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G.A.S. International Research and Creative Residency Open Call 2027-28

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About G.A.S. Foundation

Guest Artists Space (G.A.S.) Foundation, established in 2019 by renowned British-Nigerian artist Yinka Shonibare CBE, is a non-profit organisation that operates residencies and public programmes across two sites: one in the vibrant city of Lagos and another on a rural working farm in Ijebu, Ogun State. G.A.S. Foundation offers multidisciplinary artists, researchers, cultural workers, and curators from around the world residencies of up to three months in its live/work spaces.

Yinka's vision for the foundation is to foster the development of new work and ideas, promote cultural understanding, and dismantle traditional barriers of privilege. This is achieved by creating access to education, building networks, and developing a resilient cultural infrastructure that supports the next generation. The foundation achieves this through residencies, educational programmes, and professional development opportunities in Nigeria.

Since launching its residencies in May 2022, G.A.S. Foundation has hosted a diverse array of residents, including emerging to established artists, architects, curators, archivists, and researchers amongst others. In the UK, the Yinka Shonibare Foundation fundraises, establishes international partnerships, and provides strategic oversight to G.A.S. Foundation. Both entities are governed by a board of trustees chaired by Yinka Shonibare CBE.

Read more: www.guestartistspace.com



About the International Research & Creative Residency

The **G.A.S. International Research & Creative Residency** is a competitive, selected and self-funded programme for practitioners from around the world.

Residencies take place between **April 2027 and July 2028** and may last between **four and eight weeks**, depending on the applicant's research or practice and the availability of the selected G.A.S. site at **G.A.S. Lagos or G.A.S. Farm House, Ikişę, Ogun State**.

This may include: visual artists and photographers; filmmakers and moving-image practitioners; architects and spatial practitioners; designers; fashion, textile and fibre practitioners; ceramicists and makers; dancers, choreographers and performers; sound artists and musicians; writers, editors and publishers; curators and archivists; researchers and academics; agroecologists and agricultural researchers; soil scientists; practitioners working in regenerative agriculture and food systems; biodiversity and environmental researchers; sustainable ecology practitioners; and those working across or between disciplines.

Applicants do not need to define themselves primarily as artists.

What matters is that the applicant has an established area of practice, research or enquiry and can articulate why undertaking that work within the particular environment of G.A.S. would be meaningful.

We are particularly interested in proposals that bring **artistic, cultural, scientific, ecological, material and locally held forms of knowledge into conversation**.



Who the Residency Is For

A G.A.S. residency provides dedicated time and space for **research, experimentation, fieldwork, reflection, knowledge exchange and the development of practice.**

A resident might use their time to:

- begin a new area of research;
- develop an existing body of work or enquiry;
- undertake field research;
- explore new materials or methods;
- write or undertake archival research;
- work with agricultural or ecological systems;
- connect with practitioners, researchers or communities in Nigeria;
- test a proposition or methodology;
- develop an interdisciplinary collaboration; or
- simply create the sustained time needed to think, observe and explore.

Residents are not expected to arrive with a predetermined finished outcome. Residents should not expect fabrication and production facilities on site but access to a range of fabricators locally could be supported for testing ideas.

We are more interested in the quality of the enquiry, the relevance of the residency context and the potential for the period at G.A.S. to contribute meaningfully to the resident's work.



Our Strands of Inquiry

Applicants should demonstrate a meaningful connection to **one or more** of the following strands. Your work may have relevance with one or between several.

Ecology, Farming and Food:

This strand explores relationships between creative practice, environmental research, land, agriculture, food and ecological knowledge. We welcome artists, researchers, scientists and practitioners working across areas including agroecology, regenerative agriculture, soil health, biodiversity, food systems, climate adaptation, plant knowledge, land use and environmental change.

We are particularly interested in approaches that bring different knowledge systems into conversation, including scientific research, agricultural practice, lived and locally held knowledge, oral histories and creative practice.

Materiality, Craft and Identity

This strand explores materials and processes of making as sites of knowledge, experimentation and cultural exchange. It might encompass ceramics, textiles and fibre, natural and manufactured materials, architecture and design, traditional and contemporary craft, material histories, fashion and processes of production, alongside questions of place and identity.

We also welcome research into the origins, life cycles and sustainability of materials and work that connects material culture with ecology, agriculture and resource use.

