

FAQ

What is La Becque Artist Residency?

La Becque artist residency was developed under the auspices of the Fondation Françoise Siegfried-Meier.

A violinist of renown born in 1914, Françoise Siegfried-Meier showed an unswerving commitment to the artists of her time. Generous and passionate, she expressed a wish to durably support a number of public organizations and institutions, particularly in the field of the arts, by creating a foundation bearing her name.

Françoise Siegfried-Meier wish for her family's domain in La Tour-de-Peilz to become a haven of creativity and exchange is now realized through La Becque, a residency infrastructure that is a natural fit for this unique and stunningly beautiful site.

La Becque ambitions to host and to foster the creativity of artists of all backgrounds and disciplines. Residents will benefit from an exceptional location and infrastructure, as well as networks conducive to accomplishing the project they have been selected for.

Our Principal Residency Program participants will be selected globally by a transdisciplinary jury of experts. The program is oriented towards confirmed artists as well as up-and-coming practitioners with a high development potential.

The residency program will dedicate particular attention to projects exploring the interplay of nature and technology – two notions which are more than ever intertwined and at the core of contemporary preoccupations.

How can I participate in La Becque's Principal Residency Program?

There is one Call for Applications per year for our Principal Residency Program. Our current Call for Applications (seeking 2021 residents) opens March 1, 2020 on our website <http://labecque.ch>. Application deadline is March 31, 2020, at midnight CEST (Central European Summer Time)

Who can apply for a residency within the Principal Residency Program?

Our Principal Residency Program welcomes applications from Swiss and international professional artists working in a wide range of disciplines, including:

- architecture
- critical writing
- design (product design, graphic design, design research)
- film
- media arts
- music and sound art
- performing arts
- photography
- visual arts

Curators, critics and theorists active in research fields connected to cultural practices are also encouraged to apply.

Emerging as well as established artists are welcome to apply – but applicants must be professional in their field and strive for excellence in it.

Applicants must show proof of specialized training or an equivalent track record, recognition among their peers, and a history of publicly showing their work.

Applicants should not be enrolled in undergraduate or graduate degree programs at the date of application. Doctoral students who have finished all coursework may apply.

Applicants must be at least 23 years of age.

Are there other residency programs available at La Becque?

La Becque developed several Partner Residency Programs. These partnership programs are specifically announced, have their own rules and own juries. Principal Residency Program application criteria and guidelines as well as application form are only valid for said Program.

How long is a residency within the Principal Program? Are there minimum and maximum stay lengths?

The Principal Residency Program offers two residency durations. Applicants can apply for three-month or six-month residencies. Three months is the minimum, six months the maximum. Intermediary residency durations are in principle not possible.

At the time of application, applicants must specify the desired length of their stay.

Applicants interested in a three-month residency must name a preferred 3-month period as well as a second-choice period among these same 3-month blocks, which are: January-March 2021 / May-July 2021 / September-November 2021.

Applicants interested in a six-month residency can name a preference for either a block of six successive months (from January to June 2021, or from May to October 2021), or name a preference for a combination of two three-month blocks which must then be January-March 2021 and September-November 2021.

Can I postpone my residency?

The Call for Applications for the Principal Residency Program issued in a specific year seeks applicants and attributes residencies for the following year.

For example: the 2020 Call for Applications seeks applicants and attributes residencies for 2021, and so on.

For organisational reasons La Becque can't postpone residencies that were granted for a specific year to another year.

Can collaborators, duos, couples, or collectives apply for a residency?

Yes.

Keep in mind however that when we attribute a residency for a specific project, whatever the constitution of the applicant, what we offer remains the same: collective applications must take into consideration that their members will share infrastructure (one apartment and, where appropriate, one exclusive or shared studio space) and financial resources (one stipend per project).

How do I apply? What do I need to submit?

