

## FAQ: 2018 Composers + Musicians Collaborative Residency Program (1/30/18)

### Music Program Related Questions

Are international composers eligible to apply and participate?

Absolutely, we welcome composers from around the world. You must, however, be reasonably fluent in English.

If I have applied to I-Park's General Residency Program, may I apply to this program as well – and is it possible that I could be accepted into both programs?

There is no problem applying to both program. You could, on the merits of your submissions, be accepted into both programs. However, you would have to choose which one of the invitations you wanted to accept. You would not, in fact, be able to participate in both programs.

Are there any other eligibility requirements?

You must be at least 21 years of age.

Does either Akropolis or I-Park have a preference for a particular type of music or a specific musical aesthetic?

No. We are both looking for quality, creativity and a sincere desire on the part of the composers to create new works for this particular instrumentation.

What do you mean when you say you are looking for a “substantially complete composition ” 2-3 weeks prior to the residency?

Akropolis wants to review the score and perhaps take some initial runs at the piece to see if any immediate concerns appear. They would also like, prior to the residency, as much practice time with the music as you can give them. Small details and final touches do not need to be complete, but the piece should be mostly complete and you should be open to considering the technical and aesthetic input of the musicians in making some of these choices – as well as simply responding to the initial readings of the work to inform your own decisions. This program is about collaboration and the goal is to engage this wonderful dynamic to improve the quality of the work. If every last aspect of the piece has been figured out in advance, and you are not receptive to the opportunity for creative exchanges, in both directions, the intended benefits to all parties will not have been achieved. On the other hand, if you submit nothing more than a rough sketch for the piece 2-3 weeks prior to the residency, that's not fair to the ensemble nor to the other composers.

How will the selection process work?

Round 1 of the selection process will be administered by Akropolis. Their process will result in a list of approximately 15 – 25 finalists. The finalists will then be scored by an independent 3-person panel of distinguished professionals from the field. A final meeting among Akropolis representatives and the 3-person panel will curate the program and determine the best mix for the program.

When will I be informed of my status?

Notifications are scheduled to be released by March 5, 2018.

In my new work, if selected for a residency, may I include elements of electronics, visuals or non-traditional staging?

Yes, the door is open to these elements if their inclusion is essential to realize the larger intentions of your piece – and if the elements are deployed in an especially engaging way. If it is your desire to include any of these elements in your composition for this program, please try to have one of your work samples (audio files) demonstrate how you have successfully used this, or a similar, strategy in the past – and point this out in the details section of the application form, the section where you label your media files.

If chosen for the residency, will my new work for Akropolis be permitted to include any other instruments or performers in addition to the reed quintet?

The simple answer is no. However, your request will be considered if (a) you make note of this request in question 7 of the Upload Details Form, (b) you can convince Akropolis, prior to your acceptance of the residency invitation, that the attendant complexities can be overcome and (c) you have prepared a Plan B in the event that, at any point in the process, all best of intentions aside, the idea turns out to be untenable, in the sole discretion of Akropolis.

How will the studio recordings and the residency and concert documentation be shared among the parties: the ensemble, I-Park and the composers?

The idea is for all the participants to be able to freely share dissemination of the studio recordings and other program documentation for their respective promotional purposes. The details for accomplishing this will be discussed and agreed upon by all parties prior to the engagement of the recording studio.

When will the studio recordings be made?

Current plans call for the recordings to be done 30-60 days after the completion of the residency, at the convenience of Akropolis.

Who will be in charge of the day-to-day scheduling of activities?

Akropolis, in consultation with the composers, will create the rehearsal and workshop schedules. Other activities will be organized by I-Park staff.

Who will be coordinating communications during the open call period?

You should direct any inquiries about the application process or facilities and other amenities at I-Park to Executive Director, Joanne Paradis at [info@i-park.org](mailto:info@i-park.org). For questions about your work samples or questions for the ensemble, please contact: [matt@akropolisquintet.org](mailto:matt@akropolisquintet.org).

Who will be coordinating communications after the awardees have been announced?

For all matters regarding residency scheduling (including transportation), facilities, the need for special accommodations and financial matters, please contact Joanne Paradis at [info@i-park.org](mailto:info@i-park.org). For questions about your new work-in-process and ensemble capabilities, please contact: [matt@akropolisquintet.org](mailto:matt@akropolisquintet.org).

May I work on other projects while in residence?

You may do so as long as these other projects do not distract you from your primary focus on, and responsibilities to, the I-Park program.

