

**Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre Nancy Fairfax Artist in Residence
Studio**

2027 Guidelines, Terms & Conditions

The Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre operates an on-site, live-in artist residency facility known as the Nancy Fairfax Artist in Residence Studio (AIR Studio).

The AIR Studio is generously supported by benefactor Mr Tim Fairfax AC and is named in honour of his mother, Lady Nancy Fairfax, a close friend of Margaret Olley. Established as part of the Margaret Olley Art Centre in 2014, the AIR Studio overlooks the Gallery grounds and Wollumbin/Mount Warning and extends Margaret Olley's legacy of supporting artists through mentorship and professional patronage.

In partnership with the National Art School, the Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre offers a biennial residency and exhibition opportunity for an outstanding postgraduate Fine Art student whose practice is grounded in painting. The selected artist will undertake a two-week residency at the Nancy Fairfax Artist in Residence Studio in 2027 and subsequently present a solo exhibition of new work at the Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre in 2028.

The residency aims to foster artistic development and creative exchange while supporting the creation of new work in a focused and stimulating environment

Key Dates

Applications open: **Wednesday 14 October 2026**

Applications close: **Sunday 15 November 2026**

Successful applicant notified: **Wednesday 9 December 2026 (at the NAS Awards Ceremony)**

Residency commences (approximate dates): **Friday 5 March - Friday 19 March 2027**

Solo exhibition outcome: **Between February and July 2028 (subject to exhibition scheduling)**

Selection Criteria

The Residency will be awarded to an applicant who:

- Has displayed a high level of achievement and dedication in their practice and who in the opinion of the assessment panel, would benefit artistically through the award.
- Can articulate a compelling proposal for the residency and demonstrate how the opportunity will contribute to the development of their practice.
- Is available to undertake the residency from 5-19 March 2027 and participate in the subsequent solo exhibition in 2028. Please note that residency dates are fixed and cannot be negotiated.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be graduating BFA (Honours), MFA or DFA students at the National Art School, or be part of the previous year's graduating cohort.
- Have a practice that is primarily painting-based
- Be available for the full residency period and subsequent exhibition outcome

Applications

- All applicants must complete all parts of the application form.
- All applications will be considered by a selection panel comprising suitable representatives of the National Art School and Tweed Regional Gallery.
- The panel may request to meet with an applicant to discuss their application further.

Supporting Material

PROPOSAL

All applicants must upload a proposal (500 words maximum) in PDF format including the following:

- An artist statement summarising your current practice
- A proposed project and rationale for undertaking the residency
- Relevance of Margaret Olley's practice to the applicant's practice and/or proposed project

CV

All applicants must upload a CV including previous exhibitions and other relevant professional experience (PDF format, 2 pages max).

IMAGES

Images of 10 recent artworks which best represent your current practice and support your intended project. Submit your portfolio in a single PDF file, with full captions for each work including title, date, medium, dimensions, etc.

Moving image-based artists can present links to files of high-quality video of up to two minutes presented as a single-track show reel.

The panel reserves the right to not assess applications that do not include specified supporting material correctly formatted as outlined above.

Conditions

The successful applicant will receive:

Residency (2027)

- Two weeks' accommodation at the Nancy Fairfax Artist in Residence Studio.
- Residency fee of **\$1,540**.
- Return travel between the artist's home and the residency location (economy airfare or equivalent fuel allowance, subject to receipt requirements).
- Freight of artworks produced during the residency.
- Professional photography and/or filming during the residency for promotional purposes.

Solo Exhibition (2028)

- Presentation of a solo exhibition at Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre.
- Exhibition fee of **\$1,300**.
- Curatorial support and advice.
- Freight of exhibition works to and from the exhibition venue.
- Installation support, exhibition signage and labels.
- Marketing, media and social media promotion.

The artist is responsible for the cost of materials, framing and any specialised fittings required to deliver exhibition-ready artworks.

The selected artist will need to complete acquittals processes for Tweed Regional Gallery and NAS.

ACQUITTAL OF RESIDENCY AND EXHIBITION

The selected artist will be required to:

- Make a public presentation to the NAS community about their scholarship and study experience (dates TBA).
- Provide high-resolution photographs and a 200-word statement that can be used by NAS for promotional purposes and in publications including the Annual Report and Yearbook.

Please email scholarships@nas.edu.au, for any inquiries regarding the application process.