Archives and Publishing

This strand considers how knowledge and cultural memory are created, preserved, interpreted and circulated. It encompasses archival and library research, writing, photography, film, oral histories, publishing and editorial practice, research methodologies and experimental approaches to documentation and knowledge production.

This might also include ecological archives, agricultural histories, environmental data, field notes and other forms through which scientific, cultural and place-based knowledge is recorded and shared.

Choosing Your Residency Site

Residents will ordinarily be **based primarily at one site**. Where relevant to the residency and subject to availability and logistics, opportunities may be arranged to visit or spend limited time at the other G.A.S. location.

G.A.S. Lagos is a residential and research environment within one of Africa's most dynamic cultural centres. The building combines accommodation, shared working and event spaces with the [G.A.S. Library and Picton Archive](#), and offers residents access to the wider cultural and professional networks of Lagos.

A Lagos residency may be particularly valuable for practitioners interested in:

- urban environments and architecture;
- visual and material culture;
- photography and film;
- archives and histories;
- writing and publishing;
- cultural research;
- professional and institutional exchange; or
- research requiring engagement with the city and its communities.
- current library catalogue within an expanding and growing collection.

G.A.S. Farm House, Ikiş sits within a **54-acre working farm in Ogun State** and offers a very different residency environment: one shaped by land, agricultural practice, material resources, environmental observation and rural life. A Residency Manager is based on site and can provide translation support between English and Yoruba, which is also spoken in Ikiş.

It is particularly suited to residents working with:

- ecology and environmental research;
- agroecology and regenerative agriculture;
- farming and food systems;
- soil and biodiversity;
- landscape;
- natural materials;
- ceramics;
- textiles and fibre;
- craft and material experimentation;
- sustainability;
- rural knowledge; and
- interdisciplinary relationships between science, culture and creative practice.

The Farm House can provide an especially productive context for dialogue between **artists, scientists, farmers, growers, researchers, cooks, makers and environmental practitioners**.

Exchange and Engagement

Exchange is central to G.A.S., but we recognise that meaningful exchange can take many forms.

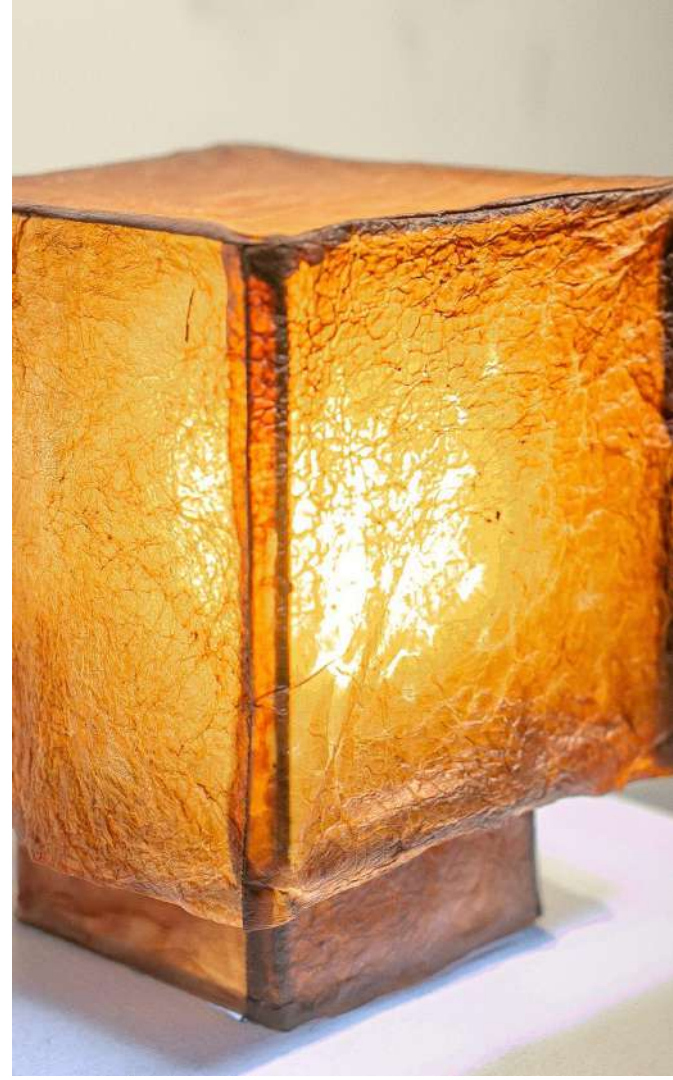
Residents are encouraged to share some aspect of their practice, research or learning during their time at G.A.S., but **there is no requirement to produce an exhibition or completed artwork.**

