

Program Details: Chiaro Award

The Chiaro Award is a fully sponsored artist residency and \$15,000 prize for a mid-career painter residing in the United States. The Chiaro Award residency includes a private studio, and inclusion in a dynamic network of Headlands' creative practitioners and thinkers.

Application Fee

- Early Bird (April 1–May 5, 2025): \$20
- Regular (May 6–June 2, 2025): \$25

Program Goals

- To support and have a meaningful impact on the lives and careers of accomplished painters creating exceptional and exemplary work.
- To bring outstanding painters into a nurturing and dynamic professional network of creative practitioners and thinkers.
- To encourage artists to develop ideas and work within the context of the Marin Headlands, a part of Golden Gate National Recreation Area.
- To bring national and international artists to the Bay Area to engage and have cross-cultural exchange with local artists and audiences.

Program Details

- Fully sponsored 6- to 10-week residency with an award of \$15,000
- Paid roundtrip airfare from artist's home city
- 750 square foot studio
- Private bedroom in shared house
- A maximum two week stay for families in the Family House
 - (by request only and subject to availability)
- Four chef-prepared meals per week
- Use of Headlands' vehicles
- Facilities access: basic woodshop; audio/video equipment; artists' library with computer
- Print lab with large format printer
- Wi-Fi in studio, housing and Headlands main buildings
- Up to 15 Artists in Residence living on-site
- Up to 8 other Headlands' artists working on-site
- Participation in monthly "Show + Tell" nights
- Participation in seasonal Open House
- Access to Headlands Public Events
- Access to Bay Area museums, galleries, and cultural venues
- Become part of Headlands Alumni Network



Eligibility

- Artists who work primarily with painting & currently live in the United States.
- Mid-career artists not currently enrolled in an academic program.
- Alumni of Headlands' Artists Programs are eligible to apply for the Chiaro Award, with the exception of previous recipients of Bay Area Fellowship, Chamberlain, Chiaro, or Tournesol Awards.
- Must be able to speak basic English.

Selection Criteria

- Merit of past work.
- Demonstrated commitment to pursuing excellence and innovation in the discipline of painting.
- Readiness to engage with and benefit from the residency experience at Headlands (see program goals).
- Potential to derive benefit from the Award overall, develop individual creative practice, and impact the community at Headlands and beyond.

Selection Process

- Headlands' staff reviews applications to ensure completion and eligibility.
- Submissions are reviewed by a jury of knowledgeable and esteemed artists and arts professionals (particularly those with strong understanding of painting).
- The jury evaluates each artist's materials and selects finalists.
- Finalists are asked to present their work in a 20-minute Zoom interview to determine the final award selection.

Application Materials

A full application includes the following:

- Resume or curriculum vitae
- Letter of interest outlining your specific interest in working at Headlands and how the Chiaro Award will affect your creative practice
- List of three references and email addresses; please note, we do not want letters of reference
- Documentation of recent work.

Documentation

- Submit up to 12 images.
- Submission of an image list with title, date, size, media, and, where applicable, conceptual intent, is optional.

For questions about this program, contact Holly Blake, Senior Residency Manager, at hblake@headlands.org.