Stage ᴵˣ

Residency for Immersive Arts & Research

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APPLICATION MANUAL

A step-by-step guide to completing the Open Call registration form

Open Call 2026
stage-ix.com

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About This Manual

This manual is designed to help you prepare your application for the Stage IX Residency for Immersive Arts & Research. It walks you through each section of the online registration form, listing every question you will encounter.

The form is divided into five sections:

1. Basic Info — Your personal details
2. Residency Track — Choose between Emerging and Established Artist tracks
3. Artistic Profile & Motivation — Your practice, interests, and reasons for applying
4. Research/Project Proposal — Your research questions, project vision, and presentation ideas
5. Portfolio & Supporting Materials — CV, portfolio, links, and technical requirements

> 💡 **TIP:** We strongly recommend preparing your longer answers (especially Part 4: Research/Project Proposal) in a separate document first, then copying them into the online form. The form does not save drafts automatically.

Before applying, make sure you have read the full Open Call description at **stage-ix.com**.

Questions? Contact us at **info@stage-ix.com**

Online Q&A Session: Wednesday 18 February, 15:00–17:00 CET. You can register for this session at the end of the application form.

Section 1: Basic Info

This section collects your personal contact details. Fields marked with * are required.

Personal Details

First Name *	Your legal first name
Last Name *	Your legal last name
Pronouns *	Choose from: she/her, he/him, they/them, or Other
Email Address *	Your primary email for all correspondence
Phone Number	Optional, but helpful for quick coordination
Website / Portfolio	A link to your personal website or online portfolio

Residency Requirement

The Stage IX residency is intended for artists with a legal address in the Netherlands. You will be asked:

Do you have a legal address in the Netherlands? *

Options: Yes / No

> *Your answer:*

If you answer **Yes**, you will be asked:

City *

The city where you currently reside in the Netherlands.

> *Your answer:*

If you answer **No**, you will be asked:

Can you guarantee having a legal address in the Netherlands at the start of the residency? *

Options: Yes / No. If Yes, you will be asked to explain your situation.

> *Your answer:*

Explain your residency status *

Describe your current situation and how you plan to have a legal address in the Netherlands by the time the residency begins.

> *Your answer:*

> 💡 **TIP:** If you are between addresses or in a transitional situation, use this field to explain your circumstances clearly. Special situations are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Applying as a Duo

Are you applying as a Duo? *

Options: No / Yes. The residency allows applications from individual artists or duos. If you apply as a duo, the resources (artist fee and R&D budget) will be shared between both members.

> *Your answer:*

> 💡 **TIP:** If you select Yes, you will be asked to provide the same personal details (name, pronouns, email, phone, website) for the second applicant.

Section 2: Residency Track

Stage IX offers two tracks designed for different career stages. Read the descriptions carefully and choose the one that best fits where you are now.

	Emerging Artist	Established Artist
Experience	2–4 years professional experience	5+ years professional experience
Positions	2 positions available	1 position available
Duration	8 months (May–December 2026)	8–10 months (from May 2026)
Onboarding	2-month intensive onboarding	1-month onboarding period
Structure	Structured mentorship & regular check-ins	Greater autonomy & flexibility
Artist Fee	€18,000	€26,000
R&D Budget	€5,000	€15,000

For which residency are you applying? *

Select one: Emerging Artist / Established Artist

Your answer:

Why does this track feel like the right fit? *

Explain your breadth of experience in immersive arts and media specifically, and why you think this particular track is the best fit for you at this stage of your career.

Character limit: 600 characters

Your answer:

Section 3: Artistic Profile & Motivation

This section asks about who you are as an artist, how you relate to immersive work, and why Stage IX is relevant to you right now. Take time to reflect on these questions — the selection committee is looking for authenticity, curiosity, and a sense of where you want to go.

How would you describe yourself and your practice? *

Tell us who you are as an artist. What drives you? What themes or questions keep returning in your work? Where do you come from and where do you want to go?

Character limit: 1,800 characters

> *Your answer:*

What do immersion or Immersive Experiences mean to you? *

How do you think about immersion in relation to your work? What makes an experience immersive? What kind of audience experiences are you drawn to creating?

Character limit: 1,800 characters

> *Your answer:*

Why Stage IX? *

What draws you to this residency? Why is this the right moment for you to undertake this kind of research? What are you hoping to gain from the experience?

Character limit: 1,200 characters

> *Your answer:*

What are your strengths? *

What qualities do you bring to a collaborative work environment? What do you do well?

Character limit: 1,200 characters

> *Your answer:*

Technologies & Areas of Expertise

Which technologies or areas of expertise interest you most? *

Select all that apply from the following list:

> *Your answer:*

☐ Volumetric Capture	☐ Spatial Audio
☐ Projection Mapping	☐ Motion Capture
☐ 360° Video	☐ 360° Fulldome
☐ Mixed Reality	☐ 6 DoF VR
☐ Live XR	☐ Immersive Theatre
☐ Light Installations	☐ Artificial Intelligence
☐ Augmented Reality	☐ Interactive Audio
☐ Multiplayer	☐ 3 DoF VR
☐ Audio Experiences	☐ Sound Installations
☐ Other (please specify)	

What would you like to try that you haven't had the opportunity for before? *

Think of anything that sparks your curiosity as a maker. This could be technologies, techniques, collaborations, audiences, venues, ways of working. Anything. You can elaborate on one of the choices made above.

