



National Center for
Art Research, Japan

Independent Administrative Institution National Museum of Art
National Center for Art Research, Japan

PRESS RELEASE

December 15, 2025

OPEN CALL “Artist Support Program”

Applications for FY2026 Term I will open on Monday, December 15, 2025.

~In FY2025 Term II, three international art exhibitions were selected for support
including Carnegie International~

The National Center for Art Research, Japan (abbreviation: NCAR; director: Kataoka Mami) implements “Artist Support Program” with the goal of enhancing the international reputation of the Japanese contemporary art. For the Term I “Artist Support Program” in fiscal year 2026, applications will be accepted from December 15 (Mon.), 2025 to January 31 (Sat.), 2026.

International art exhibitions, such as Biennales and Triennales held around the world, function as significant opportunities for artists to present their artworks and raise the international reputation of Japanese contemporary art. This program, starting from fiscal year 2024, provides support funds for the organizers of international art exhibition held outside Japan with the requirement that Japanese artists must participate in the exhibitions.

In the FY2025 Term I application, it has been decided to support Japanese artists through six international art exhibitions, including Bienal de São Paulo. In the FY2025 Term II, the support will be provided to artists, participating in three international art exhibitions, including Carnegie International.

◆About the National Center for Art Research, Japan (<https://ncar.artmuseums.go.jp/en/>)

Under the mission of “connecting, deepening, and expanding art,” NCAR will continue to contribute to the activation and enhancement of museum activities in Japan. Our efforts include collecting and disseminating information both domestically and internationally, promoting the utilization of collection, building person-to-person networks, expanding learning opportunities, and supporting artists.

Application Guidelines (Overview)

Title	Fiscal Year 2026 Term I “Artist Support Program”
Duration For Application	December 15 (Mon.), 2025 – January 31 (Sat.), 2026 * Application Form will be closed at 23:59 JST.
Program Details	This program offers full or partial support funds for organizers of international art exhibitions held outside Japan, with the condition that Japanese artists must participate in their exhibitions. The maximum amount of support per artist is 3.5 million Japanese yen. If multiple Japanese artists participate in the same international art exhibition, the maximum amount of support is capped at 7 million Japanese yen per exhibition.
Requirements (Exhibition and Exhibition Period)	Eligible international art exhibitions must have a stable history of institutional activity—or, if recently established, a reliable administrative structure—demonstrate originality in their theme, artist selection, and curatorial approach, and include participation by Japanese artists. The exhibition must begin between April 1, 2026, and March 31, 2027. The term “Japanese artists” includes naturalized and deceased Japanese artists, irrespective of their nationalities or work locations.
Eligibility	Organizers of international art exhibitions that are to be held outside Japan, in which Japanese artists participate, and that are to have an independent secretariat system and accounting organization. The organizations must agree to adhere to the program guidelines.
Notification of Decision	Decisions will be notified by March 31 (Tue.), 2026.

The application details can be retrieved from

<https://ncar.artmuseums.go.jp/en/events/globalnetworking/post2025-2911.html>

“Artist Support Program” Term II, 2025 Selected Exhibitions

	Name of International Art Exhibition	Exhibition Period	Name of Artists
1	25th Biennale of Sydney (Australia)	March 14 – June 14, 2026	Ema Shin
2	59th Carnegie International (United States)	May 2, 2026 – January 3, 2027	TBA
3	Edinburgh Art Festival 2026 (Scotland)	August 8 – August 27, 2026	TBA

< Contact Information: Artist Support Program >

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