Caldera’s Artists in Residence (AiR) Program

Through our AiR program, Caldera supports artists, creatives, and cultural workers to build skills, relationships, and projects that inspire growth and activate change. Residents draw inspiration from the residency community and the natural world surrounding the Caldera Arts Center in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains.

Caldera offers 2 and 3.5 week residencies January through March. A cohort of 5 artists/collaborations is in residence each month.

Residencies are open to US-based and international artists, creatives and cultural workers in any discipline. Artists at any stage of their careers who are not current students are eligible. Residencies are also available for parent artists who would like to bring their children (more information below).

AiR Priorities
Residencies are open to US-based and international artists, creatives and cultural workers in any discipline. Artists at any stage of their careers who are not current students at the time of the residency are eligible.

Caldera supports collaborations of up to 4 people, as well as individuals.

Proposals for residencies must be compatible with available working studio spaces, facilities, and resources.

Caldera has identified the following as priorities for our Artists in Residence Program, and selection is made with these in mind.

- Artists and cultural workers who identify as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, or People of Color). Caldera’s benchmark for 2021 is for BIPOC artists to make up 90% of our residents.
- Teaching artists who have experience working with racially/ethnically diverse groups of young people. Teaching artist applicants are invited to propose a multi-session workshop for high school-aged youth that they would like to teach during their residency.
- Artists and cultural workers who are advancing cultural and social change through their work.
- Parents, particularly parents of color (see details below).

Stipends
Stipends of $800 or $1200 will be provided to all artists in residence depending on the length of their residency.

Setting
The Caldera Arts Center is located at an altitude of 3,500 feet in the eastern foothills of the Cascade Mountains. We sit on the shores of Blue Lake, the third deepest lake in Oregon, among 120 acres of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir surrounded by Deschutes National Forest. By design, residents form a small community of 7–12 artists. Collaboration and exchange is encouraged.
Residents are given 24-hour access to all facilities and the time and space to create. All residents have access to the Hearth Building including a Library common area with fireplace, A/V systems, and a well-equipped commercial kitchen. Please visit our Arts Center page for photos of our facilities. Residency periods are in winter and early spring when weather is variable in the Cascades. Applicants should prepared for up to 4 feet of snow on the ground, heavy snowfall, rain, and temperatures from the 50s to the teens.

Due to our rural location, applicants should be comfortable with a high degree of solitude and disconnection from the outside world. The closest town, Sisters, is 25 minutes away by car.

Additional elements that applicants should be aware of:
- There is little to no cell service at Caldera. Dependable service is a 20-minute drive away in Sisters. A landline phone is available for calls using a calling card.
- Wi-Fi is available throughout the Hearth Building, studios, and cabins, however due to our rural location, it can be slow and unreliable and is not appropriate for streaming media.
- We regret that pets are not allowed.
- Caldera is smoke-free.
- We are a child-friendly residency and welcome children to participate as part of our residency community. Applicants should be comfortable with children in shared common areas, at weekly shared dinners and other gatherings.
- Overnight guests are not allowed. Accommodations for visitors are available in the local area and range from 2–16 miles from Caldera. Exceptions are for parent artists who may have their children and a caretaker stay overnight in their cabin and artists being dropped off the first night of the residency.

Accessibility
Caldera’s Studios and the Hearth Building are ADA accessible, however our cabins are not. Winter weather including ice and snow on the ground and walkways also impacts accessibility at our facility. Please contact us directly with specific questions or provide information about your needs in your application.

Accommodations
Residents are provided a private a-frame cabin with sleeping loft, living room/work area, kitchenette, bathroom with shower, and a porch overlooking Link Creek. Wireless internet is available in all cabins.

Cabin kitchens have a coffee pot, two-burner stove, toaster oven, Instant Pot, microwave, small refrigerator, dishes, and pots and pans.

Cabins are heated by electric heat and wood stoves (wood provided). Linens and towels are provided.

Studio Spaces
Writers and others not needing an expansive space work in their a-frame cabins, which contain a large table and living area. A shared loft space in the Hearth Building is optional for writers and digital artists.

Performing artists work in the Hearth Building Grand Room, which is a large, light-filled semi-private space with a sprung wood floor, audio/visual system and lighting system. The main floor area is 65' x 40' and the stage is 24' x 20'.

