



*berwick research institute
Roxbury, MA 02119 www.berwickinstitute.org

**The Berwick Research Institute
Artist in Research Residency Program
APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 1, 2008**

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The Berwick Research Institute is a 501c3 non-profit art organization composed of individual artists, writers, musicians and cultural workers. The Berwick's mission is to support artists and projects that require investigation, dialogue, and support from an artistic community.

The Berwick Research Institute was founded in January 2000 by eight young artists who saw the need for a non-commercial space where they could create, perform, and present experimental work. The group has since transformed part of a former Whoopie Pie factory into a vibrant laboratory for artists working with experimental sound, film, robotics, conceptual art, theatre, music, public performance, and new media. As a part of that mission, they founded the Artist in Research (AIR) residency program to provide emerging artists the time, space, community, and critical feedback to make and present their work.

Artist in Research Program Description:

The Artist in Research program seeks to support artists involved in the early stages of projects that require investigation, dialogue, and support from an artistic community. The AIR Program is particularly interested in working with artists whose work explores contemporary and experimental genres such as electronics, sound, installation, performance, film, video, and other time-based media. The AIR Program supports projects that have already been conceptualized, but need time, money and critical feedback to complete.

This residency is most appropriate for individuals or groups who wish to explore the potential for collaboration and creative exchange with peers working in a wide range of media. Regularly scheduled critiques, open studios, closing events and our web forum provide residents with opportunities for critical feedback from curators, artists, scholars and members of the public. Artists in Research are encouraged to focus their efforts on exploration and the processes of innovative art-making rather than the completion of a finished product.

Please visit the "AIR" section of www.berwickinstitute.org to learn more about past AIR artists and the types of projects we are interested in and are able to support.



Research Term Logistics:

In order to provide artists the necessary time to fully explore their projects, the AIR Program provides three artists or collaborative groups with ten-week residencies each year. During each residency, AIR artists are granted a 12x12 raw space within a communal studio that houses three other artists. The studio is located in Dudley Square, a developing minority-majority neighborhood in Boston, Massachusetts. Each artist is given 24-hour access to the studio, an \$1250 stipend (this is the norm, though the exact amount is dependant on grants pending), media attention and regular studio visits by the co-curators and invited guests for on-going critical feedback. The residencies are book-ended with events that invite the public in for a glimpse of the artist's previous work, art-making process and research during the residency.

Past artists have given public lectures, school tours, weekend workshops, and closing presentations. These events allow the artist to test their ideas in dialogue with other artists, curators and the general public.

Each Artist in Research is provided with a multi-media online journal on the Berwick Research Institute's website and is expected to keep detailed documentation of their research. At the end of each residency, the artist is required to produce a final report documenting their experience and describing their findings during their residency. This report may be included in a multi-media publication created by the Berwick to highlight each AIR artist. The publication would be widely distributed throughout Boston. Additionally, each AIR artist will be required to "give back" to the Berwick, as the artist/s see fit, within a year of the completion of their residency term. Our intent is to create a community of creative reciprocity and will consider many different interpretations of the term "giving back."

Dates of Residencies:

1. April 1 – June 15
2. July 1 – September 15
3. October 1 – December 15

In the space allotted on the cover sheet, please rank the residency periods according to your preference and, if necessary, note specific reasons why you could not accept particular dates.

Artist in Research Application Guidelines:

Eligibility

The Berwick Research Institute invites artists or artist groups to submit proposals for research that require time, space and a critical feedback. In the past we have supported work in kinetic sculpture, radio, experimental music composition, robotics, installation and architectural design. We are open to all forms of art; however, in accord with our mission, we prioritize support for experimental media. Also, our facilities may limit certain applicants. If your work requires special equipment, please be advised that you will have to provide it yourself. We currently offer a 12X12 ft. studio with some furniture, wireless internet connection, and limited access to a wood shop. The studio is located in our 1,800 square foot space with three other Berwick artist studios.

This program is designed for emerging artists who are near the beginning of their careers and are not enrolled in undergraduate studies. The Berwick encourages artists from outside of Boston to apply; however, we are unable to supply housing or transportation.



