

Stuart Black Drawing Fellowship Guidelines

The Stuart Black Drawing Fellowship supports advanced study and research in the field of Drawing at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), Faculty of Fine Arts & Music, University of Melbourne, bringing renowned artists to VCA to engage staff and students in their practices and methods.

In 2027, the Fellowship will support two international Fellows. Each Fellowship comprises a four-week residency at VCA Art in Narm (Melbourne), with a Fellowship fee of \$15,000- \$20,000 to contribute towards visa, travel and living expenses. The Fellowship is open to artists working within an expanded understanding of Drawing and is intended to support the development of their artistic practice and research during the residency.

Prior to arrival, each Fellow will work with VCA Art area to develop the activities for their residency. This engagement will be light-touch, comprising a small number of online conversations and occasional correspondence in preparation for the visit.

During the four-week residency, Fellows will deliver masterclasses, seminars or workshops, a public lecture or performance, and individual student and graduate research tutorials, as agreed with VCA Art and pertinent to an expanded understanding of Drawing as a discipline. There is no expectation that Fellows take part in the regular teaching or supervision activities of VCA Art.

RESIDENCY AND PAYMENT

Each Fellow will undertake a four-week residency in Narm (Melbourne) during the VCA teaching semester. Two separate residency periods will be offered in 2027, with one Fellow hosted in each period. Applicants will be asked to nominate a preferred and an alternative residency period in their EOI: **9th August – 3rd September or 6th September – 1st October.**

Accommodation will be provided at the Norma Redpath Studio, Carlton, subject to its residency periods and accommodation capacity. The Studio provides a self-contained living and studio environment for independent artistic research and practice.

During the residency, Fellows will be connected with students and faculty across VCA Art and, where relevant, Melbourne's wider artistic and research community. The Norma Redpath Studio provides a studio-based environment for independent artwork making. Please note that the Fellowship does not provide access to other University workshops, digital resources or technicians for independent artwork production.

In addition to the accommodation, each Fellowship provides a one-off fee of \$15,000 - \$20,000. In addition to recognising the Fellow's activity with VCA, the award will contribute towards costs associated with the residency, including return economy travel, visa costs, insurance, local transport, meals and living expenses.

CONDITIONS AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

During their residency, Fellows will deliver masterclasses, seminars or workshops, a public lecture or performance, and individual student and graduate research tutorials within VCA Art on aspects of their art practice pertinent to an expanded understanding of Drawing as a discipline. The precise

activities will be agreed with VCA Art in advance of the residency. These are discrete Fellowship activities that enable students and faculty to engage with the Fellow's practices and methods. The scale and format of Fellowship activities will be proposed by the artist and then discussed and agreed with VCA Art during the planning period prior to the Fellow's arrival. Fellows will not be engaged as employees or contractors of the University.

Fellows will be appointed as Academic Guests of the University of Melbourne for the period of their residency at the VCA.

Any equipment such as laptops or materials will be brought or purchased by the Fellow with the Fellowship monies.

Public programme

Each Fellow will deliver a public lecture or performance as part of the Fellowship. The format will be developed in discussion with VCA Art and may include an artist talk, conversation, screening, performance or another format appropriate to the Fellow's practice.

ELIGIBILITY

For 2027, the Fellowship will support two **international** Fellows.* Applicants should be renowned artists whose practices demonstrate an engagement with Drawing and who have a high level of teaching capacity.

Drawing is understood here in an expanded sense: as a provisional and exploratory process of making and following traces, mapping relationships and giving form to connections and possibilities that do not yet exist. It may take material form through drawing and print, but equally through moving image, installation, performance, publishing, sound, social practice, computational practice or other forms.

Applicants may be citizens of any country, subject to Australian visa requirements. Applicants must not currently hold an active appointment or engagement with the University of Melbourne as an employee, honorary appointee or contractor.

The Fellowship is strictly conditional upon the Fellow obtaining the necessary work rights, with the University providing guidance on any visa requirements that may apply.

