National Center for Art Research

October 19, 2026

National Center for Art Research, Japan (NCAR)

Call for Applications: The 9th NCAR Study Tour (Germany)

June 21–30, 2027 | 10 days, 8 nights

The NCAR Study Tour offers participants the opportunity to explore international art scenes and engage in dialogue with local art professionals, encouraging them to reconsider the practices of Japanese art museums and the wider arts and cultural sector from new perspectives. We are now inviting applications for the 9th edition of the program, which will focus on Germany.



Meeting at National Gallery (London)



Gallery tour at National Gallery Singapore

The National Center for Art Research (NCAR), part of the National Museum of Art, Japan, organizes the NCAR Study Tour for curators and researchers based in Japan to build an international network among art professionals. We hope this program will foster intellectual exchange and help build meaningful, personal connections among art professionals. We also hope that participants will draw on these experiences in their museums' future activities and in their own research and practice, including through future institutional collaborations and joint research projects.

For FY2027, NCAR will send a delegation of art professionals based in Japan to Germany. The program takes advantage of the rare opportunity, occurring once every ten years, to visit both *documenta* and *Skulptur Projekte Münster*, two of Germany's major international art exhibitions, which will take place concurrently in 2027. The itinerary will also include visits to the Berlin Biennale and art museums in Berlin.

The 9th Study Tour will be coordinated in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut Tokyo.

Three Key Features of the NCAR Study Tour

01 | Gain a multifaceted understanding of the local art scene

Visit not only museums but also galleries, alternative spaces, major international exhibitions, art fairs, and other venues to gain a multifaceted understanding of the local art scene.

02 | Build direct connections with international professionals

Engage in dialogue with curators, researchers, and other art professionals of the place visited to learn about diverse approaches and practices in exhibitions, collections, learning programs, and more.

03 | Apply new insights to your research and institutional activities

Put the new perspectives, information, and professional connections gained overseas to use in your own research and in your institution's activities, exhibitions, collection development, and other initiatives.

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The 9th NCAR Study Tour (Germany)
Study Tour Schedule (tentative)

01 | Travel Dates (Tentative)

**Depending on participants' places of departure, an additional overnight stay in Japan before departure or after return may be necessary.*

Main program participants: June 21 (Mon) – June 30 (Wed), 2027 | 10 days, 8 nights

Participants joining the optional Helsinki tour: June 19 (Sat) – June 30 (Wed), 2027 | 12 days, 9 nights

02 | Tentative Itinerary **The destinations listed in the itinerary are tentative and may change as arrangements progress.*

Optional Helsinki Tour

Date	Time	Contents
June 19 (Sat)	PM	Depart Japan
June 20 (Sun) Stay in Helsinki	AM	Arrive in Helsinki Helsinki Biennale
June 21 (Mon)		Transfer to Berlin

Main Program (mandatory to all the participants)

Date	Time	Contents
June 21 (Mon)		Depart Japan Arrive in Berlin
June 22 (Tue) Stay in Berlin	All day	Berlin Biennale
June 23 (Wed) Stay in Berlin		Hamburger Bahnhof Neue Nationalgalerie
June 24 (Thu) Stay in Münster		Transfer to Münster
June 25 (Fri) Stay in Münster	All day	Skulptur Projekte Münster
June 26 (Sat) Stay in Kassel		Transfer to Kassel
June 27 (Sun) Stay in Kassel	All day	documenta
June 28 (Mon) Stay in Frankfurt	AM PM	Visit art institutions in Kassel Transfer to Frankfurt
June 29 (Tue)		Depart Frankfurt
June 30 (Wed)		Arrive in Japan

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The 9th NCAR Study Tour (Germany)
Eligibility and Program Support

01 | Who Should Apply

Curators and researchers based in Japan who are interested in the German art scene and museum policies/practices and who are engaged in exhibition planning or research related to the region's art scene.

02 | Program Support

1. **Inspection-related expenses:** Transportation between major destinations within the country or region visited, admission fees for selected venues, and other designated expenses.
2. **Travel and accommodation:** Round-trip airfare between Japan and Germany, accommodation, and accommodation allowances, in accordance with NCAR regulations.

Please note:

- All communication during the program will be conducted in English. No interpretation will be provided.
- If you cancel your participation for personal reasons after being selected, you will be responsible for any cancellation fees for flights, hotels, and other arrangements already made at the time of cancellation. Please be aware of this before applying.

03 | Application Requirements

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

1. Have an interest in the German art scene and museum policies/practices.
2. Have a track record of professional activities or research in their field of expertise.
3. Be available to participate in the entire program.
4. Be able to communicate effectively in English.
5. Understand the program's objectives—researching the German art scene and building professional relationships—and be willing to engage actively with others and foster mutual understanding.
6. Be able to give a presentation at a scheduled session for sharing and exchanging ideas, introducing their research and professional activities and discussing the outcomes of their participation (approximately 5–10 minutes per person).
7. Have the intention and a plan to apply the knowledge and outcomes gained through the program to their future professional activities or research.
8. Be willing to participate in future NCAR follow-up events, such as reporting sessions, symposia, and research meetings, and to cooperate with NCAR in publicizing the program.
9. Refrain from engaging in commercial or other profit-making activities throughout the program.
10. Submit a report documenting their activities and research after completing the program.

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04 | How to Apply

Download the application form (Excel file) provided on the NCAR webpage and complete all required fields.
Submit the completed form as an email attachment to the address below.
Please use the following format for the email subject line:
[Full Name: Application for NCAR Study Tour (Germany)]

Application email: application@artmuseums.go.jp
Application period: October 19 (Mon) – November 20 (Fri), 2026, by 5:00 p.m. (Japan Standard Time)
Notification of the result: Applicants will be notified of the results individually in late December after the selection process. Please note that we are unable to respond to individual inquiries regarding the selection process or its results.

05 | Inquiries

Please send any inquiries regarding this program to the email address below by Friday, November 13, 2026. We will respond as soon as possible.
Email: application@artmuseums.go.jp

06 | Personal Information

Personal information provided by applicants will be used solely for communication related to this application process.
Applicants' personal information will not be used without authorization for any purpose other than those stated above.