

BY TARA BURSEY



# DEMYSTIFYING ARTIST'S RESIDENCIES

# What is an artist's residency?

"Artist-in-residence programs give artists the opportunity to live and work outside of their usual environments, providing them with time to reflect, research, or produce work.

"During a residency, artists can explore new locations, and experiment with different materials. Much like study abroad programs, residencies are often aimed at young artists and can end up having a long-term impact on their life and work."

**Art Demystified: How Do Artist's Residencies Work? By Henri Neuendorf**

<https://news.artnet.com/art-world/art-demystified-artist-residencies-649592>

# Types of Residencies

- Discipline-specific Residencies (Writers, Media Artists, Printmakers)
- Tech Residencies
- Thematic Residencies
- Group Residencies
- Parent/Family Residencies
- Self-Directed Residencies (via an institutional host)
- Self-Directed Residencies (DIY style! No application necessary! )

## **Residencies offer many different levels of support:**

- Some ask you to pay an all-inclusive fee for accommodation, studio, meals, etc. (you pay for it)
- Some offer different levels of financial support (stipend, salary, some materials, tech support)
- Grants can assist with some costs (project expenses, travel)



# Where to Look for Residencies:

<https://artistcommunities.org/directory/residencies>

<https://pilotartlist.com>

<https://resartis.org>

<http://www.akimbo.org>

## Residencies for BIPOC Artists:

### **Black, Indigenous, People(s) of Colour (BIPOC) Artist Residency**

*Open Studio, Toronto*

Discipline: Printmaking

<https://openstudio.ca/submission-bipoc-artist-residency/>

### **BIPOC Fellowship**

*Print Studio, New York*

Discipline: Printmaking

<https://www.ipcny.org/artist-opportunities/2022/1/8/artist-residencies-bipoc-fellowship-2022-open-call>

### **Waawiiyaatanong BIPOC Artist in Residence**

*Article Inc., Windsor*

Discipline: All

<https://www.artciteinc.ca/waawiiyaatanong>

### **Public Art Residency**

*Steps, Toronto*

Discipline: Public Art

### **Artist-in-Residence Program**

*NIA Centre for the Arts, Toronto*

Discipline: All

<https://niacentre.org/offerings/artist-in-residence-program/>

### **BLKSPCE**

*Space on Ryder Farm, Brewster, NY*

<https://www.spaceonryderfarm.org/residency-programs-2022>

# Some Residencies Of Note

## Disability Arts Residencies

### **Residency Program**

*Art+Disability/Art Beyond Sight, NY*

Discipline: All

<https://www.artdisability.studio>

## Parent Artist Residencies

### **Mothra Artist-Parent Project**

*Artscape Gibraltar Point, Toronto*

Discipline: All

<https://artscapegibraltarpoint.ca/artist-residences/programmed-residencies/>

### **Artist Family Residencies**

*Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN*

<https://www.franconia.org/project/artist-family-residency/>

### **Parent Artist Residency**

*Kala Art Institute, Berkeley, CA*

<http://www.kala.org/residencies/parent-artist-residency-program/>

# The Application Process

- Follow the application process carefully, read the application requirements closely (word limit, image size, etc)
- Consider your reasons for applying to a residency- is your project tailored/relevant to the location of the residency? If you apply for a residency in a location that has little relevance to your practice or project, other applications may have a leg up.
- If no format for applications is specified in the application guidelines, don't be afraid to get creative!
- Show them you've given your application some thought, and that you've done your research

# You Got The Residency! Now What?

**YOUR HOME:** Will you have to sublet your place? Help your family with bills while you're gone?

**YOUR JOB:** Will your employer be in support of you leaving your job temporarily? If not, are you willing to sacrifice your job for the residency?

**TRAVEL PLANS:** How will you get there? Drive, fly. Think about what is most economical, environmentally friendly, bringing pets, etc.

**FINANCING:** You may need to apply for a grant to help with costs (*Canada Council: Arts Abroad, Ontario Arts Council: Project Funding*). Think about producing a budget and defining how much money you are willing to pay out of pocket, if any. Consider alternative fundraising methods.

**ACCOMODATIONS:** How easy or hard will it be to find suitable accommodations in your host city/town, if they are not provided? Do your research early!

**RESEARCH!** Is your residency in a car-dependent location? Is it a cheap or expensive place to be (food, gas, rent)? Are their cultural differences/customs to consider/understand? What services and accommodations are available for people with access/medical needs?

