

## **Windy Mowing Residency**

Guidelines: Updated January 15, 2017

The Windy Mowing Residency is an opportunity for an artist (MICA staff, faculty, alumni or current graduate student) to participate in a 10- to 14-day residency at Windy Mowing, a historic mountain-top residence and studio. This is an opportunity for artists to rejuvenate their creative process by engaging directly with nature and having the freedom and solitude to work quietly and intensely. Residency participants will be the guests in David Brewster's private home and grounds.

Windy Mowing is located in Halifax, Vermont, a hardscrabble mountain hamlet in southeastern Vermont abutting the western Massachusetts border. It is largely forested, with rolling mountains and streams, and miles of walking trails. There are 18th-century cemeteries and stone remnants of tanneries and grist mills. It is also in close proximity to Brattleboro, VT and Shelburne Falls, MA, both of which have lively and engaging communities.

### Participants:

- Faculty, staff, alumni and 1<sup>st</sup> Year MFA candidates with a fine arts studio practice
- Preference given to artists who are interested to create outdoors and are looking for solitary uninterrupted time to pursue work in an inspiring and historic setting.
- The residency is well-suited for artists willing to take initiative to have a positive experience on their own terms.
- Faculty may apply to lead a specific project with 2-3 participating students.

### Location

- The residency is located on the property of David Brewster.
- It is in close proximity to 3 distinct towns: Brattleboro, VT; Greenfield, MA; Shelburne Falls, MA. Each is 15-20 drive from the home.
- The Clark Museum and MASS MOCA are 45 minutes away.

### Accommodations

- Each participant is awarded free lodging and will have a private bedroom and bathroom with a tub. The bathroom may be shared depending on other guests in the home.
- Shower, and washer/dryer available off the kitchen.
- Kitchen is shared with the donor, and the participant is responsible for own food and meals.
- The host will, on occasion, share a meal with the participant(s).
- Two small dogs live on the site.

### Workspace/studio space

- Participants will have their own studio in a renovated space on the second floor of a historic barn.
- Participants should bring their own supplies.

- The residency will provide fundamental equipment: extension cords, odd bits of lumber, etc. There is also an art store art in Brattleboro and Williamstown nearby.

#### Amenities

- Internet access
- There is no air conditioning, but there is ample cooling and ventilation in the house and work spaces with ceiling fans.
- Participants must have their own car.
- Host may, on occasion, offer short explorations in the surrounding area.

#### Dates & length of the residency

- 10-14 days, during summer months (Specific dates to be determined with the host)

#### Rules/expectations about the residency

- Participants may not bring their pets or other animals.
- There are no drugs or smoking on site.
- Proof of health insurance required.
- On occasion, there may be other house guests who will not impinge upon the privacy of the residency.
- Participants should have regular contact with MICA upon arrival and during the residency.
- The residency abides by MICA's policies on sexual harassment, the use of illegal substances and code of conduct.
- The residency assumes no responsibility for medical care in any circumstances.
- The participants may not invite guests to visit at any time during the residency period.
- Summary report is required from each participant about their experience.

#### Travel Stipend

- \$500 is provided for travel to MFA students selected for the residency. Specific travel plans are the responsibility of the participant.

#### The application includes:

- Documentation of work (at least 5 examples of work)
- Artist Statement
- Letter of introduction that addressing the following questions:
  - How do you plan to use the time to advance your work?
  - Why do you feel a rural retreat would be beneficial to your artistic development at this time?
  - What kind of resources do you require to support a productive time on the residency?
  - What, if any additional supplies, would you plan to bring with you for this residency?
- CV