



AUT GRAPH

**London Artist-Teacher
Residencies**

Information Pack

**THE
PHOTOGRAPHERS'
GALLERY**



**Freelands
Foundation**

Hello!

Thank you for your interest in the London artist-teacher residencies, part of the Visible Practice Residency project at Autograph. In this pack, you'll find information about: who we are and what Autograph does, the opportunity, how to apply and how to contact us with any questions.

Here's some helpful links

- [Autograph's website](#)
- [Webpage for the opportunity](#)
- [Our work with teachers](#)
- [Visible Practice Residency project](#)

Have any questions about the application process, or need this application pack in a format that's more accessible for you? We're here to help, get in touch at jolie@autograph-abp.co.uk

What's in this information pack

At a glance
Eligibility to apply
About the opportunity
Why apply
How to residency is structured
Responsibilities
Application and residency timeline
How to apply
About Autograph

The deadline to apply is 10am (GMT) on Monday 3 February 2025



At a glance

Two fully funded residencies, offering time and space to develop a new body of work that explores the relationship between personal creative practice and teaching



WHAT

Two fully funded
six-month residencies



DEADLINE TO APPLY

Monday 3 February
2025, 10am (GMT)



WHO IT'S FOR

London based secondary school art
and photography teachers from
global majority backgrounds



WHEN

Each residency is six months
long, starting either
September 2025 or 2026



WHERE

The residency takes place in your
classroom, plus a curated presentation



BUDGET

Each residency has a total
value of £20,000

Eligibility to apply



Art and photography subject teachers working in a state funded school



Based in the Greater London area



Identifies as being from a global majority background



Has a creative practice that includes elements of photography



Interested in expanding teaching practice in new ways



Support from senior leadership team to take part in project



What is the opportunity?

Autograph is inviting applications for two fully funded six-month residencies over the period 2025 – 2027 for London based secondary school art and photography teachers from global majority backgrounds. Both residencies come with a professionally curated public presentation opportunity at conclusion.

The residency model is designed to work within the context of a school setting. It is tailored to artist-teachers who have a visual arts practice outside of teaching and are interested in how practice and teaching inform one another. The residency offers time and space to develop a new body of work that explores the relationship between personal creative practice and teaching.

The Visible Practice Residency programme is in partnership with [The Photographers' Gallery](#) and generously supported by [Freelands Foundation](#).

Why are we doing this?

In 2017 Department of Education research showed that students in UK schools were introduced to visual art by teachers of whom 94% identified as white. A more recent survey signalled that morale is low and there are clear threats to teacher retention in the subject area arising from years of undervaluing the arts in the curriculum. For students from global majority backgrounds, being able to see yourself represented in the workforce and finding people to identify with who are teaching and mentoring you, matters.

In response to this lack of representation in the creative teaching workforce, we conceived the Visible Practice Residency. Through this programme we hope to communicate the vitality and dynamism of what happens in the classroom, promote appreciation of the particular role artist-teachers play in delivering creative learning and develop positive perceptions of the viability and value of creative careers - in particular teaching art and photography - among global majority students.

Why apply

What is in it for the teacher?

Central to the residency is that it enables an artist-teacher to develop and expand their teaching and art practice. The project offers the artist-teacher:

- Budget for materials and resources
- Framework and support to create a new body of work
- Time to undertake research and development
- Opportunity to expand teaching style and collaborate in new ways with students examining how the role of artist and educator are integrated
- Opportunity to publicly profile art practice

Our first residency is currently in progress with Thomas Tallis School.

What is in it for the school?

- Profile the activity within the school with wider teaching and cultural networks
- Provides the entire school teaching community with a space to reflect on how colleagues' specialist knowledge impacts their teaching methods and student engagement.
- Budget allocated for materials and resources for school and students
- Students engage with artist-led workshops and field trips
- Residency model opens dialogue with other subject and departments

What financial support is available?

The residency package provides a fee for the artist-teacher, a budget for professional development, a budget for materials and resources and financial support to meet staff cover costs incurred by the school, to enable the artist-teacher to spend agreed amounts of time out of the classroom during the residency. Each residency has a total value of £20,000.



How the residency is structured

The second residency of the programme will begin at the start of the academic year in September 2025 and the third will launch in September 2026.

- The classroom will be the studio where the development of the work will be shared with the students and teachers throughout.
- The shape of each 6-month residency is flexible depending on the practice and proposal of the artist-teacher. Leading up to the September start, each artist-teacher will work closely with Autograph and The Photographers' Gallery to map out key milestones and deliverables. This includes but not limited to mentoring, portfolio reviews, studio visits, skills-based workshops and courses, access to Autograph's collection, meetings with Autograph and The Photographers' Gallery staff.
- The second residency will conclude at the end of February 2026 and the third in February 2027. Each residency will be followed by a fully funded public presentation and events programme curated and managed by Autograph and The Photographers' Gallery.