Character limit: 1,200 characters

> *Your answer:*

Section 4: Research/Project Proposal

This is the most substantial section of the application. It consists of three parts covering your research questions, your project vision, and your ideas for presentation and sharing. Prepare these answers carefully beforehand.

> 💡 **TIP:** Parts 1 and 2 each allow up to 3,600 characters. Part 3 allows up to 1,800 characters. We strongly advise drafting these in a separate document and pasting them into the form.

Part 1: Your Questions *

Consider these questions while submitting your answer:

- **What do you want to find out?** What questions are driving you? What don't you know yet? What territory do you want to explore?
- **Why do you want to find it out?** What's at stake—for you, for your practice, for the field? Why does this matter now?
- **Why you?** What in your background, experience, or artistic practice positions you to pursue this inquiry? What do you bring to these questions?
- **For whom?** Who might be interested in what you discover? Fellow artists and makers? Audiences? Researchers? Specific communities? How might the knowledge you generate be valuable beyond your own practice?
- **How do you imagine finding out?** What approaches, methods, or ways of working do you want to employ? This doesn't need to be fixed—we're interested in your instincts and intentions.

Your answer for Part 1: Your Questions

Character limit: 3,600 characters

> *Your answer:*

Part 2: The Project *

Consider these questions while submitting your answer. Remember: this is a vessel for your questions, not a fixed plan. We expect it to evolve.

- **Starting Point.** What is your basis? What preceded this? What existing work, research, or experiments does this build on?
- **Project Description.** Describe what you imagine making, testing, or developing. What form(s) might this take? What experiments do you want to run?
- **Facilities and technologies.** Which consortium facilities and technologies are most relevant to your research? Be specific where you can. What do you already know and want to deepen? What is new to you and you want to explore?

- **Beyond your current toolbox.** What would you love to experiment with that you haven't had the opportunity for before? Think broadly: technologies, techniques, collaborations, types of audiences, presentation formats, venues, ways of working…
- **Collaborators and support.** Who would you like to work with or learn from? What kind of support do you anticipate needing from your team (producer, dramaturg, mentor, documentalist)?

Your answer for Part 2: The Project

Character limit: 3,600 characters

> *Your answer:*

Part 3: Presentation and Sharing *

Consider these questions while submitting your answer:

- **What kind of presentation space are you imagining?** Physical, hybrid, virtual? Intimate or large-scale? How do you see the work meeting an audience?
- **Documentation and knowledge sharing.** How do you typically document your process? How open are you to sharing work-in-progress publicly? What forms of documentation feel natural to you?
- **What do you hope to have at the end?** Not as a deliverable requirement—but as a personal horizon. A prototype? New questions? A network? Skills? Something else?

Your answer for Part 3: Presentation and Sharing

Character limit: 1,800 characters

> *Your answer:*

Section 5: Portfolio & Supporting Materials

The final section asks you to upload your CV and portfolio, and optionally provide links to additional work and any technical requirements.

Portfolio & CV (Required)

Upload a single PDF file containing:

- **CV:** maximum 2 pages
- **Portfolio:** maximum 10 pages

> 💡 **TIP:** If your portfolio is a showreel or needs to be presented in a dynamic format (video, interactive, etc.), post a link in the "Links to other Relevant Work" section below and provide an explanation in the Technical Rider / Requirements section.

Links to Other Relevant Work (Optional)

You can provide up to 3 links to additional work, such as showreels, playthroughs, video registrations, or online projects. Use this section if you want to share work that goes beyond a static PDF portfolio.

Link 1	
Link 2	
Link 3	

Technical Rider / Requirements (Optional)

If the selection committee needs to experience your work through a specific application (e.g., an APK file, a VR headset, or specific software), use this field to describe what is needed and how to access it.

Technical Rider / Requirements

Describe any special technical requirements for viewing your portfolio materials.

Your answer:

Final Questions

Any questions or special requests?

Use this space to share anything that wasn't covered in the form, or to ask any questions you may have.

Your answer:

☐ I would like to join the online information and Q&A session on Wednesday 18 February between 15:00 and 17:00

Application Checklist

Before you submit, make sure you have everything ready:

☐ Personal details completed (name, pronouns, email, phone, website)

☐ Legal address in the Netherlands confirmed (or explanation provided)

☐ Residency track selected and justified (max. 600 characters)

☐ Artistic Profile & Motivation questions answered (4 text fields + 1 multiple choice + 1 text field)

☐ Part 1: Your Questions written (max. 3,600 characters)

☐ Part 2: The Project written (max. 3,600 characters)

☐ Part 3: Presentation and Sharing written (max. 1,800 characters)

☐ CV and Portfolio PDF prepared (CV max. 2 pages, Portfolio max. 10 pages)

☐ Optional: Links to showreels, videos, or other dynamic work

☐ Optional: Technical requirements for viewing portfolio materials

Good luck with your application!

For any questions, reach out to us at info@stage-ix.com