Project Proposal

Submit a 2-page proposal describing the concept and proposed content of your research project. Questions to consider are: What is the concept, content, and context of the proposed project? What specific activities do you anticipate undergoing during the AIR residency? What are possible challenges and obstacles that you anticipate as you develop this project and how will you overcome them? What is the continued life of the project after the residency ends? How does your project fit the AIR program's mission and specific resources? Each proposal should be accompanied by a list of anticipated technical needs. **Please note that the AIR jury considers the proposal to be the most significant element of the application.**

Submission of Support Materials

Please submit support materials of past projects and your current work in progress if possible. We accept any combination of slides, photos, texts, CDs, DVDs, cued VHS tapes, or Power Point files. Accompany all support materials with a slide sheet or written description of each piece including the title, date, medium and any background details. Do not submit more than 10 slides, photos or image files, no more than 5 pages of additional texts, and no more than 5 minutes of video.

Do not send original work and do not send any valuable technology. We will not accept submissions via email.

Please include:

1. Your email address and phone number for acknowledgement of the receipt of your work and for notification of jury results.
2. A SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) for return of support materials.

We cannot return support materials without a SASE with sufficient postage.

Overseas Applicants: For return of support material, please make sure your postal coupons have sufficient postage for U.S. postal requirements. Also, allow extra time for delivery of application materials so they arrive within a week of the deadline.

Jury

The Berwick AIR panels include Berwick members, distinguished artists, curators, AIR alumni and arts professionals in every stage of their careers. Applicants are judged solely on the quality and feasibility of their proposed project and its fit with the Berwick mission and resources.

Notification

Results will be emailed to each applicant by March 15th, 2008. Information on the progress of an application will not be given before the final decisions are announced.



Deadline: Applications must arrive at the Berwick PO Box by February 1, 2008. This is not a postmark deadline. The Berwick is not able to accept mail at our street address therefore we cannot accept hand delivered applications.

Sessions: 1. April 1- June 15
2. July 1 – September 15
3. October 1 –December 15

Stipend: The exact amount of the stipend will depend on funding, which is currently pending. We anticipate the amount to be between \$600 and \$1500.

Residency: Artists in Research are provided with a raw studio space in a communal environment during their session. The Berwick is unable to supply artists with housing at this time, but can help direct artists to housing resources in the Boston area.

Support: Artists are offered administrative support for publicity, events, and procuring materials. The Berwick community offers creative feedback during critiques and events. The Berwick is an artist run volunteer organization.

Documentation/Final Report:

Research documentation is a significant element of the AIR Program. The Artist in Research is provided with a multi-media online journal on the Berwick Research Institute's website and is expected to keep detailed documentation of their research. **At the end of each residency, the artist is required to produce a final report documenting their experience and describing their findings during their residency.** This report will be included in a multi-media publication created by the Berwick to highlight each AIR artist. The publication will be widely distributed throughout Boston.

"Giving Back" to the Berwick:

This is a new element to the AIR Program. It was inspired by the many AIR alumni that return to the Berwick after their residency to help out in a variety of ways. They have participated in AIR artist crits, become members of the Berwick Board, helped out with fundraising, and donated time and expertise to help the Berwick on occasion. This year we are making it a permanent part of an AIR residency. Each Air resident will be required to "give back" to the Berwick as the artist sees fit within one year of the end of their residency term. The curators will work out the terms of this relationship on a case-by-case basis with each artist. Our intent is to create a community of creative reciprocity and will consider many different interpretations of the term "giving back."

Applicant Checklist:

- Completed Application Form
- Curriculum vitae, bio, resume or list of professional experience related to your project
- 2 page project description
- List of technical needs and special materials
- Support materials including slides, photos, CD, cued VHS videotape and/or 5 pages of additional text. If applicable please include a list with corresponding title, medium, and date..
- SASE with sufficient postage for return of materials



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**Artist in Research Residency Program
Application Form**

Name:

Citizenship:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email Address:

Area of Concentration:

Preference of Residency Months:

How did you hear about the Berwick's AIR program?

Please write a 2-3 sentences summary of your project here:

Application Deadline: February 1, 2008

Submit all materials to:
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