



OFFICIAL CALL FOR APPLICATIONS UNION HALL ARTS RESIDENCY

August 10 – September 7, 2026
Detroit, Michigan

Deadline to Apply: June 1, 2026

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The UAW Education Department is proud to support the UNITE HERE Education and Support Fund (501c3) and Talking Dolls Studio to pilot the Union Hall Arts Residency. This four-week artist residency program will launch this summer in Detroit, Michigan. The program will bring together a talented cohort of 4-6 members of various unions to hone their artistic skills and unleash their creative expression to make art for our movement.

Please see the attached brochure and visit the Union Hall Arts website for more details about this extraordinary opportunity: www.unionhallarts.org.

ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY

Applicants to this program must be nominated and sponsored by their union to be eligible for selection.

To receive sponsorship from the UAW, the applicant must:

- Be an active member in good standing at a UAW local union
- Be at least 21 years old with a valid driver's license
- Be able to take union leave from their employer and be present in Detroit for the duration of the program, August 10 – September 7, 2026
- Submit all required application materials following the process indicated by Union Hall Arts

- Receive approval from their local union to participate in the program. The UAW local union president must sign the Sponsoring Union Nomination Form, which must be submitted alongside other application materials
- Meet all other eligibility requirements of the program, as indicated on www.unionhallarts.org

You do not have to be a “professional” artist to apply, but you must be able to demonstrate through application materials (photos, video, audio, or written material) a creative passion, emerging practice, or existing body of work that you hope to further explore through the residency.

The Union Hall Arts Residency Committee will consider applications from eligible candidates from across the labor movement. Any eligible UAW member who is properly approved by their local union and selected by the Committee will receive sponsorship from the UAW Education Department to participate in the program.

This is a full-time commitment that requires a four-week leave of absence from work for the duration of the residency. Participation in all program activities is mandatory.

SPONSORSHIP

The UAW Education Department will sponsor any UAW members who are selected to participate in the residency as follows, in accordance with UAW Travel and Expense policies.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS

This residency will be hosted at Talking Dolls Studio, located at 7145 E Davison St, Detroit, MI 48212. Participants from UAW local unions located more than 50 miles from the studio will be provided housing accommodations in Detroit for the duration of the program. The International Union, UAW will arrange and pay for the housing accommodations, if applicable.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS & TRANSPORTATION COSTS

The International Union, UAW will arrange and pay the transportation costs associated with the program. Participants from UAW local unions located within 300 miles from the studio will be required to drive. Participants from UAW local unions located greater than 300 miles from the studio will be required to travel to Detroit by air, unless otherwise approved. All travel related expenses will be provided in accordance with the UAW Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Union Hall Arts will host several virtual information sessions about the program in advance of the application deadline. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend a session to meet the program organizers and learn more about what the residency will entail. Please visit www.unionhallarts.org to sign up for an information session.

In addition to contacting Union Hall Arts directly, questions about this program can be referred to education@uaw.net.

This official call includes information that should be shared with local unions.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shawn P. Fain". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Shawn Fain, President
International Union, UAW

SF/EF/SR:adh
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