



The **ASHLEY**  
**FAMILY**  
FOUNDATION

## Artist in Residence - Ynys Enlli (Bardsey Island), Spring and Summer 2025

The Bardsey Island Trust invites emerging and established artists from Wales to apply for a two-week residency on Ynys Enlli. This opportunity offers dedicated time and space away from daily life for artists to develop their work while engaging with the island's unique environment and heritage. The program is open to all practitioners separated into the following disciplines:

### **2 x Visual Arts (2 Weeks) (May 10th - 24th) or (Aug 30th - Sep 13th 2025)**

Visual artists working in any medium, including painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, moving image or interdisciplinary forms, can use the residency to focus on creative projects inspired by the island's environment or their existing practices

### **Writing (2 Weeks) (Aug 16 - 30th)**

Writers in any form—poetry, prose, playwriting, or experimental text—are invited to apply. This residency provides the time and space to focus on writing projects, explore new ideas, or complete existing work.

### **Music & Performance (2 Weeks) (Jul 19th - Aug 2nd)**

The program supports musicians and sound artists working with voice or instruments, including composers, songwriters, and performers. Performers, including dancers, actors, and any practitioners working with the body, can use this residency to develop new work, rehearse, or explore creative practices in a unique and supportive setting.

### **Craft (2 Weeks) (Aug 2nd - 16th)**

The residency is open to craftspeople in any discipline, including ceramics, jewellery, textiles, and metalwork. It offers time and space to work on projects, reflect on practice, or explore new techniques.

### **Research and Development (1 Week) (Jul 12-19th)**

If you don't feel you fit in any of the categories above, or have a research project you would like to pursue. This residency supports artists of any discipline who are focusing on research or development. It offers an environment conducive to experimentation and testing new ideas.

### **Dark Skies Residency (1 week) (May 24th - 31st)**

In 2023 Ynys Enlli (Bardsey Island) received [International Dark Sky Sanctuary](#) certification by the [International Dark Skies Association](#) (IDA). This makes Enlli the first site in Europe to achieve this status. We are looking for artists from any discipline who respond to this theme in their work.

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## Residency Details

- **Duration:** Two-week residencies available spring, summer 2025
  - **Accommodation:** Self-catering accommodation in *Lloff Nant*, featuring an open-plan kitchen and living area with an upstairs bedroom. Please note that the island is not the most accessible environment. If you have access requirements, let us know, and we will do our best to accommodate you.
  - **Studio Space:** Dedicated studio space is provided for each artist.
  - **Connectivity:** No guest WiFi; limited 4G coverage in some areas of the island.
  - **Cost:** Artists are required to contribute £200 per week toward the residency cost, this goes towards accommodation and boat travel. If you are applying as a collaborative duo there is an additional cost of £100 for a second person. We are offering two fully funded opportunities to emerging artists and early career artists please fill in the section of the application form to apply.
  - **Access:** Residencies will run from Saturday to Saturday. A single boat serves the island, and booking is required. Boat services may be cancelled due to adverse weather. You must bring all food, personal belongings, and materials with you. There is a cafe serving home cooked meals, booking must be made 24h in advance, either at Tŷ Pellaf Café or by emailing [wgroberts@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wgroberts@hotmail.co.uk)
  - **Weather Conditions:** Ynys Enlli is remote and exposed; working conditions can be challenging. Adequate protective clothing for the elements is essential.
  - **Language:** Welsh is the working language of the Enlli Trust and Island Life, we encourage applications in the Welsh language.
  - **Collaborative Residencies:** Collaboration is encouraged; if you would like to apply with another artist, please make a note of this in your application. The accommodation provided has two single beds in a shared twin bedroom. There is an additional cost of £100 for a second artist.
  - **Mentorship:** Artist Carol Shearman stays on Enlli between June and September, she has an adjacent studio to the Artist in Residence and will be available for informal advice, friendly chats, and creative problem-solving.
  - **Showcasing Opportunities:** We are working to secure spaces for artists to exhibit, perform, or publish work created during the residency. We are also developing a digital platform for sharing residency experiences. The shop on Bardsey sells artists prints and cards on a commission basis.
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## Ynys Enlli

Bardsey Island, the island of 20,000 saints, is rich in wildlife, cultural history, and natural beauty. Located 3 km from the tip of the Llŷn Peninsula, north Wales, the island is 2.5 km long and 1 km wide, with Mynydd Enlli reaching a height of 167m. In 2023, it was designated the first Dark Sky Sanctuary in Europe. On the island, there are 12 short-term holiday rentals, Capel Enlli (chapel); Tŷ Pellaf: a cafe and shop selling fresh eggs, crabs and lobsters and providing drinks; the remains of the thirteenth-century abbey; a colony of approximately 200 Atlantic grey seals; the Bardsey Bird and Field Observatory, and a working farm. More information here: [www.bardsey.org](http://www.bardsey.org)

## Funding Opportunities

- **Emerging Artists:** Emerging artist and early career artists may apply for a grant from the Trust to cover the £200 per week fee. Details are included in the application form.
  - **Established Artists:** Artists are encouraged to seek additional funding from other sources. The Trust can provide a supporting letter for such applications.
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## Artists' Responsibilities

- **Workshops:** Each artist is required to deliver one workshop per week during their stay. Workshops may be ticketed between £5-10 depending on material costs. Mentorship support for workshop planning is available.
  - **Respect for the Island:** Artists must respect the wildlife, ecology, heritage, and other visitors of Ynys Enlli.
  - **Self-sufficient:** Artists are responsible for their own sustenance, equipment and material costs.
  - **Artist Fee:** Artists are required to pay £200 towards the residency cost, £100 for an additional person.
  - **Insurance:** Artists will be required to arrange any necessary insurance for the residency.
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## Eligibility

- Applicants must live in Wales.
- Artists at any career stage are welcome to apply.
- Artists from any discipline are welcome.
- Collaborative applications are encouraged, with accommodation suitable for two collaborating artists.

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## How to Apply

Applications are now open. [Click here to apply.](#)

If you don't have a Google Account, please apply [HERE](#)

If you have any questions or problems making an application, please get in touch with the Artist Residency Coordinator, Theo Shields [theo@enlli.org](mailto:theo@enlli.org)

**Application Deadline:** [February 16th -noon]

Applications will be reviewed in February and successful applicants will be contacted mid March. Due to the number of applications we are unable to offer individual feedback.