Is it permissible to leave the residency at certain points in order to attend to other obligations?

It is expected that you will take full advantage of this opportunity and make every effort to be on site for the duration of the program. However, if there is an important, unavoidable need to leave the residency for a single departure, please let I-Park know in your acceptance of the invitation letter. We can discuss and consider your request at that time.

Is my presence required at the concerts?

It is certainly expected and highly desirable. Should you be accepted into the program, this issue will be addressed in your letter of invitation.

What are the dates for the concerts?

These are not yet finalized. However, the expectation is that the Connecticut concert will be on the last Friday or Saturday of the residency and that the New York concert will be on the last Monday or Tuesday of the residency, Sunday being a travel/break day. Note that the last Tuesday, August 7, is not technically within the residency dates. If this is a problem for you, we can discuss as the time gets closer.

Will lodging be provided in New York on either Sunday or Monday evening?

Yes, we will fund the one night of New York lodging.

Is there a written agreement associated with the residency?

Yes, there is a short agreement that defines the obligations of the parties and limits the legal exposure of the I-Park Foundation, Inc. and related parties. As part of this agreement, participants agree to abide by the rules of the residency program. The completed, signed agreement must be received by I-Park prior to the start of the residency.

Can you recap my obligations for participating in this program?

You must submit your substantially complete composition within the time frame indicated, submit your Residency Program Agreement prior to the start of the residency, arrive on the start date of the residency so you can participate in orientation activities, agree to participate in the creation of program documentation and agree to freely share this documentation with Akropolis and I-Park, who in turn, will make this material available to you to freely share. You will also be asked to complete a short assessment survey at the end of the residency.

When will the composers' stipends be paid?

If your tax-related documents have been turned in prior to the residency (we will send you the forms), your stipend will be paid at the end of the first week of the residency. Otherwise, your stipend will be paid during the middle of the following week, assuming your tax-related paperwork has been turned in.

## **General Questions About I-Park's Special Residencies**

### What kind of living quarters are provided?

During I-Park's special residencies, when we have a larger than normal number of people onsite for a relatively short period of time, you are provided private sleeping/living quarters in one of the following facilities: the residence facility that has six bedrooms, one of the eight artists' studios or one of the alternative spaces on the main campus. All spaces have heat and air-conditioning. Bathroom facilities are shared. Room assignments will be made by I-Park staff taking into account all available information on artists' basic needs, as well as any requests for special accommodations.

### Will I need to bring towels and sheets and what about laundry facilities?

We will provide towels and bedding items and we have a washer/dryer available for your use.

### What about meals?

I-Park provides a basic food service. Food items are available for breakfast and lunch on a help-yourself basis. Chef prepared group dinners are offered Mondays through Fridays. On weekends, artists are on their own in terms of preparing meals, though all food items are provided in advance. I-Park pays for the chef-prepared meals and for "common" pantry and refrigerated food items. Artists are responsible for food purchases geared to their individual preferences and/or special health requirements.

### Can/will you cater to individual dietary needs?

While we are accustomed to providing a vegetarian option for all meals, and though we make a reasonable effort to do so, we cannot commit to accommodating everyone's individualized dietary restrictions. Artists may bring special ingredients from home, have items shipped in and/or are welcome to accompany staff when they make their weekly run to the grocery store. Each artist is assigned a small space in the refrigerator and some shelf space in the pantry for their special, private products

### Cleanup, composting?

Artists are responsible for cleanup after their meals and for maintaining a reasonably neat and organized kitchen between visits by the cleaning staff: timely washing of dishes and clearing of the tables and counters, emptying the trash and, as needed, sweeping the floor – so as not to invite mice to the festivities. Housecleaning staff will visit the residence once a week. We are conscientious about composting and recycling.

### What kinds of communications are available at I-Park?

We have several phones on site with two available land lines for artists' use. We have two computer workstations for common/shared use, both of which have high-speed internet connections as well as the basic Microsoft suite of programs. One of these computers is set up for Skype communications. If you have a laptop or tablet with wireless capability, you should be able to readily utilize our network, at least within and around the house and in most of the studios. With a recently installed tower in our neighborhood, cell phone reception is now quite good, though we cannot claim that all wireless services are available. We have a few walkie-talkies and spare cell phones if needed by artists working out on the land for extended periods of time. We also have a loud bell that we use to call people to dinner.

