

## ARCUS Project 2026 IBARAKI

### Artist-in-Residence Program Outline

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

ARCUS Project's artist-in-residence program provides opportunities for artists in the field of contemporary art to cultivate their artistic creativity and vision. Located around an hour from Tokyo, a residency at ARCUS Studio allows artists in the program to come into contact with the contemporary art scene in Japan as well as devote themselves to their creative endeavors in a calm environment while interacting with the local community. The program offers dedicated staff support and regular tutorials with a curator, enabling artists to explore thoughts, techniques and approaches in their practices and undertake new challenges in their artistic expression.

The program particularly emphasizes research-based experimentation and practices focusing on the artists' individually defined inquiries and challenges, and presents the initial results of these processes at open studios. It welcomes ideas for artworks and projects that develop out of encounters with people, the land, and culture, and aspire to form critical spaces that are open and international.

In 2026, the ARCUS Project will relocate to a site on the grounds of a currently operating elementary school in Moriya City. While maintaining the quality of the creative environment, we hope to develop programs even more open and engaged with the local community.

#### **II. PROGRAM OUTLINE**

##### **Program Name**

ARCUS Project 2026 IBARAKI Artist-in-Residence Program

##### **Program Period**

September 11 through December 9, 2026 (90 days)

The schedule is subject to change.

The program period includes official events, which are indicated in Section V.

##### **Number of Artists**

2 artists/groups (concurrently with one artist / group residing in Japan)

##### **New Location**

ARCUS Studio (in Koya elementary school)  
1342 Koya, Moriya, Ibaraki 302-0125  
Map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/Ki3qngPhc5cS3ia56>

##### **Organizer**

ARCUS Project Administration Committee  
(Ibaraki Prefectural Government, Moriya City, Ibaraki International Association)

**The program outline and provisions are subject to change.**

#### **III. ELIGIBILITY**

The applicant must:

- be an artist engaged in contemporary visual arts or other related fields.
- be resident outside Japan and able to enter Japan legally.

--- not be enrolled at an educational institution during the program period unless it is a PhD program.

--- have an English-language ability proficient enough to communicate with other artists and staff.

Applications are accepted from groups. However, all provisions (transportation fee, allowance, accommodation, etc.) are for one individual only (not per person). These may be shared between the members of a group.

#### **IV. PROGRAM PROVISIONS—What we offer**

Each artist is provided with the following support during the program period:

##### **A. Studio**

--- One classroom converted into a studio (Approx. 65 m<sup>2</sup>) \*The studio is housed in the currently operating elementary school.

--- The studio has air conditioning and an internet connection.

--- An artist is required to bring/prepare the specific tools, equipment, computer, and software necessary for their artistic activities. Although minimum tools (e.g. drill, screwdriver, hammer, and saw, etc.) are available, studios are not equipped with professional facilities such as a workshop, studio for shooting, or editing room. ARCUS Studio also cannot provide an SLR camera, video camera, tripod, or monitor/projector.

##### **B. Accommodation**

--- Each artist is provided with a furnished studio-style apartment that includes basic electric appliances near ARCUS Studio. The apartment may not be equipped with an elevator or ramp.

--- Accommodation is only for single occupants and no more than two persons cannot be accommodated. The artist is solely responsible for their expenses as well as safety. The accommodation fee is charged for the accompanying individual as follows:

[Accommodation fee] [Rental fee for bedding]

1,500 JPY per day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1–14 nights: 1,000 JPY per night</li><li>• Up to 15 nights: 15,000 JPY</li><li>• Up to 30 nights: 20,000 JPY</li><li>• Up to 90 nights: 35,000 JPY</li></ul>
-------------------	--

##### **C. Transportation fee**

Round-trip (economy class) airfare from the international airport nearest their home to Narita International Airport or Tokyo International Airport is provided.

##### **D. Allowance**

540,000 JPY is provided for the 90-day program period as living expenses and production fee.

The allowance:

--- is confirmed at the time of invitation.

--- is directly handed to the artist at the beginning of the program.

##### **NOTES**

If the artist leaves the program for more than 9 days for any reason that is not related to their research, the amount of allowance will be reduced according to their exact period of

stay. The program provisions are subject to change due to changes in the program outline.

Please be aware that for those participating from countries without tax treaties with Japan and countries with tax treaties but for which taxes are not exempt, an income tax of approximately 20% will be withheld from the stipend provided. This includes both production and living stipends. (Please contact your local embassy, consulate, or other appropriate organization for more details.) In addition, if the artist resides in a country that has tax treaties with Japan, he/she will be required to provide documents certifying residence will be required.

## **E. Support**

The studio team coordinates meetings with Japanese arts professionals, informants, and interpreters, assist an artist in making arrangements necessary for their activities, and also facilitate communication with the local community.

## **V. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS – What you do**

To participate in the residency program, artists are required to:

- give first priority to the activities at ARCUS Project during the program period.
- be based at the studio for the activities in principal. When artists leave the studio in order to conduct research for their projects, inform ARCUS Project Administration Committee and obtain consent in advance.
- inform ARCUS Project Administration Committee and obtain consent in advance in case they are scheduled to participate in other artistic activities or exhibitions during the program period.
- participate in official events on the designated dates.

