**VENICE FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME**

**BRITISH PAVILION**

**2026 FELLOW APPLICATION FORM**

**61st International Art Exhibition**

**Saturday 9th May - Sunday 22nd November 2026 (Preview 6th, 7th, 8th May)**

**Giardini, Venice, Italy**

| **HOW TO APPLY**  To apply for a Fellowship position, please follow these steps:   1. Download this application form as a Word document and complete. 2. Send a copy of your CV with your completed application Form to your Programme Partner (the organisation or institution from whom you heard about this opportunity). 3. Complete the [Equality and Diversity Monitoring Form](https://forms.office.com/e/1D3f3mziMi). This is voluntary and anonymous.   The deadline is set by your Programme Partner and will be a date between the period October - November 2025. Please check the specific deadline date directly with your Programme Partner.  **All applicants must submit their CV to their Programme Partner as an accompaniment to this form. Any applications without a CV will not be considered.**  We welcome applications in written, audio or video format. Please use the method that is most comfortable for you. Please see SECTION 4 for further information about submitting this application in video or audio formats. All applications (written, audio or video) should include the “SECTION 1): APPLICANT INFORMATION” in writing only. Please remember to complete this section even if you are applying via audio/video format.  Many thanks for your interest and care in applying to the Venice Fellowships Programme. We are grateful for the time you have taken to apply to the programme. |
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**SECTION 1): APPLICANT INFORMATION**

*Please note that questions marked with an \* are mandatory.*

| Full Name:\* |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pronouns: |  |
| Nationality:\* |  |
| Address:\* |  |
| Town/city:\* |  |
| Phone number:\* |  |
| Email address:\* |  |
| Name of Programme Partner (the institution/organisation you are connected to/enrolled with:\*) |  |
| Name of course or programme you are enrolled on (if relevant): |  |

| Please confirm that by indicating on / submitting this Application Form, you: | |
| --- | --- |
| * have read the Guidance Notes, paying particular attention to the full details of the Programme outlined under *Eligibility & Requirements* (Section 4).\* | Yes / No |
| * are aware you will need to travel to and live for a full month in Venice.\* | Yes / No |
| * are aware you will need to arrange and book your own travel, local transport and accommodation.\*  *Each Fellow will receive a Travel Grant of £3,300 (three thousand and three hundred British pounds). See the Guidance Notes for more details.* | Yes / No |

| **Access Support**  We encourage applications from D/deaf, disabled and/or neurodivergent individuals. It is the responsibility of Fellows to anticipate any access support they may need for their Venice Fellowship. Fellows should take into account any access needs relating to travelling to Venice, invigilating at the British Pavilion, conducting a project and living in the city for a full month.  *Please see the Guidance Notes for details regarding access support and the process for allocating access funds.* | |
| --- | --- |
| * Please state if you anticipate that you will need to request access support or funding.\*   *This does not affect your application. We ask this of all candidates to assess how best we can support our Fellows for their participation in the Programme.* | Yes / No / Maybe |

| Confirm you have completed the  [Equality and Monitoring Form](https://forms.office.com/e/hduUPCZv6z) . \* | Yes / No |
| --- | --- |

| **Confirm you submitted your CV to your Programme Partner as part of your application \*** | Yes / No |
| --- | --- |

| Signature \* |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date \* |  |

**SECTION 2): TRAVEL GROUP PREFERENCE**

| Please state, in order of preference, three Travel Groups in which you wish to undertake your residency month in Venice. Please note that you will need to be available for the full dates of your selected Travel Group as listed below.\*  1st choice:  2nd choice:  3rd choice: |
| --- |

