

Fall, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

Cleveland Institute of Art (CIA) values your commitment to providing quality education and opportunities for continuous learning to help strengthen the classroom experience for both your students and educators.

CIA would not be able to support our undergraduate students in their artistic pursuits without the incredible groundwork set forth by the teachers who helped prepare them for their studies in art and design. Every day, educators from grade school through high school passionately embrace the vital role of developing young artists – from facilitating engaging lessons, serving as mentors and motivators, sharing knowledge and skills, and inspiring students to exercise their creativity.

Yet, their passion does not stop there. Many of these educators have art practices of their own – practices that encourage them to creatively express ideas and experiment with mediums and techniques that they can incorporate into their artwork and classroom lesson plans.

We believe that one of the most effective ways art teachers can contribute is to lead by example: having a strong personal studio practice and being a dedicated educator. However, we also know how busy life can be during the school year for hard-working teachers, and how important it is to provide them with much needed time to rejuvenate themselves and their studio practices during the summer so they can return to school with renewed motivation and ideas to share with their students.

CIA's **Summer Teacher Residency** program is designed to provide educators with just that opportunity. The residency brings together a diverse group of art teachers and provides them with dedicated time and space to immerse themselves into the studio, creating a new body of work while reinvigorating their studio and teaching practices. The residency also provides teachers with a robust schedule of professional development sessions and programming designed to support them as they continue to learn and discover lessons and resources that are relevant to both their artistic and classroom practices.

To help teachers with the program cost, we offer the option for schools to sponsor the residency fee. A sponsorship of \$900 covers 12-days of professional development sessions, demonstrations led by CIA faculty mentors and technical specialists, seminars and critiques, art supplies, some meals, and 10 CEU credits. Educators will walk away with a new body of work that they created during their time here, along with techniques, resources, and perspectives that they can take back to their school in the fall. The Summer Teacher Residency program is a wonderful opportunity for your school to express its commitment to supporting K-12 teaching artists. **Will you consider sponsoring one of your art teachers to participate in the 2022 Summer Teacher Residency?**

If you would like to sponsor one (or more!) of your teachers to join in our Summer Teacher Residency program, please review the enclosed packet for more information. We look forward to hearing back from you and thank you in advance for considering the opportunity to support and invest in your educators.

Sincerely,



Gabrielle Burrage  
Director, Continuing Education + Community Outreach

**Summer Teacher Residency participants had the following to say about their experience:**

“Time spent in the studio with my colleagues has been invaluable to my artist and teaching practice. I have been transformed in ways that will invigorate my professional and personal life forever.”

-Anne, Brecksville Broadview Heights High School

“If you're looking for an experience that reminds you of why you decided to teach art in the first place you need to enroll in the CIA Summer Teacher Residency Program. In a little over a week you will be challenged, inspired and rewarded with the experiences this program has to offer. This was the most authentically beneficial professional development I have ever attended - it has changed the way I look at my practice as an artist-educator and I feel rejuvenated and excited about the second half of my career!”

-Dave, Victor Senior High School

“The most impactful part of the experience was adopting the perspective of a student again. It's easy to get stuck in the mindset of a teacher, but it's important to reflect on the needs of a student, from their point of view. The CIA residency helped me reassess my teaching style and feedback. I have incorporated more critique-discussions to provide students with additional feedback and advice during the art-making process. In turn, my students have been able to talk more confidently about their own artwork and address solutions faster.”

- Caitlin, St. Ursula Academy

“The CIA Summer Teacher Residency offers art educators the opportunity to dive back into their practice with support and guidance from professional artists in Cleveland and access to an impressive variety of tools & facilities at CIA. This experience has left me inspired to continue the work I've started at the residency through the remainder of my summer and then share that experience with my students once back in my classroom.”

- Jaime, The Wellington School

“The Cleveland Institute of Art's Summer Teacher Residency was an eye-opener, to see all the different creative abilities people have. Great artistic building block for a creative person, to put yourself back into the mind of a student, and learn from others for a change! I wish I could have stayed forever!”

- Melissa, Elyria Catholic High School

“It was an awesome opportunity to grow as an artist and an art teacher. It was like being in an art colony for a week among friends and supportive peers. It was challenging, fun and inspiring.”

-David, Edison High School