

## FAQ: 2024 Composers + Musicians Collaborative Residency (2/18/24)

### Music Program Related Questions

#### What are the dates of the residency?

The arrival date is Sunday, August 18 by 5:00 pm and departure is on August 26, either from New York or from I-Park. You can choose your preferred point of departure.

#### Are international composers eligible to apply and participate?

Absolutely, we welcome composers from around the world. You must, however, be reasonably fluent in English. We are offering two international travel grants for this program. Details are in the application form.

#### 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 programs. 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 want 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.

#### What do you mean when you say you are looking for a “substantially complete composition” 4-weeks prior to the residency?

Hub wants to review your 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 rehearsal 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 ensemble 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 4-weeks prior to the residency, that's not fair to the ensemble nor to the other composers.

#### Will it be possible to have a conversation with the ensemble prior to that?

Our intention is to schedule a group Zoom call with the ensemble as soon as possible after the selection process has been concluded. This call will include the composers, at least some of the musicians and select members of the I-Park staff.

#### Does either Hub New Music 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 the ensemble's particular instrumentation.

How will the selection process work?

Round 1 of the selection process will be administered by I-Park's three-person selection panel. Their process will yield a list of 15 – 25 finalists. The finalists will then be scored by an independent 3-person curatorial panel of distinguished professionals from the field. A final meeting among Hub representatives and the 3-person panel will determine the best mix for the program.

When will I be informed of my application status?

Notifications are scheduled to be released by around [REDACTED].

Can my new composition include elements of electronics or non-traditional staging?

Yes, the door is open to these elements. If this is your intention when you apply for the residency, please try to have one of your work samples (audio or video file) 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 Hub be permitted to include any other instruments or musicians beyond the existing quartet?

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 Hub and the curatorial panel, 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, best of intentions aside, the idea turns out to be untenable, in the sole discretion of Hub and the curatorial panel.

How will the studio recordings as well as 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.

Who will be in charge of the day-to-day scheduling of the workshops and related activities during the residency?

Hub, 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, facilities and other amenities at I-Park to Daniel Nischan, Director of Operations. He can be reached at [info@i-park.org](mailto:info@i-park.org) and by phone from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm from Monday through Friday.

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 Michael Avitabile at [michaelavitabileflute@gmail.com](mailto:michaelavitabileflute@gmail.com).

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, and engaged, for the duration of the program. However, if there is a critical, unavoidable, unforeseen need to leave the residency for a single departure, please let I-Park know in your acceptance of the invitation letter. We will 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?

The New York concert at Roulette Intermedium will be on Sunday, August 25 at about 4:30. The Connecticut concert will be on either Friday, August 23 or Saturday, August 24 (venue TBD). We will depart I-Park for New York on Sunday morning, August 25. Composers may depart directly from New York after the concert or on Monday, August 26. Or we can transport them back to Connecticut should they prefer.

Will lodging be provided in New York on Sunday evening after the concert?

Yes, we will fund 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 (if not sooner), submit your Residency Program Agreement prior to the start of the residency, arrive on the start date of the residency, Sunday, August 18 so you can participate in orientation activities the following day, agree to participate in the creation of program documentation and agree to freely share this documentation with Hub 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.

What is the composers' stipend and when will it be paid?

The stipend is \$2,500 and will be paid by Friday August 23, assuming your paperwork is in good order (signed residency agreement, tax form, etc.).

## **General Questions About I-Park**

### What kind of living quarters are provided?

During this particular residency, we will have a larger than usual number of artists onsite for a relatively short period of time. You will be 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' needs and preferences , as well as any requests for special accommodations.

### 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 from Monday through Friday. On weekends, artists are on their own in terms of preparing meals, though all food items will have been 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, 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, personalized needs.

### 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. Housekeeping staff will come out to the residence facility once a week. We are conscientious about composting and recycling.

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

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. 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. Cell phone reception is quite good, though we cannot claim that all wireless services are available.

### 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. 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 Old Saybrook. 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 and hassle.

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 whenever possible 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. 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 will 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 a 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.

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.

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 the facilities and grounds wheelchair accessible?

Within the residence facility, the kitchen, 2 bedrooms and one bathroom are ADA compliant – and 4 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. As for the grounds, there are only a few accessible areas. That said, we're happy to drive you to points of interest out on the land.

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

We have an extensive system of walking trails and we're adjacent to a well-maintained state park with miles of marked trails. We have some free weights and yoga mats. There are no recreational facilities as such on site, though we have a pond you're welcome to fish or swim in, a few swings and there are several bikes you're welcome to use to get 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. There's a good sized monitor for movies and a kitchenette. We have a modest library of art and nature books and a variety of arts-related periodicals. We also have some board games, cards and such.

Can I ship materials/equipment 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 (428 Hopyard Road, East Haddam, CT 06423) 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.

Do you offer application fee waivers?

If you have an economic hardship, you are welcome to send a fee waiver request to the I-Park office: [info@i-park.org](mailto:info@i-park.org). We'll get you a prompt reply.

Can I bring my pet?

Sorry, no pets are allowed on the I-Park grounds.