| **Travel  Group** | **Activity** | **Date** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Group 1** | Arrive in Venice | Sunday 3rd May 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Group 1) | Monday 4th May 2026 |
| Invigilation residency month | Tuesday 5th May – Sunday 31st June 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 1; 2) | Monday 1st June 2026 |
| Leave Venice | Tuesday 2nd June 2026 |
|  | | |
| **Group 2** | Arrive in Venice | Sunday 31st May 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 1; 2) | Monday 1st June 2026 |
| Invigilation residency month | Tuesday 2nd June - Sunday 28th June 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 2; 3) | Monday 29th June 2026 |
| Leave Venice | Tuesday 30th June 2026 |
|  | | |
| **Group 3** | Arrive in Venice | Sunday 28th June 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 2; 3) | Monday 29th June 2026 |
| Invigilation residency month | Tuesday 30th June - Sunday 26th July 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 3; 4) | Monday 27th July 2026 |
| Leave Venice | Tuesday 28th July 2026 |
|  | | |
| **Group 4** | Arrive in Venice | Sunday 26th July 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 3; 4) | Monday 27th July 2026 |
| Invigilation residency month | Tuesday 28th July - Sunday 23rd August 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups  4; 5) | Monday 24th August 2026 |
| Leave Venice | Tuesday 25th August 2026 |
|  | | |
| **Group 5** | Arrive in Venice | Sunday 23rd August 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 4; 5) | Monday 24th August 2026 |
| Invigilation residency month | Tuesday 25th August - Sunday 20th September 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 5; 6) | Monday 21st September 2026 |
| Leave Venice | Tuesday 22nd September 2026 |
|  | | |
| **Group 6** | Arrive in Venice | Sunday 20th September 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 5; 6) | Monday 21st September 2026 |
| Invigilation residency month | Tuesday 22nd September - Sunday 18th October 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 6; 7) | Monday 19th October 2026 |
| Leave Venice | Tuesday 20th October 2026 |
|  | | |
| **Group 7** | Arrive in Venice | Sunday 18th October 2026 |
| Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 6; 7) | Monday 19th October 2026 |
| Invigilation residency month | Tuesday 20th October - Sunday 15th November 2026 |
| Exchange Day (Group 7) | Monday 16th November 2026 |
| Leave Venice | Tuesday 17th November 2026 |

**SECTION 3A): APPLICATION QUESTION: MOTIVATION AND VISION**

Candidates must demonstrate:

* an interest in one or more of the following: Venice; La Biennale; the 61st International Art Exhibition; the British Pavilion; and/or the 2026 commissioned exhibition (Lubaina Himid);
* a passion for one of more of the following: visual art; architecture; design; craft; performance; curatorial practice; exhibition interpretation; education; audience engagement; and/or culture and its social value;
* an interest in pursuing a career in the creative arts;
* a desire to work in collaboration, build a community of practice, engage with peers, and bring a horizontal learning (“*I know something you don’t know, and you know something I don’t know”),* genuine camaraderie, active listening, an interest in innovative, creative, flexible, inclusive, and generous approaches.

| 3A.1) Please introduce yourself. Please share with us anything you would like us to know about yourself, including, for example, your passions, hobbies and/or interests, and how these relate to one or more of the following focus areas of the Fellowships Programme*: visual art, architecture, design, craft, performance, curatorial exhibitions, education, visitors’ engagement, culture and its social and educational value*.  (Maximum words: 150)\* |
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| 3A.2) Please explain what has intrigued or motivated you the most about the Venice Fellowships Programme.  (Maximum words: 150)\* |
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**SECTION 3B): APPLICATION QUESTION: INVIGILATOR ROLE**

Candidates must demonstrate:

* previous experience of a public facing role. Preferably this past role would be within an arts or cultural venue, however, applications from those who have worked in other public-facing settings are welcome. Candidates need to demonstrate experience in interacting with members of the public;
* a willingness to experiment and step outside of their comfort zone (in the spirit of experimenting, trying, learning, and adapting);
* an enthusiasm for instigating conversation with members of the public, making new connections and engaging with diverse audiences.

| 3B.1) Please describe your experience of working in a public-facing role, preferably in an arts or cultural venue, and outline which elements of this role that you particularly enjoyed.  (Maximum words: 250)\* |
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| 3B.2) Please describe the potential challenges you might face inside the British Pavilion when acting as an Exhibition Ambassador / Invigilator. What are your suggested approaches to overcome these challenges?  (Maximum words: 250)\* |
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**SECTION 3C): APPLICATION QUESTION: RESEARCH OR CREATIVE PROJECT**

