

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE 2026 FABRIK BURGDORF (CH)

3 months from beginning of June until end of August 2026.

The Fabrik and the City of Burgdorf are jointly running an artist-in-residence program. Each summer, an artist is invited to stay at Fabrik.

The space is a combined living and working area (2 rooms, 56 m² and 18 m², including kitchen/bathroom) and the possibility to use a large open space in the factory hall on the ground floor. Included is a monthly allowance of 2'000 Swiss Francs and a contribution to travel expenses. A small event towards the end of the stay is desired (exhibition, presentation) and can take place at Fabrik or outside.

About the place:

The Fabrik has existed as a studio house since 1985. The 10 studios are used by visual artists and a children's circus in winter. The general infrastructure that can be shared includes an office (Macs, scanner, printer, copy machine), a common room with kitchen, a van for transportation, a guest room and the outdoor space. Burgdorf is a small town of 17'000 habitants situated on the river Emme. It is close to Bern (15 minutes by train or car) and 1 hour from Zurich, Fribourg or Basel.

The call for proposals is addressed to visual artists from outside of Switzerland, without age limit but with at least some years of professional experience.

For further questions about the application conditions, please see the document FAQ.

Applications must include the following documents in 1 PDF (max. size 10MB):

- portfolio about the current work
- curriculum vitae
- letter of motivation with details of the plans in Burgdorf

Application deadline: **November 24 2025 (12 p.m. CET)**

[**APPLY HERE**](#)

(link to application portal, applications by e-mail are not accepted)

More information:

<http://fabrikburgdorf.ch>

and see next page

FAQ - Information and frequently asked questions:

How long is the duration of the stay?

The stay lasts 3 months: from the beginning of June to the end of August.

Who can apply?

The residency is intended for professional visual artists or artist duos who already have several years of exhibition experience. It is not suitable for students, hobby artists, or craftspeople. It is expected that the artists in residence will spend most of their time at Fabrik.

Is the guest studio also suitable for several people?

Basically yes. The studio is very large, the apartment has 2 rooms (1 room with window to the outside, a smaller room with window to the hall). The monthly fee is paid only once. Artists with a child are also welcome, as long as they organize childcare themselves and can cope with the space available. The rooms are not suitable for more than 1 child. Provided that the available space is sufficient, guests can be accommodated in the apartment. Additional mattresses are available to borrow in the house. Fabrik also has a guest room that can be used for shorter stays.

Travel expenses

Artists must organize their own travel, and the costs will be reimbursed in the form of a lump sum of CHF 500.- for the round trip. For artist duos who apply together or individuals traveling from far away, the amount may be increased to CHF 1'000.- CHF. Travel visas must be arranged by the artists themselves. Fabrik can write an official letter of invitation if needed. No travel expenses will be covered for accompanying persons.

Unfortunately Switzerland is an expensive country, also for travelling by train. It is advisable to check in advance what travel expenses will be incurred and whether special discounts offers for travelers from abroad can be purchased. A Half Fare Travelcard is recommended (www.sbb.ch).

Cost of living allowance

The amount of 2'000.- CHF will be paid monthly in cash or transferred to the account of the artist after the start of the residency. The amount is intended to cover living expenses, travel within Switzerland, and working materials. No further amounts will be paid. The artist will receive a Swiss Museum Pass, which grants free admission to most museums.

What is available

The apartment is furnished and equipped with dishes, towels, bed linen - everything needed to live here for 3 months. There is free Wi-Fi in the building. In the shared office, you can make printouts or copies and use a computer (Mac). If you need to work on a computer frequently, we recommend bringing your own laptop. We are happy to help with extension cables, power adapters, or advice on purchasing materials. Tools can also be borrowed occasionally. If you need tools on a daily basis, you should bring your own. You are responsible for organizing and paying for your own work materials. In the large open space, which is available as studio, tables, chairs, movable walls can be provided as needed. There are also 1-2 guest bicycles available. A communal outdoor area with a garden table and barbecue is available for shared use.

There is a railway siding right next to Fabrik. There are nights when it can be noisy. On these nights, we recommend using earplugs!

Language

German but most people here also speak English and French.

Dates

We usually organize a welcome lunch at the beginning of the stay with all Fabrik artists and the cultural representative of the city of Burgdorf.

Towards the end of the stay, artists in residence are encouraged to organize either a small presentation of their work or an exhibition inside or outside Fabrik. We are happy to offer support by sending out a newsletter and organizing the aperitif. Furthermore it is possible to produce a postcard and, if there is a public event, also a flyer for it.

