



The Artists' Studio Program – General Information

FVAC Mission Statement

The Farmington Valley Arts Center is enriching lives through art. We are dedicated to cultivating a community where people can create, learn, exhibit, exchange ideas and inspire each other. We welcome and support participants of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds on their personal artistic journey.

The Farmington Valley Arts Center

The Farmington Valley Arts Center (FVAC), established in 1974, is a nonprofit creative community whose mission is to support the entire artistic process. The Farmington Valley Arts Center fulfills this mission by providing a multifaceted environment for artists and the general public. Professional artists pursue their art and craft in 17 studios where the public is invited to witness the creative process. One of these studios is dedicated to our Artist-in-Residence program in support of emerging artists. A year-round schedule of diverse educational programming in the visual arts is offered for adults and children. Two galleries are open to the public, featuring local art and craft for exhibition and sale. The Farmington Valley Arts Center hosts monthly open studios and a variety of other events throughout the year.

The Artists' Studio Program

Overview: The FVAC Artists' Studio Program exists to provide professional and emerging artists with working space in an artistic community. Studio artists work in a rental space that is open to the public at times of the Arts Center's special events and programming, and at the artist's discretion. The program showcases a diversity of talents, and artists from a broad spectrum of disciplines may choose to work together and share ideas. In conjunction with the pursuit of their art, artists participate in and contribute to the Farmington Valley Arts Center's mission.

Eligibility: Artistic talent and commitment to one's art and to the mission of the Farmington Valley Arts Center are the criteria for acceptance into the Artists' Studio Program. Emerging and mid-career artists and artisans of promising talent are encouraged to apply. As part of the process, applicants are required to complete the necessary forms, and present their work to a jury of FVAC representatives.

The Artist and Farmington Valley Arts Center: FVAC's Commitment to the Artist

Studio Space and Artistic Community

- FVAC provides a supportive artistic environment and the infrastructure for creating a successful studio program.
- FVAC provides professional working space in which to create art. All studio artists must use the studio as work space as described in this application.
- Studio space can only be used in the spirit of meeting FVAC's mission. Space may NOT be used to display or sell the work of non-FVAC studio artists.
- FVAC provides 17 studios leased by artists with shared interests and concerns.

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- FVAC provides two galleries and year-round arts education programs, workshops and events for all ages.
- Studio Artists have created The Studio Artists' Association (SAA) to support their professional development and build community. FVAC encourages studio artists to join the SAA.
- Office equipment such as a copier are available for artists' use.

Marketing Support & Representation

- FVAC organizes, hosts, and promotes special events (such as monthly Saturday open studios) that showcase the artists and provide public exposure.
- Programs and events are posted on the website and communicated via eblasts and social media platforms.
- FVAC's website provides studio artists' contact information, bio and links to personal websites.

The Artist and Farmington Valley Arts Center: *The Artist's Commitment to FVAC*

The Artists' Studio Program is a core component of FVAC. Artists share their talent through unique and original artwork, and provide the public with an opportunity to meet and see them in their creative process. FVAC Artists work in a variety of disciplines that range from fine art to functional crafts to more conceptual uses of materials and ideas. The artist works toward both the advancement of personal career goals and in support of FVAC's mission by:

- Continuously working toward artistic and professional development.
- Paying a rental fee for studio space.
- Making their studio space reasonably available to the public to promote FVAC's mission.
- Participating in events such as First Saturdays Open Studios to gain more public exposure and expand public appreciation of the arts.
- Participating in optional activities such as workshops, informal meetings and critiques with other artists, as offered.
- Teaching private students in their studios or teaching classes/workshops as FVAC instructors, if desired.
- Contributing to a positive, cooperative, mutually beneficial, and respectful atmosphere of the FVAC community.

Rental Fees

Studios are approximately 525 square feet and rental rates are \$700 per month which includes water, heat, electricity, and parking. FVAC offers a one-year auto-renewable lease and all accepted applicants must be prepared to enter into a one-year contract.

How to Apply

Applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Application information and guidelines can be obtained by visiting www.artsfvac.org or emailing info@artsfvac.org
Farmington Valley Arts Center, 25 Arts Center Lane, Avon, CT 06001 (860)-678-1867

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Artists' Studios Application Package

Materials Included:

- FVAC Artists' Studios Program – General Information
- Artists' Studios Application
- Reference Letter Form
- Jury Process Information

Required Materials from Applicant:

- Artists' Studios Application Form:
 - Section A – Artistic Commitment and Excellence
 - Section B – Professional Potential & Commitment
 - Section C – Statement of Purpose
- Digital images; 7-10 images of work (five images of work completed within the last two years).
- Reference letters; three letters from current or past employers, teachers, colleagues, clients, patrons, etc. References should be persons who are familiar with your work and can affirm your artistic commitment.
- Current résumé
- Website information, if available. **Note:** Artwork displayed on website does not eliminate the requirement to submit images of artwork as described above.

