Thank you for your interest in Open AIR's Residency Program! This is our Launch year and we are very excited about the line-up. There are 5 sites that artists will be selected for. Each has nuances, so please check the page of the site you are interested in. Here is a rundown of commonly asked questions.

1. **What does the term ‘artist’ mean?** For the purpose of Open AIR’s Pilot Program Residency, the term artist refers to a Creative with a fairly low-tech requirement. This can be visual artists, writers, dancers, thespians and musicians. The term ‘artist’ and ‘creative’ can/will be used interchangeably. See more about supporting equipment below.

2. **I live outside of the USA, can I apply?** Yes. Although you would be responsible for securing your VISA and traveling to Missoula. See question number 12 for more information about travel once you get here.

3. **What equipment is available for me to use?** All artists will have access to Community Resources. This is an evolving list, so please check back to see the most current resources available. Artists at Home ReSource have direct access to a woodshop and welding station. Artists at the Biostation have access to a woodshop and the Sensory Lab. All artists will have a studio space to create in.

4. **Where will I stay?** If you are applying as a Montana artist for the 10-day spring Residency, you are responsible for your lodging (unless you are at the Biostation, in which case you will stay in a cabin on campus grounds). If you are applying for a Summer residency you will stay in lodging in Missoula, the details of which will be known before creatives commit to the summer residency. We anticipate it being a nice spot and are working to have all artists in proximity. If you are applying for the Selway-Bitterroot site, you will stay in a cabin in the wilderness (see the site's information for more details.)

5. **Are there group activities I should be aware of?** In Missoula, there are group meals for artists plus a few interested community members once a week. At the end of the residency, there will be an exhibit and a brunch (schedule forthcoming). Artists are expected to attend all of these events under reasonable circumstances.

6. **Are there any other requirements?** Artists are required to leave a piece of work with Open AIR to build the collection and function as an educational piece for the community. Additionally, artists are strongly encouraged to participate in studio visits and check-ins.
during their stay. Spring artists are strongly encouraged to be a buddy artist for the Summer cohort (but this is not a requirement).

7. **What kind of support will be available to me?:** Artists will have the support of staff at each site as well as staff support and check-in from Open AIR. (Artists in the Selway-Bitterroot will have a radio to communicate with support). Also, in addition to peer-support of the fellow cohort, Summer and Fall artists will have the option to engage with a buddy artist from the community - someone they can ask questions, socialize with and become familiar with (see Question 8 for more info on buddies).

8. **What is a buddy system?:** Summer and Fall artists will be connected with another artist to increase opportunity for connection with the community, answer basic questions like 'where should I eat', 'what should I see', and foster dialogue and hopefully friendships. Artists will be introduced to their buddy during orientation and can make use of the resource as much or as little as they like.

9. **How much does the residency cost?:** The cost of the residency is **free.** Artists are responsible for their travels to and from Missoula. We can pick people up from the airport, and help get artists to their respective sites. Artists are also responsible for their food, but we are working on supplementing this with donations from the Community.

10. **Is there a stipend?:** Possibly. We are launching a Kickstarter Feb 14th. It is our hope to offer artists $25/day for their time at the residency - Spring, Summer, and Fall. Although we cannot guarantee it, we hope to offer stipends to all artists. Additionally, there may be a few teaching opportunities while you are here (primarily kids + community).

11. **How much does the application cost?:** The application for summer and fall is $20. The application for Spring is $15. If this is a barrier, please email info@openairmt.org.

12. **Do I need a car?:** No, and not necessarily. Missoula is a bike friendly and bus friendly city with free bus service. Open AIR will connect artists with bikes through Free Cycles. In saying that, Moon-Randolph, in particular, is a little further out and would be a commitment to get to via bike and is not on the bus route. The Biostation is remote. The artist will have an option to go into town with someone else who may be going in, but if you would like the freedom to explore the surrounding area, or going into town as you please, we recommend that you bring or rent a vehicle.

13. **Can I bring my dog?:** Due to added complexity with housing, this year we do not allow pets to join the residency.

14. **Can I bring my family?:** Creatives can apply as a duo or can bring a significant other. Preference will be given to couples who both have a creative practice, but they are not required to be working collaboratively. Please apply separately and indicate the name of
your partner. Partner groups will be required to share studio and lodging (separate beds can be provided) and will be assigned to the same site.

15. **How much time do I need to spend at my site?** There is not a minimum number of hours, but this is a unique site-based opportunity. Preference is given to artists interested in exploring and engaging the site. There are many libraries of historical information and resources the artists will have access to, and we are interested in connecting artists to each site who are committed to their practice who are curious and enthusiastic about the opportunity.

16. **Can you accommodate artists with disabilities?** Most of our sites are ADA approved. Please contact info@openairmt.org or call (406) 578-3303 to discuss individual concerns.

17. **Do I need to have wilderness skills for my residency?** Only for the Selway-Bitterroot Residency. All other sites do not require wilderness skills or minimum fitness levels. However, we recommend a general interest in being active outside since there are so many wonderful opportunities to take advantage of in this community, but this is not a requirement.

18. **What if I have other questions not answered here?** Feel free to email: info@openairmt.org or call (406) 578-3303.