



PO Box 370
North Salem, NY 10560
<https://www.spaceonryderfarm.org/>

Contact: Amy Wolf
amy@spaceonryderfarm.org

SPACE ON RYDER FARM ANNOUNCES NEW FIVE-YEAR INITIATIVE AND 2024 APPLICATIONS

Beginning in 2024, SPACE on Ryder Farm will make a five-year commitment to supporting leadership development and strengthening connections among sector stakeholders.

Brewster, NY (November 15, 2023) - [SPACE on Ryder Farm](https://www.spaceonryderfarm.org/), the artist residency program and organic farm located in Putnam County, New York announces programming for the 2024 season.

At its founding in 2011, SPACE determined a vital need for artists—simply, time and space. In the intervening years, SPACE has hosted over 1500 residents and become one of the most sought-after artist residency programs in the country.

Historically, SPACE has made intentional pivots when the needs of our community change—including for parent artists, farmers, emerging playwrights, and the food insecure. Now, as the American theater adapts to an ever changing landscape, SPACE is proud to announce **Come to the Table**—a five-year initiative expanding the reach of our communal table to facilitate cross-industry communication and invigorate artists, innovators, and leaders to help rebuild a sustainable future for the arts. Executive Director, Kelly M. Burdick explains,

“As an industry, the theatre is too small for us to go it alone. It’s going to take everyone working with the spirit of hospitality that is provided in residency. The SPACE experience can fan a tiny revolution that will spread throughout the field, a blueprint of how to move through the coming challenges and opportunities, together, with generosity, a sense of belonging, and a focus on cultivating fertile soil for ourselves and our colleagues.”

For Phase One (2024), SPACE invites individual artists, as well as, theatre administrators, and theatre educators, to apply for 2024 Creative Residencies. This is the first time Creative Residencies have been open to theater administrators and theater educators. In the Fall of 2023, SPACE consulted with a Working Group composed of alumni, curators, SPACE trustees, and industry professionals to determine Phase One priorities and goals.

Residents will be invited to spend two, non-contiguous weeks on the farm. One week will be a traditional residency experience with people working in the same part of the field; these provide time for rest, restoration, working on individual projects, and sharing in communal meals sourced from SPACE's farm.

Then residents will be invited back for a second engagement with a blended group—offering the same respite but with the addition of professionally facilitated conversations centering around evolving assumptions about the challenges and realities that face our counterparts in the field and deepen our understanding about how our decisions and actions impact each other.

Potential applicants can learn more about SPACE on Ryder Farm and this program at www.spaceonryderfarm.org.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING

SPACE will also offer its Greenhouse Residency, Working Farm, and Institutional Residencies in 2024—and pilot a new early career farmers program.

GREENHOUSE RESIDENCY

SPACE's Greenhouse Residency offers theater writers who have not had access to the professional theater community or training programs a week-long residency to write and participate in workshops with mentors and other professionals. For this program, participants are nominated to apply from a diverse network of professional artists. The application process for the Greenhouse residency will be announced in Spring 2024.

THE WORKING FARM

The Working Farm is SPACE's resident writers' group, which offers five playwrights, composers, lyricists or librettists a non-consecutive five-week residency on Ryder Farm during the course of the annual May-October season. Information about the application process for the Working Farm will be announced in early spring 2024.

INSTITUTIONAL RESIDENCIES

Institutional Residencies provide 501c(3) organizations and incorporated ensembles with time and space for the writing or workshopping of commissions, strategic planning and retreat opportunities away from the hustle and bustle. Application information will be available in late winter 2023.

THE FARMER’S DORMANCY

The Farmer’s Dormancy, named from the agricultural term “Dormancy”—a phenomenon where seeds spend the winter in rest, preserving energy, preparing to sprout in the spring—is a pilot program that uses SPACE’s residency model to offer respite to early career market farmers to plan their years, explore new techniques, and prepare for the spring planting season. In its first year, the Dormancy is invitation only.

ABOUT SPACE ON RYDER FARM

[SPACE on Ryder Farm](#) is a nonprofit residency program and organic farm located on the ancestral land of the Wappinger people in modern day Putnam County, New York on the grounds of a 227-year-old family homestead. SPACE’s mission is to create an environment singular in its ability to invigorate artists and innovators and their work, and to contribute to the sustainability and resourceful preservation of one of the oldest organic family farms on the East Coast.

Through unique programs supporting playwrights, filmmakers, activists, working parent artists and more, SPACE has served over 1,550 residents since its founding in 2011, and has developed a national reputation as one of the most sought-after residency programs in the country. SPACE counts among its alumni Academy Award winners, Tony Award nominees and winners, Pulitzer Prize winners, Guggenheim fellows, Obie Award winners and MacArthur “Genius” Fellows. Past residents include theatre artists Clare Barron, Adam Bock, David Cale, Linda Cho, Lucas Hnath, Samuel D. Hunter, Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Young Jean Lee, Martyna Majok, Dave Malloy, Adam Rapp, Sarah Ruhl, Mfoniso Udofia, and Anne Washburn; theatre companies Ars Nova, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, The Public Theater, Roundabout Theatre Company, Soho Rep, and Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company; musicians Cesar Alvarez, Heather Christian, Grace McLean, Riley Mulherkar, and Shaina Taub; filmmakers Janicza Bravo, Begonia Colomar, Nia Dacosta, Josh Mond, Chioke Nassor, and James C. Strouse; and visual artists Alta Buden, Kylie Manning, and Tiffanie Turner.

Programs at SPACE on Ryder Farm are made possible with generous support from Anne Anastasi Charitable Foundation, Distracted Globe Foundation Marshall Frankel Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, The Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation, Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts, Lubin Family Foundation, Marjorie Weil & Marvin Edward Mitchell Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, Michael Palm Foundation, Morris-Olshansky Family Fund, Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller Fund, The Shubert Foundation, Stanley Family Foundation, MK Reichert Sternlicht Foundation, Still Point Fund, Sustainable Arts Foundation, Tamarack Foundation, Tiger Baron Foundation, The Rafael & Diana Vinoly Foundation, Tamara R. White Charitable Fund and hundreds of individual donors. SPACE is a Playwrights Horizons Company in Residence.

For more information, visit www.spaceonryderfarm.org.

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