



2025 Summer Youth Apprenticeship

Program Overview

The Summer Youth Apprenticeship was founded on the importance of passing on the history of Sloss and the many techniques and traditions of metal art. This paid, 8 week program, employs 10-15 high school students, aged 16-19, to work and study under professional artists for 30 hours per week. Students are introduced to a variety of processes and techniques in an interactive, individualized environment. While being introduced to new techniques, the apprentices will create an array of work from tiles and medallions to bookends and light switch covers to be sold in the Sloss Museum Store in support of the program. For their final projects, they will submit a professional proposal and maquette and spend the final 2 weeks executing their final sculpture. Their final pieces will be on display during an art reception open to the public at the conclusion of the program.

Our instructors are all professional artists working in cast iron or fabricated steel.

Apprentices can expect to learn:

- Site and tool safety
- Wood, wax, and oil-based clay sculpting
- Mold making
- Iron casting
- Welding
- Blacksmithing
- Fabrication
- Art exhibition preparation and installation
- Large scale sculpture and public art
- Critique methods
- Sculpture proposals and maquette building

Application Requirements

- Applicants must be 16 by the start of the program, or still in High School when they apply.
- Students must submit an application including the following items:
 - Completed application form
 - Two reference letters
 - Digital images of 3-8 samples of your art work (any medium)
- Applicants must attend the mandatory casting workshop. This is 5 hour workshop. Applicants may be interviewed at this time.
- Please submit applications to the web form at slossmetalarts.com/sya or via email to virginia@slossfurnaces.org

Details

Apprenticeship Dates: June 10th - August 1st, 2025

Location: Sloss Furnaces Foundry

Work Hours: Monday thru Friday
9:00AM to 3:30PM

Application Deadline: Friday, April 18th

Mandatory Casting Workshop*: Saturday, May 3rd, 10:00-3:30PM
All qualified applicants must participate in this workshop as an introduction to what a typical work day at Sloss will involve.

Questions? Want to know more about the Summer Youth Apprenticeship? Would you like a Sloss representative to visit your school? Please contact us at Virginia@slossfurnaces.org