

RESIDENCY

CALL

Climate Change, Migration, In/Justice

The [EcoArtLab](#) is a transdisciplinary think-and-do tank at Bern Academy of the Arts (HKB), which is part of Bern University of Applied Sciences. The Lab's purpose is to initiate collaborations between artists, scientists and the public. In close partnership with the [mLAB](#) at the Institute of Geography at the University of Bern, an interdisciplinary team explores the interactions between artistic research, geography, critical sustainability research and climatology, and opens new encounters and ways of thinking about climate justice.

For 2024, we invite applications for a first residency that addresses the nexus of climate change, environmental change, in/justice, and migration. We are looking for an existing or new interdisciplinary team of two people from the fields of art, science and/or activism.

The residency takes place in partnership with the development organization [Helvetas](#), which is developing a theme trail with exhibition stations together with the [Open-Air Museum Ballenberg](#) in 2024. Under the title "weltweit unterwegs" (worldwide on the move), the project addresses people on the move from historical and national as well as contemporary and global perspectives. The results of the residency will be incorporated into the theme trail.

WHAT

Transdisciplinary Residency on climate change, migration, in/justice

WHEN

March - Sept. 2024

DURATION

A total of 6 weeks spread over the project period

APPLICATION DEADLINE

ETENDED:

November 17,

2023, 6 p.m. (CET)

BUDGET

CHF 12,000 stipend for team

Estimated up to

CHF 8,000 project budget

WHO

All disciplines (artists, scientists, activists)

The impacts of climate change are not equitably distributed, and increase inequality between the Global South and the Global North. Examples of this are the links between climate change, environmental change, and often unwanted migration and mobility. Climate and Mobility Justice asks what would be just and how that can be implemented at different levels (inter-personal, local, national and transnational). We are particularly interested in a critical and curious debate about the role of Switzerland as a global player.

We want to make connections visible and discuss options for action. The aim of the residency is to promote collaborations that experiment with new methodological approaches and forms of knowledge production, for example, through approaches from artistic research or community science practices. In contrast to science communication, this is about collaborations of artistic and scientific perspectives on an equal footing, where new procedures are tested.

The residency will take place in the context of a research project funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation on the collaboration between art and scientific research. A preparatory two-day methodological workshop is planned for spring 2024. In April, the theme trail with exhibition stations on the Ballenberg will be visited with students from the HKB and the University of Bern. This will also be the beginning of the residency.

Subsequently, the residents will work in May and June in Bern at the HKB and in the mLAB of the Geography Department of the University of Bern, accompanied and supervised by the EcoArtLab team. The result will be an installation/intervention that will be shown to the large audience of the Freilichtmuseum Ballenberg in September at the latest and that can be experienced for the rest of the exhibition. In the process, for example, the possibilities for actions that engage the numerous visitors to the Ballenberg can also be addressed in a participatory process. Existing objects and infrastructures onsite can be included and expanded by additional perspectives.

ELIGIBILITY

In keeping with its inter- and transdisciplinary nature, EcoArtLab welcomes applications from a broad range of research interests (social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, and inter- and transdisciplinary fields) and from all fields of artistic practice. The team may or may not have shared work experience.

We are looking for a team of two people who meet the following requirements:

- Several years of artistic and scientific practice and curiosity to expand these in exchange with other perspectives, as well as people with an activist background and/or biographical connection to the issue of climate- and environment-related migration.
- There are no restrictions regarding education or age. Freelancers, students, members of universities, etc., can apply.
- Willingness to engage in collaborative practices and reflect and develop in exchange with the EcoArtLab team.
- At least one person of the team should be able to communicate in German, since the project will be shown site-specifically in the Open Air Museum Ballenberg.
- There are no restrictions with regard to origin of the team members. However, since only travel expenses within Switzerland can be covered, residence in Switzerland is recommended. For foreign participants, we cannot guarantee entry into Switzerland, but will do our best to assist you in applying for the visa.

We strive to make the selection and work process barrier-free. Please contact us regarding barrier-free working conditions.

BUDGET

Stipend for 2 project members together
(gross, i.e., including any social security contributions): CHF 12,000

Production costs (by arrangement) up to CHF 8,000

Travel costs within Switzerland and overnight stay at Ballenberg by arrangement

CONDITIONS

Interviews for invited applicants: Dec. 11, 2023, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (CET) via Zoom

Participation in the methods workshop: 13/14 March 2023, Bern

Participation in a workshop with students: two days per week, April 15-19, 2024, Ballenberg.

Work period: April-September 2024

Duration: approx. 6 weeks spread over the working period. At least 1/3 of the working time should be spent in Bern.

Public presentation: September 7-8, 2024, Ballenberg

The use of infrastructure, workspaces, and workshops of the two Bernese universities is possible by arrangement.

The residency should be open-ended and give the residents the freedom that is important for the development of research and artistic positions. The research team conducts interviews with the residents and organizers and accompanies the process. The results will be published in the form of publications by the research team. The residents are in close contact with the respective institutions during the realization of the project, but agree in advance with the EcoArtLab on the framework of what is feasible.

- Thematic connection to climate change, in/justice and migration
- Biographical and/or (inter)disciplinary background
- Competence of the project team
- Type of cooperation possible. In doing so, we attach importance to equal exchange and visibility of the project participants.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The complete application (all in one PDF file) should be sent by email to ecoartlab@protonmail.com by **November 26, 2023, 6 p.m. (CET)**. It can be written in German or English and should include the following:

1. A text (maximum 3 pages) containing the following
 - Short letter of motivation (separate paragraph/letter for all participants)
 - Common description of a possible form of cooperation
2. Background
 - A short text describing the professional/scientific background of each team member (one paragraph per person, max. 2 pages).
 - CVs (max. 3 pages per person)
 - Optional: link to documentation of previous projects, texts, pictures, videos, own websites

If you are not selected for an interview, you will receive notification on December 6, 2023.

Selection interviews with invited finalists will be held **December 11, 2023, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (CET) via Zoom.**

For questions, contact: ecoartlab@protonmail.com

The **EcoArtLab** is a transdisciplinary think-and-do tank at the Bern Academy of the Arts (Bern University of Applied Sciences) that aims to initiate collaborations between artists, artistic researchers, scientists and the public. Further information: [LINK](#)

The **mLAB** at the Institute of Geography at the University of Bern is an experimental space that encourages researchers* to develop new forms of collaborative and collective work and to critically use art and other media as an integral part of their work. More information: [LINK](#)

2023-2027, EcoArtLab is conducting the research project “EcoArtLab: Relational Encounters between Art and Climate Research” in collaboration with the mLAB at the Institute of Geography of the University of Bern. The SNSF-funded research project explores how the intersection of artistic research, geography, and critical sustainability research can lead to new encounters and approaches to thinking about climate justice. More information: [LINK](#)