Responsibilities

What could you expect of Autograph and The Photographers Gallery?

- Provide the artist-teacher pastoral, project management and administrative support
- Manage the residency budget
- Work with the artist-teacher to develop a residency plan before it begins
- Introduce the artist-teacher to a wider cultural network
- Support the school in promoting residency strategically to their communities and beyond
- Document the residency process through a film and thorough evaluation
- Promote the final public presentation of the residency through digital and physical spaces

What would we expect artists-in-residence to do?

- Develop a new body of work from the proposal at point of submission
- Participate in regular catch-up meetings to update progress
- Engage in research, training, peer review, or other defined activity necessary to make the new work
- Share the creative process with students and teachers through classroom activity and demonstrations
- Host a CPD session for teachers in school
- Determine the format for presentation in consultation with Autograph
- Participate in evaluation

What is expected of the school?

- Support the artist-teacher to be released from timetable where appropriate to research and develop the project
- Be open to testing out new approaches to teaching that ensure students are placed at the heart of the residency model
- Agree to transforming the classroom into a creative space that will be used and shared with students, parents and other teachers
- Share the project and events programme through the school and with School Governors
- Ensure teachers and students provide feedback and reflection to inform evaluation

Residency planning and delivery timeline

Second residency: 2025 - 26

May – June 25	Site visits to school and partner organisations, residency planning, contract completion
July 25	Artist-teacher attends teachers event
September 25 – February 26	Residency takes place
April – June 26	Public presentation and events programme

Third residency: 2026 - 27

May – June 26	Site visits to school and partner organisations and residency planning, contract completion
July 26	Artist-teacher attends teachers event
September 26 – February 27	Residency takes place
April – June 27	Public presentation and events programme

How to apply

Eligibility

The residency is open to art and photography secondary school teachers working in state funded schools who identify as being from a global majority background. Applicants must be London-based. Please note, teachers based in fee paying schools are not eligible.

Interested teachers must be able to illustrate a personal artistic practice that is separate from their teaching practice which includes photography.

Applicants must be able to show the support of their school leadership team, who will need to confirm that they will make the necessary time and space available for the residency to take place and can meet the obligations outlined in the example letter of support included with the application pack.

Online information session - Tuesday 7 January

There will be an online information session for interested applicants between 4.30 – 5.30pm on Tuesday 7 January. Teachers from our current partner school Thomas Tallis, including the resident artist-teacher will be available to answer questions.

[**Find out more and book free tickets here**](#)



Application timeline

Applying is a two-stage process.

Stage one

Please apply by sending an application including:

- A summary of your artist practice detailing the relationship between your personal creative practice and teaching (400 words maximum OR 3-4 minute video).
- An outline proposal placing the classroom as the central space for making new work (400 words maximum OR 3-4 minutes video).
- CV (2 pages maximum, in PDF or Word format).
- Examples of your previous work (up to 12 images).
- A support letter from your school, on school letterhead. You are welcome to use our template letter of support ([click here](#)), or draft your own.

Please send your application to jolie@autograph-abp.co.uk

For further information or discussion, please reach out to Jolie on the above email or call 020 7729 9200

Stage two

Autograph will visit the schools of the shortlisted applicants to meet and discuss the residency opportunity with the artist-teacher and at least one leadership team member. Shortlisted candidates and their leadership colleague/s will be invited to make a return visit to Autograph to see our collection and meet the team.

Award announcements

The successful applicants will be notified on Friday 21 March 2025.

About Autograph

Established in 1988, Autograph's mission is to share the work of artists who use photography and film to highlight questions of race, representation, human rights and social justice. Through doing so, we invite people to explore the creative and critical power of visual representation, in shaping our understanding of ourselves and of others. We achieve this by:

- Commissioning artists and writers; making and sharing exhibitions and publications both in the UK and internationally.
- Sharing our unique photography collection which is used for research, learning, participation, and lending purposes.
- Supporting professional development of artists through providing advice, information, mentoring and selective hosting of projects.
- Producing talks, events and workshops through which people can listen, learn engage in debate and take part in creative making.

At Autograph we are very committed to welcoming, understanding and serving our audiences. Currently we are seeking to appeal particularly to young people, first time visitors, people with disabilities and visitors who haven't felt that a place like Autograph is for them.

Our Values

To foster informed enquiry and personal creative development, promote respect for and appreciation of difference, encourage empathy and reciprocity in our partnerships and interactions and act ethically towards people and the environment. These values inform our professional practice, activities and how we work both internally and externally.

Autograph Staff

Autograph is a charity run by a small, dedicated team. If your application is successful, your main point of contact will be Jolie Hockings, who is Autograph's Engagement Curator.