

WIP LAB

PROJECT BASED CALL

Designers, Artists, Architects, Makers, Engineers,
Creatives and Cross-Disciplinary Thinkers.

Deadline
for applications

01.09.2025

Project-Based Artist Residency for Public Sculpture in Platia Dimarchias, Downtown Nicosia

[Deadline for Applications: 1 September 2025](#)

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of its establishment in Cyprus, the Austrian Embassy in Nicosia, in collaboration with CYENS WIP Lab and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus, is delighted to announce an open call for a project-based artist residency in the heart of Nicosia, Cyprus. We invite artists to propose and realize a free-standing or projected installation to be placed in the vibrant public space of Platia Dimarchias (Town Hall Square), downtown Nicosia.

The residency offers a unique opportunity to engage with the city's dynamic urban context and its diverse communities, fostering dialogue through contemporary public art. The selected artist will have the creative freedom to conceive and produce a work that resonates with the square's atmosphere and the conceptual framework of the WIP Lab.

WIP Lab under the theme "Invisible Waters" welcomes creative practitioners working at the intersection of art, design, technology and science, to engage with one of the most pressing environmental issues of our region: water.

Cyprus faces acute challenges related to water – from recurring droughts and pressure on groundwater reserves, safeguarding water quality and upgrading irrigation systems. In stark contrast, Austria is a country rich in freshwater resources, which play a vital role in shaping its landscape, culture and environmental identity.

This residency invites artists to critically and creatively engage with water's materiality, its absence or abundance, its sociopolitical dimensions and the narratives it carries across different geographies. By bridging the perspectives of water-scarce and water-rich localities, the residency shall foster a dialogue on sustainability, adaptation and the shifting meanings of water in the face of the climate crisis.

RESIDENCY DETAILS

- Location: CYENS Thinker Maker Space (Platia Dimarchias, Downtown Nicosia, Cyprus)
Please see specifications attached.
- Residency Duration: 4 - 6 weeks
- Budget: A fixed production budget will be provided by the Austrian Embassy Nicosia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus.
- Curatorial Oversight: WIP Festival team
- Project Context: The residency and resulting artwork will run in parallel with other WIP Festival activities, under the same curatorial concept and context. And will remain to the municipality and people of Nicosia.

WHO CAN APPLY

- Emerging and young artists working in sculpture, installation, or related disciplines
- Individuals or collectives
- Nationals of Austria or artists permanently residing in Austria, Austrian artists living in Cyprus.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Artist Fee: € 2000, -
- Travelling & Accommodation Fee: € 900, -
- Production cost (materials, fabrication, and installation): € 1500, -
Material available at the CYENS Thinker Maker space: <https://makerspace.cyens.org.cy/services/>
- Curatorial support and mentoring by WIP Festival
- Promotion through WIP Festival and Austrian Embassy channels

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Project proposal with brief statement of interest (max. 1 pages): Concept, materials, technical requirements, and how it responds to the site/context
- Portfolio (up to 10 images, with captions)
- CV (max. 2 pages)

HOW TO APPLY

Please send your application as a **single PDF file**. To email Nikosia-ob@bmeia.gv.at with the **subject line**: "WIP Residency 20 Years – Your Name"

KEY DATES

- Application Deadline: 1 September 2025
- Notification of Results: Mid-September 2025
- Residency Period: Suggest a period of 4 to 6 weeks between 1st October and end of November 2025

Encl.: a) Specifications for the production

b) Location – Floor plan