The Application Process – General Description

Phase I:

- Applicant's materials are pre-screened by the Executive Director and Jury Chair. If selected for the jury process, a panel of jurors will review the completed application form, supplementary materials, and artwork. The applicant artist will be invited to interview with jurors at FVAC to discuss the application and review artwork.
- Jurors discuss artist's application.
- Elected artists continue to *Phase II*.

Phase II:

- Confidential credit check or other financial information may be requested by FVAC.
- Commercial Lease is reviewed and signed by artist and Farmington Valley Arts Center. FVAC Artists' Studios Program offers a one-year, auto-renewable lease. All accepted applicants must be prepared to enter into a one-year contract.

NOTE: FVAC reserves the right to change the application and jury process at any time.

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FVAC Artists' Studio Program Application

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

1. How did you hear about the Farmington Valley Arts Center? _____

2. If accepted into the Farmington Valley Arts Center Artists' Studio program, when would you expect to take occupancy of a studio? _____

3. List any art or craft organizations you belong to and art or craft publications you subscribe to. Include museums, galleries, local or national professional organizations (i.e., The Watercolor Society of CT), etc.

Name	Type (Gallery, publication, etc.)	Length of Time

The following ARE NOT elements required for application or acceptance.

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 4. Are you registered with the State of Connecticut as an art or craft business? | Yes | No |
| 5. Do you currently carry insurance for your art or craft? | Yes | No |
| 6. Do you have a degree or certificate at any academic level in art? | Yes | No |
| 7. Do you have any art or craft teaching experience? | Yes | No |
| 8. Have you ever submitted work for a juried art or craft show? | Yes | No |
| 9. Have you ever received or applied for an art grant? | Yes | No |

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Section A: Artistic Excellence

Please answer the following questions regarding your art or craft. If additional space is needed, attach a separate sheet.

1. Briefly describe your work. What types of works have you produced (medium, genre, etc.)?

2. Check all that apply to best describe your current fine art/craft status. I am:

- An individual artist
- Currently otherwise employed
- A student
- Not currently creating art, but have in the past
- Other, please explain _____

3. What materials do you use to create your art or craft?

4. What equipment and/or tools do you use to make your art or craft?

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Section B: Professional Commitment

In the space provided, answer the following questions regarding the business and marketing aspect of your work. If additional space is needed, attach a separate sheet.

1. Do you currently have other employment besides producing art/craft?

- Yes
- No

2. On average, how many days per week do you currently spend on your art?

- Less than one day/week
- One day/week
- Two days/week
- Three days/week
- Four days per week
- Five or more days/week

3. Assuming you are accepted into the FVAC Artists' Studio Program, on average, how many days per week do you plan on working at FVAC on your art? (8 hrs of work = 1 day)

- Less than one day/week
- One day/week
- Two days/week
- Three days/week
- Four days/week
- Five or more days/week

4. Assuming you are accepted into the FVAC Artist's Studio Program, on average what work-week pattern could FVAC expect to see from you? (Check all that apply).

- Nights (6 pm on)
- Day time
- Week Days (Monday-Friday)
- Weekends
- Other: _____

5. Is one of your goals to bring your work to the public domain (e.g., presentations, education, exhibitions, etc.)?

- Yes
- No

If yes, how do you envision accomplishing this during the next five years? _____

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6. Is one of your goals to market your art and sell your art?

- Yes
- No
- Not my main priority

If yes, how do you envision accomplishing this during the next five years? _____

7. Is one of your goals to teach at FVAC either in your studio or through the FVAC art program?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please explain: _____

Section C: Statement of Purpose

On a separate page, please discuss the following points:

- At this point in your career, why do you want to be involved in the Artists' Studio Program at the Farmington Valley Arts Center?
- How do you plan on using the studio?
- How would **you benefit** from having a studio at the Farmington Valley Arts Center?
- What benefits do you believe **you will bring** to the Farmington Valley Arts Center as a studio artist?

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The Artists' Studio Program Evaluation – General Information

Jury Panel Members:

The jury is made up of artists who work in (or familiar with) the applicant's medium, an FVAC Board member, and the Jury Chair. The FVAC Executive Director (or appropriate staff/board member) will facilitate the jury process, but will not vote.

Preliminary Screening

FVAC Executive Director (or appropriate staff/board member) and Jury Chair will review applicant's submitted materials. If there is more than one artist applicant, then artworks of all candidates are reviewed. If chosen for the jury process, applicant(s) will be contacted and a jury assembled.

Jury Process

Jurors receive the applicant's materials for review prior to the jury date. During the interview, applicant will present artwork and jurors will ask questions of the applicant, focusing on the applicant's creative journey thus far, plans for future work and potential contributions to the FVAC creative community. Quality of artwork and willingness to become an active community member are of equal importance. Each juror will complete an evaluation form and Jury Chair will share final results with Executive Director (or appropriate staff/Board member), who will contact the applicant.

Note: FVAC reserves the right to change the jury process procedures at any time.

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