Candidates will undertake a project that informs their creative practice, research and/or academic interests. The proposed idea will be developed as a small-sized creative or research project during the one-month period in Venice and upon return to the UK and must:

* include the values of co-design and collaboration, genuine camaraderie and generosity, community-network building (Venice and/or UK), inclusion and interdisciplinarity practice; this could include connecting with other Fellows, creative practitioners working at La Biennale and participating pavilions, members of the public or individuals within their own community;
* be connected to or reflects one or more of the following: Venice; La Biennale; the 61st International Art Exhibition; the British Pavilion and/or the 2026 commissioned exhibition (Lubaina Himid);
* be realistic within the scope of the Fellowships Programme, taking into account the 23hr weekly commitment of invigilation plus time to experience Venice and connect with peers;
* show a clear sense of what value the project could bring to its audience/community and how they would like to continue to develop and disseminate on their return to the UK with their community group in a mutual and collaborative approach.

*Please note that British Council cannot provide studio space, materials or additional budget for the development of projects.*

| 3C.1) Please outline a) a project that you would like to develop while in Venice during the residency month period; and b) how this project sits within the wider context of your research/academic/ creative interests.   (Maximum words: 250)\* |
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| 3C.2) Please outline how you plan to share this project with your community when you return to the UK after your residency month.  (Maximum words: 150)\* |
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**SECTION 4): VIDEO/AUDIO APPLICATION FORMAT - OPTIONAL**

We welcome applications in both paper (written) or audio/video format. Feel free to use the method that is most comfortable for you.

All applications (written, audio or video) should include the “SECTION 1): APPLICANT INFORMATION” in writing only. Please remember to complete this section even if you are applying via audio/video format.

If you are answering in video (audio and image) or just audio format, please use the below guidelines:

* A recorded application should not be overly produced. This is not an opportunity to demonstrate your skills in production, but to clearly communicate your skills/experience, project idea and interest in this opportunity in an accessible format.
* Please ensure your recording is no more than 10 minutes long, which is the equivalent to the word limit for written applications.
* You may link to a third-party platform such as Google Drive, Soundcloud, Vimeo or Dropbox. Please provide together with the link the password details, in case the link is password protected.
* Your recorded application should answer all the questions set out below in the written form. Please ensure you respond to these prompts clearly, and structure the content in relation to them, using the following timing guide: **150 words:** 30 seconds - 1 minute, **250 words:** 1-2 minutes

| If this is your preferred method of application, add the link and password to the video/audio here: |
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**SECTION 5) PROGRAMME PARTNER TO COMPLETE ONLY**

| Please confirm that you have completed the following screening for this shortlisted candidate: | |
| --- | --- |
| * Confirmed candidate’s rationale for applying and level of interest. | Yes / No |
| * Confirmed that the candidate understands the commitment of the role. | Yes / No |
| * Confirmed that the candidate demonstrates the required level of fluency in English for the role. | Yes / No |
| * Discussed potential access requirements with the candidate. | Yes / No |

| If you are shortlisting this candidate for the British Council to be considered, please provide a short statement below explaining your reasoning and the support you intend to provide this candidate while in Venice and back in the UK.  (Maximum words: 300)  Name:  Email:  Organisation:  Position:  Date: |
| --- |

**Privacy Notice**British Council will use the information that you are providing in connection with processing your application for the Venice Fellowships Programme 2026.  
  
This information will be shared with your Programme Partner – the organisation that you are currently connected to or enrolled with – as part of the selection process.  
  
You will not be named or otherwise identified in any reports and your personal data will not be shared outside the British Council without your explicit permission.  
  
You have the right to ask for a copy of the information we hold on you, and the right to ask us to correct any inaccuracies in that information. If you have concerns about how we have used your personal information, you also have the right to complain to a privacy regulator.  
  
If you have any questions relating to this form, please contact [venicefellowships@britishcouncil.org](mailto:venicefellowships@britishcouncil.org).  
  
For detailed information, please refer to the privacy section of our website, [www.britishcouncil.org/privacy](http://www.britishcouncil.org/privacy) or contact your local British Council office. The British Council's Information security and privacy global policy statement is available on our website here<https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/how-we-work/policies/information-security-privacy>