Applicants will be asked to complete and upload the following documentation within the online application (find the form on www.labecque.ch)

– Principal Residency Program Application Form

– One .pdf document including, in this order (max. 30MB):

1. **Pitch of your project proposal** (max. 700 characters)
2. **Short biography** including a brief description of the applicant's practice (max 1000 characters)
3. **Project proposal** (max 2 pages) highlighting:
 - The specifics of the work the applicant intends to accomplish at La Becque
 - The reasons why the project will benefit from being worked at La Becque specifically
 - The networks and environments the applicant intends to leverage on behalf of the project
 - How the project fits into the applicant's practice
4. Full **curriculum vitae** (max 4 pages)
5. One **reference letter** from a professional in the applicant's field. The letter should outline why the applicant should be selected and how they might benefit from a residency at La Becque, as well as the Referent's address and contact information.
6. **Digital portfolio** presenting 3 work samples:
 - All submitted work samples should have been completed within the past five years, unless otherwise noted.
 - Any work done with a collaborator must be noted as such, and roles with respect to the work must be clearly explicated

What are you looking for in a project description?

In their residency project outline (see Application Guidelines), candidates must show an explicit and structured interest in the guiding themes developed in the Principal Residency Program, namely the notions of nature and technology and their interplay.

In their residency project outline, applicants must also clearly state why their project will specifically benefit from being developed at La Becque, what they expect to draw from our location and our networks, and what specific part of the project will particularly benefit from the residency.

In short: **why does the applicant's project necessitate or justify a stay at La Becque?**

In addition, applicants must specify their work space needs – especially if they are applying as a couple or collective.

Who reviews my application?

Applications are first reviewed by La Becque's administrative team to make sure they fit the requirements outlined in our Application Criteria and Application Guidelines. Applications that fit requirements are then reviewed by our Principal Residency Program Jury.

Jury composition changes on a rolling basis. For our 2019 Call, the Jury is composed of:

Alexandre Babel (percussionist and composer - Berliner Ensemble, Eklekto Percussions)
Latifa Echakhch (visual artist)
Jean-Paul Felley (curator and director of the Ecole Cantonale d'Art du Valais - ECAV)
Sabine Himmelsbach (director - HEK Haus des elektronischen Künste Basel)
Elise Lammer (curator and art critic - Institut Kunst HGK FHNW, HEAD-Genève, SALTS Basel)
Stefano Stoll (director - Images Vevey)

As well as:

Anne-Catherine de Perrot (member of the Board, Fondation Françoise Siegfried-Meier)
Tamara Jenny Devrient (member of the Board, Fondation Françoise Siegfried Meier)
Luc Meier (director, La Becque Artist Residency)

How frequently can I apply?

Applicants may apply to the Principal Residency Program every two years.

I've applied before and I'm applying again – do I need to submit a full application?

Yes. All applicants in a given year should submit a complete, up-to-date application.

When does your call open, and what are your application deadlines?

Our 2020 Call for 2021 residencies opens on March 1, 2020. Application deadline is March 31, 2020 (midnight CEST). The next call for Principal Residency Program applications will be issued in early 2021.

Applicants can only apply to the Call that is currently open.

What is provided as part of the Principal Residency Program?

La Becque's Principal Residency Program provides the opportunity for artists to live and work on our unique site in La Tour-de-Peilz for periods of three months or six months.

Artists-in-residence are provided with a live-work apartment for the time of their stay. The apartments

are specifically designed for their artist-in-residence use.

Each apartment is 80sqm in size, with a fully equipped kitchen, own washer and dryer, separate bedroom and bathroom and a flexible main live-work space of approx. 40sqm, plus a terrace facing Lake Geneva.

Depending on the needs outlined by their residency project, residents will be granted exclusive or shared use of additional studio space. Our studios are 30sqm in size with 3.70m ceiling height and offer ample natural daylight.

Residents will receive a monthly stipend (CHF 1'500) to offset the costs of day-to-day living and partial cost of materials.

What is required from residents during a residency?

Residents will be asked to abide by La Becque's house rules, encouraged to interact with other residents and pertinent contacts provided by La Becque.

Residents will conduct regular, simple progress checks with our management. They will have to provide a residency report upon completion of their stay.

Ahead of starting their residency, residents will be responsible for their travel and visa arrangements, and for making sure they have valid health and accident insurance covering their stay in Switzerland.

What does it cost to participate in a residency?

Travel costs are generally to be covered by the residents. La Becque may provide travel support funds on a case-by-case basis.

Can I bring my family?

Yes. You can bring a partner and/or a child/children.

Keep in mind however what we offer are the same resources: same infrastructure (one apartment and, where appropriate, one exclusive or shared studio space) and same financial resources (one stipend per project).

La Becque does not provide specific child care: children are the sole responsibility of the residents. They should also not interfere with the on-site life and work of other residents.

La Becque
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