Depending on the resident's work, an exchange might take the form of:

- a conversation;
- research presentation;
- workshop;
- open studio;
- screening;
- reading;
- demonstration;
- field session;
- shared or curated meal;
- peer exchange;
- presentation of research in progress; or
- another format developed in discussion with the G.A.S. team.

For some research-led residencies, the most appropriate contribution may simply be a small specialist discussion or an exchange of knowledge with relevant practitioners.

Residents will also be invited to contribute a short reflection or other appropriate documentation of their residency to the evolving G.A.S. archive.



Eligibility

Applicants must:

- be **23 years of age or over**;
- be of any nationality and may be based anywhere in the world;
- be proficient in spoken english;
- have an active creative, cultural, research, scientific, ecological or interdisciplinary practice;
- be able to demonstrate an existing body of work, research, project or area of enquiry;
- demonstrate why a residency at G.A.S. is relevant to the development of their practice or research;
- demonstrate a relationship to at least one of G.A.S.'s three strands of inquiry;
- be available for a residency of between **four and eight weeks** within the advertised programme period;
- have sufficient English to participate independently in the residency and communicate with the G.A.S. team; and
- be able to meet the costs of the residency, either personally or through external funding.

Applicants may apply while external funding is still pending however successful awardees must confirm funding is in place four months in advance of residency start date.



Residency Fees and What They Support

The International Research & Creative Residency is **self-funded**, but it is not an accommodation-only programme.

The residency fee supports the wider infrastructure necessary to host and support a resident effectively and safely in Nigeria.

Residency Fees

Residency Length	NGN	GBP	USD
4 weeks	N8,060,000	£4,750	\$6,376
5 weeks	N10,075,000	£5,938	\$7,970
6 weeks	N12,090,000	£7,125	\$9,564
7 weeks	N14,105,000	£8,313	\$11,158
8 weeks	N16,120,000	£9,500	\$12,752

The residency fee includes:

- accommodation and housekeeping at the relevant G.A.S. site;
- access to shared workspaces and appropriate residency facilities;
- access to the G.A.S. Library and Picton Archive;
- appropriate access to Farm House facilities and resources;
- airport concierge support on arrival in Nigeria;
- airport transfers between the airport and G.A.S. at the beginning and end of the residency;
- visa application support, including appropriate documentation and guidance;
- residency orientation and onboarding;
- ongoing pastoral and residency support from the G.A.S. team;
- local logistical support;
- assistance in arranging relevant meetings and visits;
- introductions to artists, researchers, scientists, institutions, practitioners and communities where appropriate to the residency;
- scheduled local transport support and shared access to the G.A.S. vehicle and driver, according to the arrangements at each site;
- security personnel at both sites;
- communications and documentation support; and
- support for an appropriate form of research, professional or public exchange.

What Residents Need to Fund

Residents are responsible for:

- international to and from Nigeria;
- visa application fees and any external visa costs;
- travel and medical insurance;
- specialist materials and production costs;
- personal expenditure;
- meals not provided by the residency;
- additional project-specific travel or fieldwork;
- excursions outside scheduled G.A.S. transport provision; and
- other costs arising specifically from the resident's own project or research.

Residents working with specialist equipment or materials should discuss requirements with the G.A.S. team before travelling.



External Funding and Support

G.A.S. recognises that many applicants will require financial support from another source in order to participate.

Once formally selected, residents may use their residency offer to approach:

- universities and research institutions;
- employers;
- arts councils;
- cultural institutes;
- foundations;
- mobility programmes;
- research funders;
- professional bodies; and
- other grant-making organisations.

G.A.S. can provide:

- a formal letter of invitation;
- confirmation of residency dates;
- confirmation of residency fees;
- wider programme information;
- any supporting information required by a funding body; and
- appropriate supporting documentation for a Nigerian visa application.

Selection by G.A.S. is independent of an applicant's source of funding.