The visa does not require sponsorship and the Fellow selected can apply directly through the Department of Home Affairs Website. The Fellow will need to include the letter of support provided by the University to support their visa application. A tourist visa is not appropriate for Stuart Black Drawing Fellows. Please allow plenty of time for obtaining the visa.

**Every third Stuart Black Drawing Fellowship awarded is dedicated to a remote First-Nations Australian artist. These two Fellowships offered in the second half of 2027 are international Fellowships for artists based outside Australia.*

KEY DATES

Expressions of Interest close 5 November 2026, 5pm AEDT

Successful artists notified 20 November 2026

Successful Fellows will be required to acknowledge the Fellowship in any publication, advertisement, public lecture, performance, seminar or postgraduate workshop issuing from the Fellowship with the phrase:

“Supported by the Stuart Black Drawing Fellowship Bequest and the Victorian College of the Arts.”

The Stuart Black Fellowship is presented by VCA Art, Victorian College of the Arts, Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, University of Melbourne.

Privacy Policy

The information you provide will be available to the Committee and administrative staff to assess the candidate for an award. The University has a comprehensive [privacy policy](#) on the responsible use, collection and security of, and access to personal information. You are entitled to access personal information held by the University under [Freedom of Information](#).

Preparing the Accommodation

- Prior to the arrival of the Fellow, the host Department/School should liaise with the Norma Redpath Caretaker to facilitate the Fellow's entry to the accommodation.
- The keys will be made available for approved Fellowships for the agreed period of residency only. At the conclusion of the residency, residents must return the keys to the nominee. The keys are the property of the University, so must not be replicated or retained by residents at the end of the residency.

Partners and children and support people at Norma Redpath Studio

- The accommodation is solely for the intended purposes of the Fellowship. Fellows are welcome to bring their support person / partner/spouse or dependent children with them. However, the house is not to be used to accommodate friends and non-dependent family members.

Funding Arrangements

- The Stuart Black Drawing Fellowship will contribute up to **\$15,000-\$20,000** towards the total cost of a Stuart Black Drawing Fellowship. The specific amount awarded for each Fellowship will be stated in the letter of award. This amount will contribute towards the expenditure items listed in the budget and will include any amounts awarded to subsidise childcare/travel costs for support persons for the Fellow.
- Travel costs

- If relevant the funding allocation includes the cost of an economy class return airfare for the Fellow. This will be for the leg of the trip pertaining to the Fellowship only. For local trips in Melbourne, the Fellow will fund this through the fee.
- Visitor Travel Allowance
 - Stuart Black Fellows Visitor Travel Allowance is included as a part of the whole Fellowship fee funding to cover meals and incidental costs. Please use the [F45 Visitor Travel Allowance Calculator](#) to organise the allowance to prepare the budget. The calculator determines the maximum amount payable to a visitor.

Norma Redpath Information

Fellows may bring a partner or spouse, dependent children or a support person during the residency, subject to agreement and the accommodation capacity of the Norma Redpath Studio. Where required, Fellows may allocate up to AUD \$3,500 of the Fellowship award towards additional costs associated with dependent children or a support person.

- The hosting of the selected fellow at the Norma 1 at the Norma Redpath Studio, Carlton.
 - Norma 1 includes a workshop area. This unit is available for residencies of up to 4 weeks and is best suited for a single guest (or a couple sharing the bed) or family with up to two children over 12 years old.
 - Proposals for Norma 1 that are focussed on supporting all forms of visual arts practice.
 - This unit has a private ensuite bedroom with a king-sized bed, a complete kitchen, a large living area and private access to a workshop space.
 - This unit contains a small single bed and a single sized sofa bed. Both beds are in a non-private, open plan area.
 - If proposed guests plan to have children stay overnight while in residency, this must be noted in the EOI application.
- (Please note: the Fellowship provides hosting at the Norma Redpath Studio which enables a studio based environment for independent artwork making however there is unfortunately no access to other university resources such as workshops, digital resources and technicians for this activity of the SBDF).