



National Center for
Art Research, Japan

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

PRESS RELEASE

December 12, 2025

A Archives
W A of Women Artists
R Research
E & Exhibitions

AWARE: Archives of Women Artists, Research and Exhibitions, France

**Advancing Research on Women Artists —
Launch of the “NCAR × AWARE Women Artists Research Fellowship”
Applications for Researchers and Curators Open on December 12**

The National Center for Art Research, Japan (NCAR) (Director: **Kataoka Mami**) and AWARE: Archives of Women Artists, Research and Exhibitions (Director: Camille Morineau) are pleased to announce the launch of the “NCAR × AWARE Women Artists Research Fellowship”, starting in December 2025. AWARE, a Paris-based non-profit organization dedicated to advancing gender equality in art history, will become an official department of the Centre Pompidou – Musée national d’art moderne in France from January 2026.

This fellowship represents a new joint initiative by NCAR and AWARE to advance research on women artists in Japan. The fellowship invites **researchers and curators residing in or staying in Japan** to propose research projects focusing on **artists who self-identify as women or non-binary with a connection to Japan, active in the field of visual arts**. Up to **two projects per year** will be selected, with each fellowship providing **research funding of €5,000 in JPY equivalent** for a period of one year. Research outcomes in the form of papers or essays will be published on both the NCAR and AWARE websites to foster wider public and academic engagement.

Applications for the first fellowship cycle (FY2026) will be accepted from Friday, **December 12, 2025 to Saturday, January 31, 2026**. Through this initiative, NCAR and AWARE aim to strengthen scholarship on women artists in Japan and contribute to the global advancement of art historical research through more diverse and inclusive perspectives.

Program Overview

- **Title:** NCAR × AWARE Women Artists Research Fellowship
- **Application Period (FY2026):** Friday, December 12, 2025 – Saturday, January 31, 2026
- **Research Period (FY2026):** April 2026 – March 2027
- **Eligibility:** Researchers and curators residing in or staying in Japan during the research period
- **Focus:** Women or non-binary artists with ties to Japan, active in the field of visual arts
- **Number of Awards:** Up to 2 projects per year
- **Funding:** Up to €5,000 (JPY equivalent) per project
- **Publication:** Research outcomes will be published on NCAR and AWARE websites
- **Organized by:** National Center for Art Research, Japan, AWARE: Archives of Women Artists, Research and Exhibitions
- **With generous support from:** Kathy Matsui, the Per Ardua Ad Astra endowment fund, in collaboration with its residency programme for Japanese artists in France, Maison Kochimi.

The application details can be retrieved from:

<https://ncar.artmuseums.go.jp/en/events/globalnetworking/post2025-2921.html>

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

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

◆About AWARE: Archives of Women Artists, Research & Exhibitions

(https://awarewomenartists.com/aware_japan/)

AWARE is dedicated to compiling and sharing knowledge about women and non-binary artists of the 16th to 21st centuries. Its aim is to shed light on their work through the organization of international events and the development of a trilingual website (French/English/Japanese) that presently contains over 1,400 biographical texts and draws up to 80,000 visitors per month.

<Contact: NCAR × AWARE Women Artists Research Fellowship>

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