Selection Process and Criteria

Places are limited and admission to the programme is competitive.

Applications will be considered by an **international selection panel whose expertise reflects the breadth of the programme across arts, culture, research, ecology and related fields.**

The panel will be announced in **November 2026.**

Applications will be considered in relation to:

- the quality and clarity of the applicant's existing practice or research;
- the strength of the proposed enquiry;
- its relationship to one or more G.A.S. strands of inquiry;
- why G.A.S. and the chosen location provide a meaningful context for the work;
- openness to exchange and interdisciplinary thinking;
- the potential value of the residency to the development of the applicant's work; and
- the feasibility of the proposed residency within the time and resources available.



Preparing for your Residency

Once an offer has been accepted, each resident will undertake an onboarding process with the G.A.S. team. This is a structured pre-arrival onboarding process designed to ensure that residents arrive with a clear understanding of the residency, practical arrangements and the context in which they will be working.

Topics will include:

- travel and arrival;
- visas;
- health and insurance;
- security and personal safety;
- accommodation and site facilities;
- internal transport;
- banking facilities and access to cash;
- materials and equipment;
- research planning;
- introductions and meetings;
- cultural and contextual orientation;
- access requirements; and
- the resident's proposed exchange or engagement.



About the Buildings: G.A.S. Lagos

The first G.A.S. residency building located in Oniru, Lagos is a modern, brutalist-inspired structure that wraps around a central courtyard. In 2022, G.A.S. began populating its library archive after receiving a donation from Professor John Picton and Sue Picton of a lifelong personal collection, consisting of around 1500 volumes. The donated books cover topics including Sub-Saharan African art, history, and archaeology, as well as African American and Black British arts. Collected over several decades, they are an invaluable resource for scholars, artists, and researchers interested in the rich and diverse cultural heritage of Africa.

Ground Floor & Studio: On the ground floor, residents will find an open-plan shared studio/event/exhibition space, a portion of the G.A.S. Library and Picton Archive, the G.A.S. staff office, an event kitchen and a small staff studio apartment. The studio is equipped with movable exhibition walls, a projector and screen, audience seating, plinths, event tables and workbenches, a digital screen, audio recorder, digital camera, monitor, keyboard and mouse, an exhibition installation kit, sink and tap, and a selection of hand and power tools. Limited art supplies are also available. Residents have unlimited access to the communal studio.

First Floor & Accommodation: The first floor includes three double en-suite residency bedrooms, each equipped with AC, a fan, desk, TV, wardrobe and mosquito net, as well as a shared kitchen and dining area, laundry room, lounge and small outdoor terrace. A water dispenser is provided in the residents' kitchen and weekday lunch is provided. Wi-Fi is available throughout the building. Residents have access to a washing machine, detergent and drying racks, while bedding and towels are professionally laundered once a week. Cleaning is provided Monday to Saturday, with weekly room cleaning available by arrangement with the Residency Manager. Electricity is supplied through the national grid, with an inverter and standby diesel generator available as backup.

Access, Support & Visitors: G.A.S. staff are on-site Monday to Friday to support residents' needs. The building includes 24/7 security, and residents can make use of the G.A.S. driver and security services on weekdays. The building is accessible via a ramp and includes an accessible bedroom and all-gender accessible restroom. Residents may invite up to three social visitors at a time, with no more than five social guests present at the residency at any one time. Larger gatherings require prior approval from the Managing Director.



About the Buildings: G.A.S. Farm House

The second residency building sits on the lush 54-acre Ecology Green Farm in the village of Ikise, Ijebu Ode. The G.A.S. Farm House supports residencies with a focus on the arts, science, ecology, agriculture, and research and was created with sustainable infrastructure and food security for the local community in mind. The build stayed true to the farm's guiding 'sustainability first' ethos by using only local materials, including 40,000 bricks made from soil dug up for the foundations.

Accommodation and Facilities: The Farm House includes one en-suite double bedroom and two double bedrooms with a shared bathroom, as well as an open-plan kitchen and living room. A walled garden surrounds the building, while an exterior 'wet' workshop, constructed in 2023, provides additional space for larger-scale projects. The building is step-free and all areas, including the bathrooms, are accessible. The house is self-catering, with a fully equipped kitchen, oven, cooker, fridge, cooking pots and water dispenser. A member of the local community assists with laundry once a week, washing clothes and hanging them to dry on an outdoor rack. Electricity is supplied through a solar inverter, with a generator available as backup. Each resident is provided with a mobile Wi-Fi box, recharged by the Residency Manager. Cleaning is provided Monday to Saturday, with weekly room cleaning available by arrangement.