During ARCUS Project 2026 IBARAKI Artist-in-Residence Program, artists participated in the following as official events:

Welcome party, courtesy visit to the prefectural governor, courtesy visit to the mayor's office, Open Studios, public talks, studio tour for kids, talk and meetings with the curators. (All program details are subject to change.)

- follow the regulations and terms/conditions of ARCUS Project Administration Committee.
- follow the regulations and terms regarding the use of the public building where ARCUS Studio is located.
- refrain from carrying out profit-making activities during the program period.
- cooperate with the Administration Committee for publicity and other activities related to the promotion of the program.

Artist is expected to:

1. be cooperative with interviews and other requests from various media such as newspapers, TV, and public relations magazines.
2. agree that the copyright of all photographs and video footage made to record the activities by the organizer during the program period belongs to ARCUS Project Administration Committee.
3. be cooperative with requests concerning use of photographs and video footage for the publicity and promotion of ARCUS Project.
4. be cooperative with the future publicity of ARCUS Project.

- inform ARCUS Project Administration Committee about activities such as exhibitions related to the project you conduct during the program period.

- mention ARCUS Project 2026 IBARAKI Artist-in-Residence Program on your CV after finishing the residency program.
- present the result/process of your research during the residency program within one year from the day you leave Japan and inform ARCUS Project Administration Committee about this, such as date, venue, etc.

Some examples of a presentation are:

1. Holding an exhibition, performance, lecture, or workshop in a country other than Japan
2. Publishing the results/reviews of the stay through media such as newspapers, magazines, or online.

In regard to the program requirements listed above, the artist is expected to sign a statement of mutual agreement upon invitation. The artist who breaches the agreed conditions and obligations may be subject to cancellation of the invitation and all provisions, withdrawal of partial provisions, or refund of allowance and airfare paid in advance, depending on the scope of violation.

## VI. TO APPLY

Please download the **Application Guidelines** from ARCUS Project website (<https://www.arcus-project.com/en/open-call/>), and follow the procedure.

There are three steps in the online application process:

**Step 1** Upload and send personal information, statement, and proposal.

**Step 2** Upload JPEG images of your artworks and PDFs of your CV according to the instructions on the application page. If you wish to provide information on video/sound works, download the optional video description form from our website and fill out the required information. Then upload it as a PDF.

**Step 3** Pay the 3,500 JPY application fee using the credit card in the automated confirmation email.

Please be sure to complete payment of the application fee by the deadline. Failure to do so will mean your application is void and not accepted for screening, even if you have submitted the application materials. Please note that the application fee is non-refundable. If you are having problems with your credit card transaction, you can resolve the problem by contacting your credit card company and lowering the security level.

\*The application and application fee will be accepted from February 17.

### Application Materials

- 1) Statement (English only)  
Briefly describe your main concerns and/or focus on your activities as an artist. (max. 200 words).
- 2) Proposal (English only)  
What kind of research/project/work would you like to conduct, and how will you realize it? (max. 350 words)
- 3) Images and description of artworks (max. 5 works total including video)
- 4) CV (max. 3 pages)

5) Video description (optional; max. 3 videos; max. 15 minutes in total)

If you wish to include video works with your application, please upload the files to a video hosting website such as YouTube and Vimeo, and then include the link(s) in your application.

Applications that do not use the designated sizes, formats, or procedures will not be accepted for screening.

An applicant cannot submit more than one application.

For group applications, please write the name of one representative in the name section in the entry form. Also, please include a group name and all members in the statement box. No multiple applications are allowed by other members of the group.

## **VII. APPLICATION PERIOD**

**February 17 through March 19, 2026** (23:59:59 JST).

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. The application portals for Step 1 and Step 2 will close at the deadline above. Please note that the deadline follows Japan Standard Time. Please do not submit any additional materials with your application.

Applicants who send extra materials will be disqualified from the screening.

## **VIII. SCREENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS**

- The expected number of artists/groups to be invited is two artists/groups.
- The screening process will be conducted in two stages by the selection committee. Only those applicants who pass the preliminary screening will proceed to the final selection (scheduled for May 2026).
- Applicants who pass the preliminary screening will be required to provide additional application materials and a self-introduction video.
- The final results will be announced and sent to the applicants by email by the end of May 2026.
- Please be aware that we cannot respond to individual inquiries concerning the selection process.

## **IX. CONTACT**

For inquiries, please email to [arcus@arcus-project.com](mailto:arcus@arcus-project.com)

Please be aware that we cannot respond to inquiries received after the application period has finished.

### **ARCUS Studio**

Open: Tuesday–Friday

Office Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Closed on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, and national holidays. Closed on Tuesday if Monday is a national holiday. Any inquiries sent when ARCUS Studio is closed will be answered the next working day. For any questions regarding the application process, please inquire by March 13<sup>th</sup>.

This program is subject to approval by the ARCUS Project Administration Committee. The program details are subject to change without prior notice.