Visual artists work in one of Caldera's two studios which feature natural light and large white walls: The Campbell Studio is a private studio for visual artists of all kinds. One side of Campbell Studio has two electric kilns, a slab roller, pottery wheel, drying shelves, a work table, sink and counter; the other side has large walls, a work table, a large and small sink and counters. The main floor is 42' x 27'. This studio also has a 18' x 26' loft for additional workspace.

The Photo Studio has large walls, a sink, counter, work table, a darkroom with related equipment, and an etching press. The main floor is 48' x 26'. This studio also has a 10' x 18' loft for additional workspace. Artists should be able to practice their work independently without assistance and provide their own materials and tools.

Meals
Due to COVID, we are suspending our shared dinners and providing residents with weekly food boxes including local produce, grains, beans and other products.

Equipment
Caldera's visual arts studios include some equipment that is available for residents including: two kilns, pottery wheel, slab roller, drying shelves, a darkroom, projectors, and etching press. Our performing arts studio includes a full audio/visual system with microphones and large screen projection, and a lighting system. Extra tables and chairs are also available for residents if needed.

Residents provide all other tools and materials.

Parent Artists
Offering residencies that welcome children to attend with their parent(s) is a natural extension of our mission, and we honor children as a part of our residency community. Please contact staff with any questions.

- Parent artists are welcome to attend with their children and another caretaker. Children and caretaker can come and go from Caldera as needed. Artists in residence should plan to reside at Caldera for the entire residency.
- Children and caretakers are welcome to attend weekly dinners provided by Caldera.
- Caldera does not provide childcare, but we can assist parents in connecting with local providers who are willing to provide childcare onsite.
- Caldera has two pack and plays, two high chairs, baby gates and outlet covers for families to use in their cabin and/or studio.
We are in a rural area in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains, and travel can be difficult in the winter due to the amount of snow we receive. That said, the snow provides lots of opportunity for outdoor fun for children (sledding, snowshoeing, building forts, etc.). We are about 25 minutes away from Sisters, the closest town.

Respect and Anti-Oppression Policies

Caldera’s Artists in Residence Program strives to create a creative and supportive environment for exploration, personal growth, community-building, and healing, which centers the needs of people of color.

In alignment with Caldera’s values including working to increase racial equity, we are committed to creating a space that is free of racism, transphobia, homophobia, ableism, misogyny, classism, or other bias.

We expect those involved in Caldera's programming, including staff and AiR, to:

- Be conscious of privilege in respect to differences including race, ethnicity, first languages, ability, socioeconomic status, religion, gender identity, sexuality, age, education, size, and national origin.
- Use considerate, inclusive language and remain conscious of language's ability to negatively impact others by reinforcing systems of power and privilege.
- Use the language identified by others in reference to their name, pronoun, or other identifiers. If language is described by others as harmful, we expect new language to be used.
- Respect physical and emotional boundaries including:
  - Obtain permission before visiting others’ studios or living quarters
  - Obtain verbal consent before touching another person or engaging in discussions of an intimate nature
  - Refrain from taking photos or videos of others or their work without their permission
- Respect the opinions, beliefs, and points of view of others.

Harassment

Caldera does not tolerate harassment of any kind against any member of the community including artists in residence, youth, family members, staff, or guests. Harassment is conduct that demeans or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

If you feel unsafe at any time, please contact a Caldera staff member immediately, no matter the time of day or night. Your safety is our highest priority.

Conflict Resolution

If conflicts arise, residents are encouraged to attempt to reach a resolution among themselves if it is safe to do so. We recognize that individuals experiencing harm do not need to bear the burden of resolution alone. AiR are encouraged to seek help from a Caldera staff member. Staff can provide support and work with AiR to create a plan to address the situation.

Removing someone from the community is considered a last resort, however Caldera reserves the right to immediately terminate the residency of any individual who threatens the safety of others or causes destruction of Caldera property.
Controlled Substances + Firearms

The use of illegal drugs is not permitted on Caldera property. We expect that choices made in regard to other controlled substances will take into consideration the safety and comfort of the group and respect for shared spaces.

Smoking including e-cigarettes/vaping is permitted only in designated outdoor areas. Smoking of any kind indoors is strictly prohibited.

Firearms are not permitted on Caldera property. Our neighbors have a target shooting range on their property, so it is possible that you could hear gunfire while at Caldera, although this is uncommon in winter. If you have any concerns or would like more information, do not hesitate to reach out to Caldera staff.