



2026 Visiting Artist Residency

Sloss Furnaces Foundation hosts three 8-week visiting artists throughout the year. This program is designed for professional artists interested in developing their studio practice and honing technical foundry skills. Visiting Artists are provided with a furnished apartment near Sloss Furnaces, a living stipend, materials budget, resin-sand for moldmaking, iron, and 24-hour access to our sculpture facilities in Sloss' historic casting shed.

Visiting Artists are expected to have a final exhibition at the conclusion of their residency.

All Visiting Artists are expected to donate one piece of their work to Sloss Furnaces' permanent collection. These pieces are displayed throughout Sloss' campus and contribute to the site's rich artistic culture.

Residency Dates

- Residency dates are flexible depending on the selected artist's availability and the Metal Arts schedule. Please indicate general availability in the application form.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be 21+
- This opportunity is available to US-based and international applicants who can obtain their own visa for the duration of the residency. Candidates are responsible for their own travel arrangements and transportation while in Birmingham.
- Metal casting experience is required. Iron casting experience is highly preferred.
- This is an independent residency. Candidates should be comfortable with typical metalworking and foundry equipment. SMA staff is available to help as needed.
 - All artists working independently at Sloss must go through a shop and tool orientation checklist with the Foundry Manager

How to Apply

Please complete the form at slossmetalarts.com/VAR and upload the following in a single PDF:

- A letter of interest outlining your motivation for applying and your goals for the residency. Please describe specific projects you hope to complete at Sloss.
- 10 images of personal and/or commissioned work completed (please note if work was completed as a group/job, and what your role in the project was when applicable)
- Artist Statement
- Resume or CV

Program Benefits & Information

- Studio & foundry access from 6AM-Midnight
- 8-week residency duration
- \$1,000 Living Stipend
- \$1,000 Materials Budget (materials must be purchased through Sloss. This can include steel, hardware, abrasives, etc. Equipment purchased via funding remains the property of Sloss to benefit future Visiting Artists. There is no payout for unused funds. Material costs that exceed the allotted budget are to be funded by the Visiting Artist.)
- Furnished Apartment in Downtown Birmingham
 - Birmingham has limited public transportation, and walking is not a feasible option. We highly encourage residents to have their own transportation or plan on utilizing rideshare options (uber, lyft, etc.). Sloss is unable to assist with transportation costs.
- Sand & Iron are provided. Material usage that is deemed excessive may be prohibited or made available at the current per-pound shop rate.
- Assistance from the Sloss Metal Arts Crew is available during regular working hours, M-F, 8:30 AM-3:30 PM. It is highly recommended and preferred that Visiting Artists work during this time to collaborate with the Sloss crew and gain the most from their residency.

Residency Expectations

- Exhibition and public reception at Sloss at the end of the residency
 - Work is welcome to be for sale during the exhibition. Sales will be facilitated by Sloss, with Sloss retaining 15% of the final sale price.
 - Work must be removed at the conclusion of the residency. Sloss is unable to store work that is not part of the permanent collection.
- Donate one piece of artwork to Sloss Furnaces' permanent collection. This will be displayed on rotation throughout Sloss' campus. This could be work created during the residency, or existing work brought with you.
- We expect residents to spend the majority of their time at Sloss, working with the SMA crew and joining iron pours. This creates the best experience and learning opportunities for everyone!
- Sloss typically pours iron at least once a week, mostly on Wednesday mornings. Visiting Artists are responsible for ensuring their molds are prepped and ready to pour on scheduled pour dates.
- Upon acceptance of a residency offer, Visiting Artists must read through & sign a brief handbook outlining site & shop access rules and regulations, in addition to a Liability Waiver, Belief of Abandonment Agreement, and Visiting Artist Residency Acceptance Agreement. These must be reviewed and understood before arriving in Birmingham.

Questions? Please contact us at metalarts@slossfurnaces.org.

Sloss Furnaces | 20 32nd Street N | Birmingham, Alabama 35222 | 205-254-2025 | slossmetalarts.com