Studio & Farm: The Farm House has a shared coworking studio for all residents, comprising a wet workshop and a newly built ceramics studio. The wet workshop has a table, chairs, worktable and storage for tools and materials. The ceramics studio is equipped with a potter's wheel and a built-in gas kiln. An experienced kiln technician provides support throughout each firing. Residents have access to areas across the Ecology Green Farm, including the silos, provided the Residency Manager is aware and can offer guidance where needed. Tomatoes, habaneros, sugarcane, sweet potatoes, maize, cassava, yams and bell peppers are grown on the farm and available to residents at a subsidised price. Residents can also visit nearby farms with prior notice, explore the forest within the Ikise area, and visit the pottery community in Igaran. Weekly food shopping is done in Ijebu and at the local open market, while nearby kiosks provide basic items.

Access, Support & Visitors: A keke can be rented for local travel, while the G.A.S. van is available for trips to Lagos. Residents can leave the Farm House independently during the day but are encouraged to return to the farm premises by 6pm. External guests may visit the Farm House but are not permitted to stay overnight.



Application Form & Timeline

Eligible individuals wishing to apply should complete the application form:

<https://zfrmz.eu/Zsx7GraLwEeadg2M1TW5>

APPLICATION TIMELINE

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ■ 8 October 2026 | Applications open. |
| ■ 26 October and 10 November 2026 | Online Information Session. This is a valuable opportunity for prospective applicants to learn more about this residency award and ask any questions they may have. |
| ■ 7 December 2026 | Applications close. |
| ■ January - February 2027 | Discretionary interviews and Clarifications |
| ■ March 2027 | Selected residents publicly announced |



G.A.S. Team and Board

The G.A.S. team are on site Monday to Friday to support the needs of residents, help with booking trips and visits, organising meetings, accessing the library and delivering events and activations.



Moni Aisida
Executive Director



Catherine Bardi
Communications and
Events Coordinator



Funmilola Ogunshina
Farm Residency Coordinator



Damilola Joseph
Library Assistant



Belinda Holden
CEO (London Office)



Samantha Russell
Project Manager
(London Office)



Yinka Shonibare CBE
Founder and Chair



Bimpe Nkontchou
Trustee



Tokini Peterside-Schwebig
Trustee



Niyi Adenubi
Trustee



Temitayo Ogunbiyi
Trustee



Ugoma Ebilah
Trustee

FAQs

Can Lagos based residents visit the G.A.S. Farm House and vice versa?

Yes. This is actively supported and most residents will have the opportunity to experience both locations.

Will I need a visa for Nigeria?

Visa requirements vary depending on your nationality and the purpose of your visit. G.A.S. will advise selected residents on the appropriate visa process and provide support throughout the application, including invitation and supporting letters, organisational information required for the application, and assistance with any queries that may arise. Where applicable, G.A.S. may also handle the visa application on the resident's behalf. For the most up-to-date information on Nigerian visa requirements and application procedures, please refer to the official [Nigerian immigration website](#).

How are selected candidates prepared for the residency?

In the lead up to the residency three onboarding sessions are scheduled to prepare candidates. Each session has a specific focus and covers topics including travel, health and safety, building and facilities, residency use, networking and itinerary, and community engagement.

Will I need any vaccinations or medication?

All residents must have or receive a vaccination for Yellow Fever at least 10 days before travel. Nigeria is located within a Malaria zone therefore Malaria tablets should form an essential part of each residents travel kit.

Are you able to support residents and applicants with access needs?

G.A.S. Foundation's Accessibility Policy can be viewed here: https://bit.ly/gas_access. Applicants requiring further access information or assistance relating to both the residency and application process should contact info@questartistsspace.com.

How many people are in residence at any one time?

Each G.A.S. residency building can accommodate up to three residents at one time.

Can I come at a different time of year?

In the application form, applicants are encouraged to select dates for a 4–8 week residency between April 2027 and July 2028. Residencies outside this period are not currently available.