



Artist in Residence 2026 - Te ringatoi ā-kāinga taupua 2026

Information for applicants

He pārongo mā ngā kaitono

Photographer Kate van der Drift at Waitawa Regional Park

The Auckland Regional Parks Residency

This residency enables artists to immerse themselves in a remote location and experience parks 24/7 and in varying tide, light and weather conditions.

This residency:

- supports artists and showcases artistic endeavours in our regional parks
- uses the art created to interpret our parks (especially aspects and themes overlooked or undervalued)
- raises awareness of our regional parks as places of interest and inspiration.

We seek original proposals which showcase the character of the park, reveal insights from immersion in it and help enhance understanding of this place.

When is the residency?

The residency is for eight consecutive weeks from 1 October to 26 November 2026.

Where you might live and work

This residency moves each year to generate work about different parks. The selected artist for 2026 will live in Moonlight Bach and make art about Scandrett Regional Park.

Are you eligible?

We seek applications from mature, self-sufficient and adventurous artists. Artists need to have an exhibition or performance record and to commit to creating new work inspired by Scandrett Regional Park. Artists must be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents in New Zealand at the time of application.

What kind of art?

We welcome applications from artists working in all art forms. The setting would suit visual artists such as photographers, printmakers, painters, sculptors, filmmakers or installation artists and creators such as composers, writers and choreographers. The limited timeframe and artist fee may preclude completion of sizeable, costly or complex projects.

Can I collaborate?

Collaborations are welcomed but the artist fee will be shared between the artists.

Criteria for selection

Priority will be given to:

- artists making **exceptional** and **innovative** work
- artists creating site-specific or site-responsive work
- artists whose proposal requires living and working in a park environment
- artists who propose work on features unique to the park or on a significant characteristic
- artists committed to achieving clear outcomes from the residency
- artists with a proven track record of showing and sharing their work.

Priority may be given to:

- artists whose work park visitors and New Zealanders will find engaging and accessible.
- artists who offer interaction with others e.g. park visitors, park neighbours or volunteers
- artists living in the Auckland region or with connections to the Auckland region.

Conditions of the residency

The artist needs to:

- create **new art** related to the place or to the experience of the residency. This residency is not for artists wanting to complete work already started or for work on projects unrelated to the park
- live in residence, on the park, fulltime
- **create work which can be completed during the residency timeframe of eight weeks**
- engage with park visitors or the public in some way during or following their residency
- be available for photo or video shoots and interviews with media
- be independent, fit and healthy and divulge relevant medical conditions
- give or enable reproduction of artworks for interpretation/park awareness purposes.



Applications close Sunday 15 February 2026

Find out more visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/artistinresidence



The offer

Artist grant

An artist's fee of \$600 (GST excl) per week will be given to the selected artist to develop their work.

Accommodation

Free accommodation is provided for the residency from 1 October - 26 November 2026. Power and water costs will be paid by Auckland Council.

The cottage provided is in a scenic location with great views and access to the sea.

Exhibition or reproduction of work

Opportunities for the exhibition/performance of work developed while in residence may be offered at venues in or near the park.

Promotion

Park staff may provide assistance with related residency events such as a workshop or performance, or with an exhibition or publication. Auckland Council staff may facilitate media coverage and promotion via our website, social media, local newspapers and newsletters.

Support

Staff will provide background information on the park before the residency begins and offer orientation on arrival. Access to mana whenua may be possible via the Artist in Residence Co-ordinator.

Family

We support having family members stay or visit. However, the artist selected must make the most of their surroundings and manage their time to achieve their proposal within the timeframe. Where family members join the artist, all their costs (transport, food etc) and their safety will be the responsibility of the artist.

Tools, equipment and materials

Artists must bring with them any tools, materials and equipment they need. Local, found or natural material may be used but only with permission from the park rangers and mana whenua.

Transport

Artists need to have or arrange their own transport to the residency site and collect their own supplies.

When will I know the outcome?

The residency selection panel meets in March and the successful artist will be announced soon after. The selection panel's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

The Auckland Regional Parks Residency Programme began in 2008. Since then, we have hosted 22 artists in 11 regional parks. Artists selected in the past include sculptors, painters, poets, installation artists, photographers, filmmakers, sound designers, a choreographer, cartographer and jeweller.

Please email your application form and accompanying material in pdf form by 5pm, 15 February 2026 to:

ArtistinResidence@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz Files must be less than 10Mb.



2026 Artist in Residence accommodation Moonlight Bach



Scan the QR code to see what resident artists have created.

