency with at the same time (you will both apply together in the application so your application is received as one); or 2) you can apply without having a specific cohort collaborator in mind, but are still interested in being in residence at the same time as another BIPOC artist in residence. In either case, the stipend amount will be given to both artists, and we will host one artist in the St. Mane Theatre lodging, and the other artist in the Art Loft lodging. This includes spouses/partners applying for the cohort model.

### **ABOUT THE COMMUNITY OF LANESBORO**

Lanesboro Arts is located on the unceded ancestral land of the Sauk, Meswaki, Wahpeton, and Očhéthi Šakówiŋ (Sioux). We recognize that our presence here is the result of violence and cultural genocide against Indigenous peoples; we seek the truth of this living history and strive to reflect that through our programming. We recognize that this is one step in an ongoing process of foundational change for our organization. We honor the original stewards of this land and offer respect to Indigenous peoples past, present, and future. We encourage you to join us in continuing to learn about Indigenous history and current affairs, as well as supporting as you are able Native-led communities, organizations and businesses.

- Lanesboro is a city located in [Fillmore County Minnesota](#). Lanesboro has a 2020 population of 707.
- The average household income in Lanesboro is \$68,755 with a poverty rate of 7.58%. The median rental costs in recent years comes to \$468 per month, and the median house value is \$138,300.
- The median age in Lanesboro is 54.2 years, 49 years for males, and 56 years for females.
- Lanesboro Arts is currently an all-white staff.

#### Lanesboro Demographics

According to the most recent ACS, the racial composition of Lanesboro was:

- White: 97.43%
- Two or more races: 2.57%
- Black or African American: 0.00%
- Native American: 0.00%
- Asian: 0.00%
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.00%

- Other race: 0.00%

### **LANESBORO LIAISON**

Lanesboro Arts can provide a community liaison to act as a go-to contact for any questions or support. This will be a Lanesboro Arts staff member or a vetted community member. The liaison can give an initial tour of town and provide any local/regional information needed. The liaison can connect visitors with community members if desired. The liaison could also be a guide accompanying any outdoor recreation activities that include: bike tour, kayaking, tubing, hiking, skiing, farm tours, state parks, mini golf, cave exploring, high ropes course, and more. This is entirely optional and up to the artist in residence to decide if they'd like to have a liaison more than Lanesboro Arts staff to connect them to the community or offer services.

The liaison can be available as requested Monday - Friday, 10 am - 5pm, and by appointment on the weekends or evenings.

**Questions and/or feedback? Please contact Melissa Wray [[melissa@lanesboroarts.org](mailto:melissa@lanesboroarts.org)] or (507) 467-2446 with any additional questions or concerns.**