



For Immediate Release

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Zócalo Artist Residency Announces 2021-2022 Open Call: Deadline is October 26th

HOUSTON, TX (August 17th, 2020) — The Zócalo Artist-in-Residency Program (ZAIR) is pleased to announce the application cycle for its second annual residency season opens September 1st, 2020 and closes October 26th, 2020 at midnight. U.S. based artists & artist teams interested in deepening or developing a community engaged practice are welcome to apply.

Located on the beautiful residential campus of Zócalo Apartments in the Spring Branch neighborhood of Houston, Texas, three fully funded residency positions are available including two 6-month and a single one-year term starting April 1st, 2021. Selected artists are awarded no-cost housing in a private apartment studio, a \$250 monthly stipend, exhibition space, and hands-on support from full-time residency staff. This year due to COVID-19 and the unprecedented economic impact the pandemic has had on the arts community, the application fee has been discounted and is now \$10 for artists to apply.

Each season artists are selected by a rotating panel of Houston-based curators, artists, and arts professionals representing a diverse range of expertise and leadership within the local arts industry. This year's panelists include; Houston interdisciplinary artist, curator, and current artist-in-residence, **Theresa Escobedo**; public visual artist, curator, and muralist, **Angel Quesada**; and **Sixto Wagan**, the inaugural Director for the Center for Art and Social Engagement (CASE) at the University of Houston.

About Zócalo Artist in Residency: The Zócalo Artist-in-Residency, one of the nation's first artist residency programs sponsored by a multifamily real estate firm is a fully funded artist residency dedicated to building community through dynamic art and ideas. With a focus on the intersection of art and community enrichment, the program strives to strengthen the connection between residents and the living spaces they share through the power of art and creativity. By granting artists stable housing and various forms of financial and artistic support, the program aims to create an inspiring and supportive environment of creative inquiry.

"This program is best suited for an artist or artist-team with a community-engaged practice that includes imaginative social encounters that engage, provoke and foster interaction and participation in the arts. The ideal candidates for this program are open-minded, multifaceted, progressive artists who are self-directed, motivated, and passionate about creating new work and engaging community throughout that process. Especially now during the COVID-19 crisis, this residency is a truly exciting and valuable opportunity for artists and multidisciplinary creatives to sustain their practice while making a difference through their craft by bringing community closer together in a way only art can." says Ileana Yordan, Zócalo's Residency Program Director.

The current artists residents include Billy Baccam & Alex Ramos from creative media lab duo, Input Output, and artist / curator, Theresa Escobedo. "The Zócalo Artist-In-Residency program has been a fantastic experience." says artist Billy Baccam, "The support and resources from the program have given us the space and time to refine our artistic process, explore unfamiliar technologies, and engage the Zócalo community with new art installations and experiments that spark conversation. To be fully immersed in an environment that gives complete artistic freedom and the ability to share that creativity with a curious community has been a dream come true."

For more on the Zócalo Artist-In-Residency program at Zócalo Apartments and to learn more about the open call and upcoming information sessions, please visit our website [here](#), or find ZAIR on Facebook & Instagram @zocalo_air. To apply directly, please go [here](#).

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