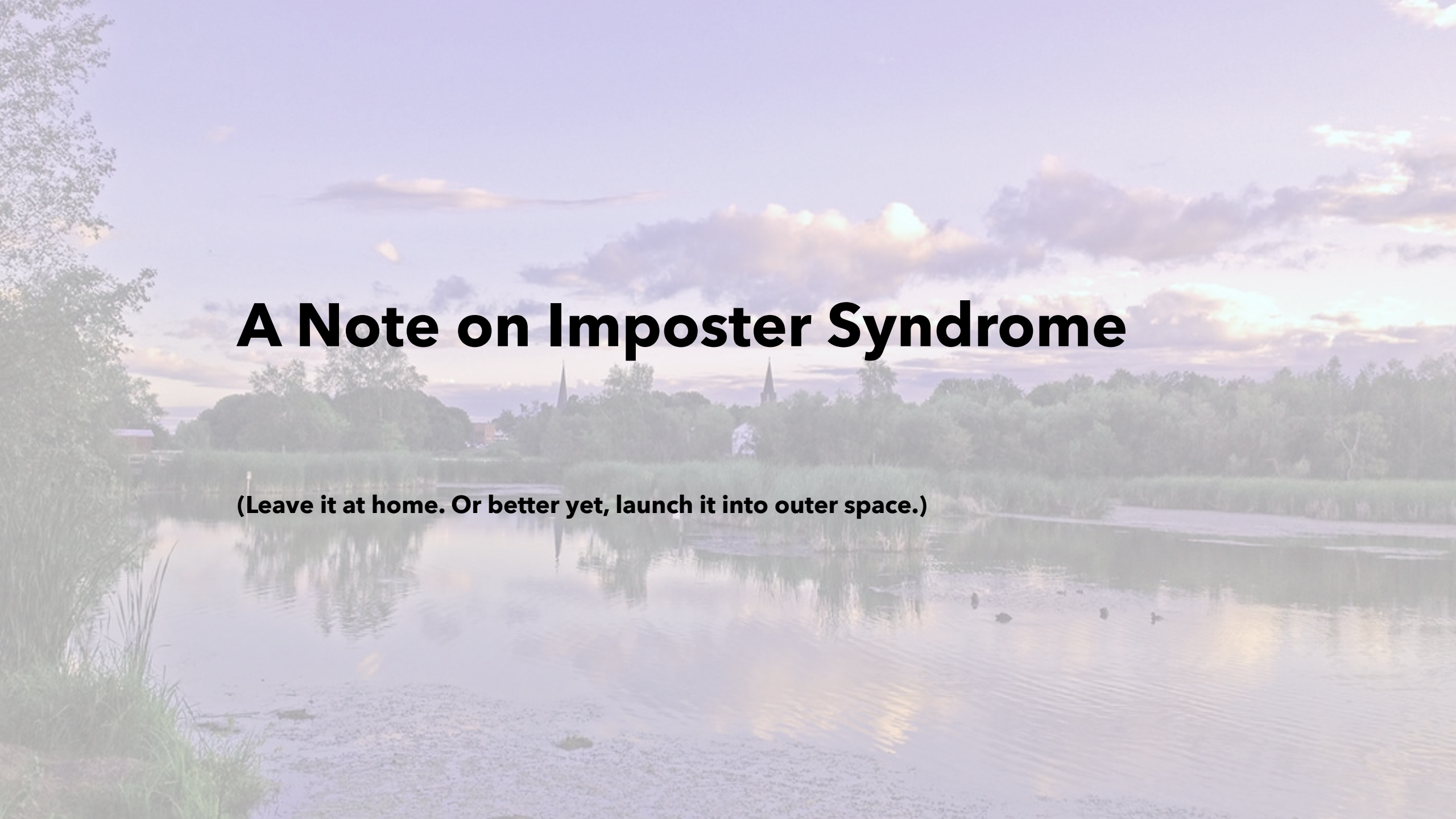
# Possible Practical Challenges/ Things to Consider

- Your contract (Exit Clause/Force Majeure)
- The rental market in your host town/city (much of Canada is in a housing crisis RN)
- Your job (Get ready to advocate for your right to take a leave of absence. Alternately, are you willing to quit your job for this?)
- Medical matters (OHIP, job related health coverage, pre-existing conditions or a physical before you go)
- COVID: how might it impact or compromise your plans
- Family accountability and responsibilities
- Lack of support from loved ones who don't understand 😞
- Lack of mobility, how will you get around?



# You've Made It!

- Don't be afraid of what you don't know! Ask for help in the studio if you need it.
- Try to break through shyness and get to know people. Your conversations, studio visits and new relationships will have a positive impact on your work.
- Enjoy what the town, city or community has to offer; make time to get out and have experiences that will inevitably inform your work
- Stay safe and healthy <3
- A residency is not your job. Productivity isn't the point. Capitalist logic and residencies don't mix. Relax and set your mind free to absorb your surroundings and make natural discoveries.

A serene landscape featuring a calm body of water in the foreground, reflecting the sky and surrounding greenery. In the middle ground, there is a dense line of trees, with a church spire visible in the distance. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

# **A Note on Imposter Syndrome**

**(Leave it at home. Or better yet, launch it into outer space.)**

# Thank You!

## Resource Sharing:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zn2qN25aNm9ayzOZEch028eEmdC\\_uo-A5co7Ja0EudM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zn2qN25aNm9ayzOZEch028eEmdC_uo-A5co7Ja0EudM/edit?usp=sharing)