

CREATIVE NEW ZEALAND - McCAHON HOUSE PACIFIC VISUAL ARTS RESIDENCY 2026 APPLICATION FORM

The Creative New Zealand – McCahon House Pacific Visual Arts Residency will be awarded to one outstanding mid-career to established Pasifika visual arts/craft object artist who can show an interest in or provide international market potential in their work. Growing global Pacific arts is a strategic priority action under the CNZ Pacific Arts Strategy with a goal to see more Pacific artists, companies, collectives and organisations achieve more global and international opportunities, with improved skills to navigate global markets and audiences.

The three-month residency is a pilot initiative between Creative New Zealand Toi Aotearoa Pacific Arts Strategy and McCahon House Trust to offer a Pacific Visual Arts Residency in 2026.

The Residency dates are 27 April – 19 July 2026.

Note: Dates are approximate and will be confirmed on selection

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 4pm Wednesday 2 July 2025

Please submit your application as a single PDF to: tamara@mccahonhouse.org.nz

PERSONAL DETAILS

Pronouns: _____ First Name(s): _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post code: _____

Phone: 0... _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

ONE REFEREE

Please list your referee below and supply an accompanying written reference with your application.

1. Name: _____

Phone (Work): 0... _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

OUR PARTNERSHIP VISION

McCahon House Trust was established in 1999, to recognise the life and art of Colin McCahon during the transformative period the family lived in Titirangi, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, from 1953 to 1960.

This is achieved through offering Parehuia Artist Residency, a purpose-built apartment and artist studio of international standing, and by preserving the original family home, the McCahon House Museum, as a place for the public to visit.

In recent years, the Trust has expanded its focus to embrace McCahon's legacy as a gifted teacher, as well as the talents of our Parehuia alumni, by advancing the practice of contemporary art in Aotearoa through education and international engagement.

This initiative aligns with **Creative New Zealand's Pacific Arts Strategy 2023–2028** areas:

- TAGATA - Stronger arts. Dynamic arts. Pacific arts are bold and enterprising. Pasifika artists and arts practitioners are resourced to develop their practice and deliver outstanding work.
- VA - Stronger arts sector. Resilient arts sector. Pacific arts are powerfully connected through resilient ecosystems of creative communities. An innovative and networked Pacific arts environment exists, so that Pacific arts are strengthened for future success.
- MOANA - Greater public engagement with the arts. Diversity and reach. Pacific arts inspire and influence people, everywhere. Meaningful connections, across Aotearoa, Oceania and globally, ensure that Pacific arts are further enriched.

Objectives:

TAGATA

- Mana Pasifika and Kaupapa Pasifika culturally appropriate ways of working and engaging with diverse Pasifika artists, cultures and creative communities.
- professional development opportunities for individual Pasifika artists at all career stages

VA

- Pacific arts communities are communal in nature and we will see more strategic reciprocal partnerships and collaborations between artists and communities in Aotearoa, Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa and the world.

MOANA

- More residency and cultural exchange opportunities between New Zealand-based Pasifika artists and Pasifika artists based in Oceania ensuring that the cultural exchanges uplift the mana of Pasifika artists based in Aotearoa and artists in nations across Te Moana nui a Kiva and internationally.
- Greater recognition and visibility of the success of Pasifika artist and practitioners and their contribution to Aotearoa New Zealand nationally, across Te Moana nui a Kiva and internationally.

SUPPORT INFORMATION

Please provide the following in support of your application:

1. Curriculum vitae. Please include exhibition history, collections where your work is held, awards and residencies.
2. A portfolio of 8-10 images which clearly demonstrate your current practice and development.
3. A list of recent critical reviews and any other commentaries or writing on your work. Please select **ONE** review to include in full as a supporting document.
4. Answer the following questions. Approximately 200-300 words on each question please.
 - a. Describe your current practice and comment on the body of work you intend to produce if offered this Residency. Explain why this is important to you.
 - b. Describe your specific intentions for the residency period. How will it extend your creative and professional practice internationally?
 - c. Describe your international goals, the interest and/or international market potential of your work.
5. **ONE** written reference as per Referee. This support letter needs to articulate the impact the residency will have on you at this point in your career.
6. A short biography and a high-res image of yourself (>2mb) for promotional purposes should you be successful.
7. Information regarding any pre-existing medical conditions that you feel we need to be aware of.
8. Names and ages of any dependents and/or name of partner that would live with you during the Residency.

Applications are to arrive no later than 4pm on Wednesday 2 July 2025

We accept digital applications only. Please submit your application as a single PDF document.

