

Queer Residency at Heima — Open Call 2025

a residency and cultural exchange for LGBTQIA+ artists and activists in Seyðisfjörður, Iceland

TIMELINE

Application deadline: 11.45pm 10th March 2025

Interviews: end of March

Successful Applicants notified: early April

Residency itself : 19 September - 31 October 2025

WHO

- Applications are welcomed by **all artists and activists from the LGBTQIA+ community** that wish to deepen their practice within a collective living environment
- In each programme we have **6-7 artists** - you can apply as an individual or as a duo
- The programme is hosted by Ra Tack (they/them), Ju Canon (they/he) and Bella Podpadec (they/them)

WHAT

- A flexible, largely self-guided residency programme, that emerges from the collective input of participants, with emphasis on care and world-building
- An opportunity to live and work alongside other LGBTQIA+ artists and activists in a beautiful, remote town in Iceland
- We have weekly check-ins, will run workshops, can support exhibitions, film screenings, parties, performances, crits (etc.) and together with you, will run workshops for local Queer youth

WHERE

- **Seyðisfjörður**, is a small town in the east of Iceland, known for its vibrant artistic community, mountains and enduring spirit
- The residency is held in **Heima** - a collectively owned and artist-run, house and studios in the centre of town

WHEN

- The residency will run for **6 weeks 19 Sept - 31 Oct 2025**
- We will be accepting applications **1st Feb - 10th March**
- We will aim to hold interviews before the end of March

WHY

- To give LGBTQIA+ artists and activists the opportunity to live and work alongside each other - to work on their art, projects or research and practice world-building, in community, in a place known for being relatively accepting for LGBTQIA+ folk
- To generate dialogue and cultural exchange between international and local members of the LGBTQIA+ community, understanding that our struggles are connected and our liberation bound together
- To foster positive representation for LGBTQIA+ people in the East of Iceland, particularly for Queer youth
- To build bridges, explore solidarity, allyship and connection: to each other, to our bodies, to the wider world, both within the LGBTQIA+ community and beyond

The residency supports participants in to sharing work via exhibitions, screenings, performances, lectures, workshops, parties and collaboration with a local and global audience - enriching culture not only for LGBTQIA+ people but for everyone, not just here, but everywhere

COSTS

- A fee of **120.000 ISK** (Icelandic Krona, roughly 820EUR) - for housing and studios space for the full 6 weeks and flyers/ posters for events - is to be paid in advance to Heima Collective to secure your space and is nonrefundable
- **Participants are responsible** for their own travel, food, materials and miscellaneous expenses
- We aim to have at least one **supported, low income space** available - please indicate if you require this - or if you would be **open to paying more** to help support an artist who might not otherwise be able to join please indicate

ACCESSIBILITY

- The hosts can speak **English, Flemish, French and basic Icelandic**
- Unfortunately the house is **not wheelchair accessible** - bedrooms are located up one flight of steep stairs, studios are mostly on the ground floor, with a low and narrow door to enter
- The town can get very icy / snowy
- We aim to have at least one **supported, low income space** available - please indicate if you require this - or if you would be **open to paying more** to help support an artist who might not otherwise be able to join please indicate
- Families, carers and people in need of support workers are welcome to apply - please indicate in your application if you would require more than one room / bed
- The hosts are neurodivergent and aim to make the residency accessible in this respect
- **Please let us know any further access needs and how we might better support you in joining us!**

THE TOWN

- Seyðisfjörður is a vibrant, port town and community of about 600 people in the East Fjords
- Historically known as a fishing town, the main industry is now tourism but also famed for the number of artists passing through, living and making work
- The town has a large number of amenities for a place this size, including: a pool, gym, cinema, school, general store, community centre, pharmacy, art centre, art school, print workshop, wellness centre, wood and metal workshops, town hall, bank, sports hall, library and ski slope
- There is a bus that runs regularly over the mountain to the larger town of Egilsstaðir
- You can fly from Reykjavik to Egilsstaðir, there is also a ferry from Denmark that docks in town
- Occasionally the mountain pass - Fjarðarheiði - is closed due to exceptionally bad weather, cutting Seyðisfjörður off from the rest of the country
- Some parts of town can be evacuated after heavy weather due to avalanche or mudslide risk (the residency is in one of the safest zones so this is unlikely to impact the programme)

THE HOUSE

- Heima is an independent, non-profit, artist-run, collective house founded in 2013
- The space is a 350m² - living and studios

- The living space: downstairs there is a living room, dining room, shower room and fully equipped kitchen. On the floors above there is another shower room and 6 bedrooms - single and double occupancy (all linens and towels provided)
- Soundproofing is minimal - you can hear everything!
- In the past participants have created cooking and cleaning rotas, sharing most meals and household chores
- On the east side of the house is the studio space: three small private studios, two bigger communal studios, a cozy hang out space with a fireplace, a work-and tool space, a laundry room and a small storage cave
- We have a small garden with a big tree and a rose bush and a big terrace on the south side of the house

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit one PDF document titled LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_QRH_Application

In this document include:

- 500 words max. - letter of motivation (why you want to take part and your experience with collectivity!)
- 500 words max. - project, practice or research description (what you want to do here!)
- 500 words max. - short biography including any information you find relevant for us to get a sense of who you are (you could include: age / nationality / languag(es) / pronouns / education / experience etc.)
- Documentation of your work (attached images / links / websites etc.)
- Extra information (an emergency contact, access needs, if you need the financially supported space or if you are up for paying more to support someone)

If you would rather submit in audio or video format you are more than welcome!

Please send applications to queer@h-e-i-m-a.com

Any questions please feel free to reach out to us at the same address

We look forward to hearing from you!!!