

Gertrude Studios 2027 Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Do I have to do a separate application for the Dedicated First Nations Studio?

A: No. The one application form is for everyone. There is a question on the form if you would like to be considered for the Dedicated First Nations Studio.

Q: Are artists based outside of the Metro Naarm Melbourne area but within commuting distance to Melbourne, eligible to apply for the program?

A: The program requires successful applicants to be based in Victoria for the duration of the residency period. The assessment panel considers use of the studio during the residency, and encourages the selection of artists who will be onsite and make use of the opportunity. This can be addressed in the response about the time dedicated to studio practice.

Q: Specific enquiries into the assessment panel's interest in an artistic practice?

A: Gertrude welcomes and encourages applications from artists engaged in the broad spectrum of contemporary art practice. A breadth of practices are represented in each year of intake. The assessment panel will consider each application and its potential for development during the program, based on the information presented in the submission.

Q: Use of high odour / noisy / toxic materials?

A: The studios have open ceilings, so high odour activities and any noisy, abrasive or power-tool based material tests are permitted downstairs in our shared workshop basement; however, the use of specific materials is limited throughout the building. Materials used must be compliant with relevant OHS standards.

Q: Does a 'demonstrable history of prior collaboration' only relate to forms of public outcome?

A: 'A demonstrable history of prior collaboration' refers to the practice as it has evolved – however you would like to document or reflect that.

Q: Is there a difference with collaborative practice/application support material?

A: The support material requirements remain the same for a collaborative application, except for the artist CVs. You are welcome to provide two CVs, both two pages, as a single document for the submission.

Q: We plan to collaborate with other artists as part of the undertaking of the Gertrude residency, can you please let us know whether you would also want CV & artwork for these artists?

A: There is no need to provide CV & portfolio support material for artists outside of the collaborators applying for the studio opportunity itself

Q: Am I able to organise a site visit during the application process?

A: We are unable to organise a site visit, however you can visit Gertrude during our public opening hours Tuesday-Saturday 11am - 5pm

Q: Am I still eligible if I am a practice-based PhD candidate with a studio?

A: There are different eligibility requirements for the Dedicated First Nations Studio and the wider Gertrude Studio Program.

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Dedicated First Nations Studio: Yes, you are eligible for the opportunity while undertaking a PhD candidature.

Gertrude Studio Program: You won't be eligible to start the Gertrude Studio Program until the conclusion of the PhD. If you anticipate this will be in the 2027 calendar year, select 'Yes' to the study question, after which you'll be able to indicate when your studies will conclude. If your anticipated conclusion date is in 2028 or later, please wait until that year to submit your application.

Q: If an applicant is successful, is there flexibility in choosing when to move into the studio?

A: Yes. Intake is staggered throughout the year based on availability.

Q: Two artists wanting to apply together but we are not an artistic duo/team. Could we apply together for a studio?

A: Typically, collaborations or solo artists apply for the program. The studios support one practice – whether it's collaborative or individual. There is an exhibition outcome as part of the studio opportunity which may be hard to share if the practice is not collaborative.

Q: Are you only considering applications for the full two-year studio residency, or are you also open to proposals for shorter term residencies?

A: The program is two years long to give artists a genuine opportunity to engage with the community at and surrounding Gertrude, to form meaningful professional relationships, and to take advantage of the outcomes and professional development opportunities that are built into the program. We ask all artists to commit to a two-year residency as this is the cycle in which the program is designed to have its greatest impact. There is no restriction on travel during an artist's inclusion in the studio program, but the expectation is that each artist will be based locally and will be focused on engaging in Gertrude's programs as a key part of their practice during their residency. For these reasons, we don't consider altered residency lengths.

Q: Hosting / organising small workshops, talks, reading groups, screenings, collaborative events etc. in the studio and/or shared spaces?

A: Artists are welcome to use their studio to host their own development, workshops and in some cases events; however, the availability of shared spaces needs to be negotiated with the other studio artists. Public events onsite are considered public programs and need to be discussed and agreed to by Gertrude staff.

Further Enquiries

Please address all enquiries to apply@gertrude.org.au. Enquiries must be discussed with Gertrude before 4pm, Friday 23 October 2026.

GERTRUDE