If you would like to discuss your application or require any assistance regarding the process please contact:

Tamara Rakich (Operations Manager)
tamara@mccahonhouse.org.nz

Successful applicants will be notified by early September 2025

DETAILS OF THE RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

Artists will receive the following benefits:

- 12 weeks accommodation in a fully furnished architecturally designed two-bedroom house at 69 Otitori Bay Road, Titirangi. Electricity, phoneline and fibre usage is included.
- Exclusive use of the adjoining studio.
- A total stipend of \$18,000NZD provided to the artist in three monthly installments (including a bond).
- \$1,000NZD will be available for selected artists based outside of Tāmaki Makarau Auckland for travel costs within Aotearoa.
- Unlimited access to the restored McCahon House Museum on the adjacent property.
- Support from the McCahon House team and Trust for the duration of your residency.
- Bespoke mentoring and advice from accomplished arts colleagues with experience and knowledge of international engagement, markets and other opportunities. Depending on the artist selected, this may include facilitating introductions, research travel and commissioning in-depth essays by a writer.
- Welcome event held at Parehuia.
- A bespoke engagement event such as an open studio, artist talk, conversation, workshop etc. held at Parehuia.
- A bespoke Gate Gathering for yourself and a select number of guests. The format and location will be decided in consultation with the McCahon House team.
- An education video produced during your time at Parehuia available for use in schools.

PAREHUIA

Parehuia is an award-winning house designed by architect, Pete Bossley and is situated close to the beach at French Bay in the foothills of the Waitakere Ranges, approximately 30 minutes' drive from central Auckland.

Facilities include one queen and one twin bedroom, one bathroom, two toilets, laundry, fully-equipped kitchen. The living room, bedrooms and studio are all fitted with air conditioning and fibre internet.

The artist's studio is approximately 9 x 4.5m. It is equipped with chairs, tables, sink and bench, dehumidifier and fibre internet.

Adjacent to the residency is the restored house where Colin McCahon and his family lived from 1953-1960. As a House Museum it is open to the public from 1-4pm, Saturday and Sunday and by appointment Wednesday - Friday.

Due to the steep hillside aspect of the property there are stairs making it difficult for access to those requiring wheelchair access.

APPLICATION CRITERIA

1. Applicants must be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents of New Zealand at the time of entry.
2. Applicants must be an artist of Pacific Islands heritage. The Pacific Islands refers to the islands and nations of Oceania, which include the islands and nations of Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia.
3. Applicants must be a mid-career to established visual artist who can show an interest/international market potential in their work.
4. Applicants must be able to reside and work full-time at Parehuia during the term of the residency.
5. Applicants who are in current default of any Creative New Zealand funding will not be eligible to apply.

SELECTION PROCESS

1. The selection will be carried out by a panel convened and chaired by a Creative New Zealand Pacific staff member, McCahon House Representative and up to three strategic stakeholders.
2. Applications will be assessed on:
 - a. Meeting the objectives and outcomes of the Residency;
 - b. How this opportunity and timing of the residency will benefit the creative practice of the artist;
 - c. the quality and significance of the proposed residency project (e.g., towards research, strategic networking with artistic/cultural influencers/leaders, creating new work and/or collaborations);
 - d. the artist's ability to develop networks and work collaboratively, including ambassadorial skills and understanding of the aims of Creative New Zealand's Pacific Arts Strategy 2023-2028 and McCahon House;
 - e. the artist's ability to adapt to living and working at McCahon House; and
 - f. show evidence of experience and understanding of Kaupapa Pasifika.
3. The Panel will meet in August. The Panel membership will be made public after the artists have been selected and announced.
4. The selection panel's decision will be final. Feedback can be provided on request if available.

CONDITIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

1. Artists will engage and connect with McCahon House audiences, including arts professionals, artists, visitors and supporters, via a programme of events held during their residency. Engagement activity will be determined in consultation with the Artist.
2. Artists will contribute to video documentation of their time at Parehuia for educational use.
3. Artists will produce a post-residency report.
4. Artists will produce an artwork to be donated to the McCahon House Trust Collection representing an archive of work by Parehuia alumni.
5. Artists will donate an original artwork or a limited-edition artwork to the McCahon House Trust for fundraising purposes. Details including medium, size, price, production details and timing will be decided in discussion with the Artist and the McCahon House team. The materials and/or production cost of the donated artworks is to be borne by the Trust up to \$500. All funds generated will support the ongoing running of the Parehuia residency programme.