

Artist in Residence (AIR)

Program at Arlene's

Program Overview & Residency Requirements

The Artist in Residence (AIR) Program at Arlene's is a year-long commitment designed to support emerging and established artists as they deepen their studio practice, develop a cohesive body of work, and engage with the creative community in New York's Capital Region. The residency begins in early October and concludes at the end of the following August, offering nearly a full year of structured growth, exploration, and professional development.

Residency Framework & Expectations

- **Program Duration-** The AIR Program spans October through August, providing residents with sustained time to research, experiment, and create.
- **Cohesive Body of Work-** Each AIR will develop a unified body of work during their residency. This work will be presented in a solo exhibition in the R Gallery at Arlene's after the residency concludes.
- **Guest Critiques-** AIRs participate in scheduled Guest Critiques, designed to offer constructive feedback, strengthen artistic direction, and support the development of their exhibition work.
- **Makers Markets Participation-** Residents are invited to participate in Arlene's Spring, Fall, and Holiday Makers Markets at no charge, providing opportunities to share and sell their work throughout the year.
- **Community Project-** Each AIR is responsible for designing and implementing a community-engaged project. This may involve collaborative artmaking, public participation, or other creative approaches that connect with Arlene's community.
- **Artist Talk / AIRwaves Podcast-** AIRs are expected to give an Artist Talk, fulfilled through participation in Arlene's podcast, AIRwaves, offering insight into their practice and residency experience.
- **Housing-** Residents are responsible for securing their own housing during the program.
- **Materials Support-** AIRs receive either materials credit or a discount at Arlene's to support their studio practice.

- **Studio Access-** Residents receive studio access during store hours, with use of designated equipment and facilities. Some exceptions apply based on safety and staff availability.
- **Technical & Faculty Support-** AIRs have access to the expertise of Arlene's staff and teaching faculty, who can assist with technical questions, materials guidance, and professional development.
- **Self-Guided Structure-** The AIR Program is self-directed. Residents who invest time, energy, and curiosity into the program will gain the most from the experience.
- **Preferred Qualifications-** A Bachelor's or Master of Fine Arts degree is preferred but not required. Artists working in any medium are encouraged to apply.

The **Atelier at Arlene's** is Arlene's Artist Materials' dedicated education program, offering a welcoming space where artists of all levels can learn, experiment, and grow through classes, workshops, and community-centered creative experiences. Rooted in curiosity and craft, the Atelier fosters connection between students, instructors, and working artists, creating an environment where learning feels both accessible and inspiring.

Arlene's Artist Materials, a beloved independent art supply store in the Capital Region, has supported artists for more than 60 years. Known for its knowledgeable staff, high-quality materials, and commitment to the local creative community, Arlene's is more than a store—it's a hub for makers, educators, and artists who come together to share ideas, find resources, and build community. If you have any questions, please reach out to Andrew at arlenesartist@gmail.com.