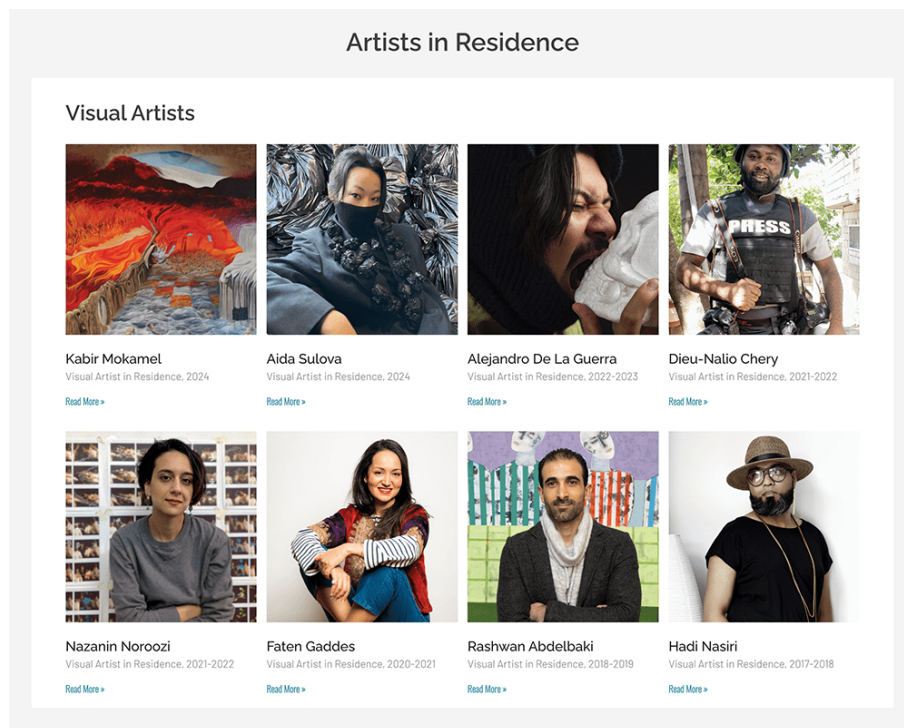


RU

RESIDENCY UNLIMITED

(<https://residencyunlimited.org>)

New York City Artist Safe Haven Residency Program



New York City Artist Safe Haven Residency Program

The New York City Artist Safe Haven Residency Program (NYCASHRP) is a **yearlong residency** for NYC-based international artists who have faced **censorship, persecution, or other threats to their freedom of expression**. This coalition-led program offers residents holistic services, including:

- **Pro bono immigration assistance** (Artistic Freedom Initiative),
- **Customized professional development and community engagement** (Joe's Pub at the Public Theater, Residency Unlimited, Tamizdat, and The New School),
- **Financial assistance for living expenses and artist materials** (The Andy Warhol

Foundation for the Visual Arts, Westbeth Artist Housing)

Founded in 2017 by Artistic Freedom Initiative, Todd Lanier Lester (ArtistSafety.net / FreeDimensional), Residency Unlimited, and Westbeth Artists Housing, the New York City Artist Safe Haven Residency Program (NYCASHRP) is an **innovative urban artist safety hosting program**. Arts and advocacy organizations come together to form the NYCASHRP coalition, providing **holistic support** for international at-risk artists who have faced censorship, persecution, or other threats to their freedom of expression.

Through this coalition, the residency offers artists **legal aid, resettlement assistance, professional development, financial assistance** for living expenses and artist materials, **advocacy, community engagement**, and other services. In 2024 and 2025, the program is hosting visual artists and musicians through a coalition that includes Artistic Freedom Initiative, Residency Unlimited, Tamizdat, and Joe's Pub at the Public Theater. From 2017 through 2023, the program hosted visual artists, musicians, writers, and filmmakers.

Specifically, **Residency Unlimited** provides visual and multidisciplinary artist residents with **unique, customized professional residency programming** composed of network support, project and production assistance, exhibition, and public programming opportunities.

To date, this residency program has hosted **eighteen** artists from Iran, Syria, Lebanon, Congo, Vietnam, Haiti, Uganda, India, Tunisia, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palestine, and Kyrgyzstan.

List of participating artists at RU and related programs since 2018:

2017: Hadi Nasiri (<https://residencyunlimited.org/residencies/hadi-nasiri/>) (Iran)

2018: Rashwan Abdelbaki (<https://residencyunlimited.org/residencies/rashwan-abdelbaki/>) (Syria)

2019: Khaled Barakeh (<https://residencyunlimited.org/residencies/khaled-barakeh/>) (Syria)

September 19, 2019, Panel: Artist Safety Hosting, A Discussion on Practice (<https://residencyunlimited.org/programs/panel-artist-safety-hosting-a-discussion-on-practice/>): Presentation of a hosting guide that offers reflections on the rise of artist safety hosting and the best practices for its use in New York City and elsewhere. Speakers: Tania Bruguera, Laura Raicovich, Prerana Reddy and others.

2020: Faten Gaddes (<https://residencyunlimited.org/residencies/faten-gaddes/>) (Tunisia)

2021-2022: Nazanin Noroozi (<https://residencyunlimited.org/residencies/nazanin-noroozi/>) (Iran)

2022-2023: Alejandro De La Guerra (<https://residencyunlimited.org/residencies/alejandro-de-la-guerra/>) (Nicaragua)

2024: Aida Sulova (<https://residencyunlimited.org/residencies/aida-sulova/>) (Kyrgyzstan)

2025: Margarita Kuleva (<https://residencyunlimited.org/residencies/margarita-kuleva/>) (Russia)

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Andy Warhol



SHELLEY & DONALD RUBIN FOUNDATION

The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts



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