### Are the facilities and grounds wheelchair accessible?

Within the residence facility, the kitchen, 2 bedrooms and one bathroom are ADA compliant – and 3 of the 8 studios are ADA compliant. Beyond that, we are always pleased to make facility and other adjustments for artists with special needs beyond wheelchair accessibility. Please make us aware well in advance of the residency if you will be requiring any special accommodations.

### Can I drive my vehicle to I-Park?

No problem. We have ample parking. Trucks, vans and trailers are parked out back.

### What public transportation resources are available if driving to I-Park is not an option?

The closest airport is Bradley International, sometimes called Hartford/Springfield, which is about a one-hour drive from East Haddam. The T. F. Green airport in Warwick, Rhode Island is another option. Most international artists coming by way of a New York area airport, including Newark, will typically travel by train from New York City (Metro North or Amtrak) to either Old Saybrook (much preferred) or New Haven, Connecticut. There are bus stations in Middletown, Hartford and Old Saybrook, each of which is about 30 minutes from I-Park. There are detailed directions on our website for getting from the major international airports. However, flying directly to Bradley International, whenever practical, will save you several hours of transit time.

### How do I get to I-Park from the airport, train or bus station and how do I get around when there?

I-Park will be pleased to pick you up at an airport or train or bus station that services the local area (i.e., Connecticut). Pickups and drop-offs are subject to 7-day advance scheduling and are based on making these runs at the beginning and end of the scheduled residency session – during normal work hours (9:00 am – 5:00 pm). We do attempt to “pool” our pickups so there could be some waiting involved. Note that we are not staffed to do out-of-state pickups. In the case of international arrivals, coordination can be tricky. We have a strict protocol for such travel arrangements. Artists are issued a set of written instructions that they must follow carefully to assure that things go smoothly. As for getting around the local area once you’ve arrived, we go grocery shopping once a week and are happy to take you along. Special arrangements can be made for unusual purchasing needs with advance notice. We can help you source local transportation options (rental cars, Uber, taxis, limousines, private drivers, an affordable local van service) if you have more intense or personalized transportation needs during your residency. Except in the case of an emergency, should you have occasion to leave I-Park before the official end of your residency, you would be responsible for your own transportation costs.

### Can I invite a guest?

We can accommodate guests on an occasional, case-by-case basis, but frankly, we discourage it, especially during the work week. We usually have a full house and a guest has the potential to upset the social balance of the place, particularly if the nature of the guest relationship is purely social. Permission needs to be requested before the guest is invited. We inform the group in advance whenever guests are scheduled to be onsite so there will be no surprises. Artists are responsible for the proper behavior of their guests. Out of regard for the privacy and security of our artists-in-residence, unauthorized individuals appearing on the grounds without prior permission will be escorted off the site.

What is the policy on smoking?

No smoking is allowed in the house, studios or common areas. Smoking on the grounds is permitted with due consideration for your non-smoking fellow residents as well as fire safety.

Are there any specific acts or attitudes that would generate a termination of the residency?

I-Park does not condone alcohol or drug abuse, the sale or trafficking in illegal substances, habitual non-participation, the possession of lethal weapons, prolonged absences without prior notification or the breaking of any federal, state or municipal laws or regulations. In particular, we have a zero tolerance policy with respect to causing risk of injury to others, environmental contamination, sexual harassment, entering another artist's bedroom or studio without permission, disturbing another artist's work product and stealing.

Are there any recreational facilities on site? Is there a place to work out or go hiking or biking?

We have extensive walking trails on the property and we're adjacent to a well-maintained state park with miles of marked trails. We have some free weights and yoga mats available. There are no recreational facilities as such on site, though we have a pond you're welcome to fish in, a few swings and there are several bikes you're welcome to use around the facility.

Are there any other diversions available?

The Common Area, really the artists' living room, is a gathering place for coffee, conversation, relaxation. Here, you'll find a television with digital cable, digital radio, a VCR and DVD player and a stereo system. We have a stock of movies (decent) and CD's (not so good – plan to bring your own) available to play. We have a modest library of art and nature books and a variety of arts-related periodicals. Of course, we have some board games, cards and such.

Can I ship materials in advance of my arrival and then ship them back at the end of the residency?

Sure, but it's a good idea to let us know your intentions in advance so we can be on the lookout for your packages and put them in a safe spot for you. Be sure to send your package(s) to our street address in East Haddam and not to the post office box. Note: at the end of your residency, you are responsible for the shipment of any articles back home (packaging/crating, coordinating with the shipper, including payment arrangements, etc.). Please don't leave items behind for us to send back for you.

Can I bring my pet?

Sorry, no pets are allowed.