

PROSPER




Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS OHRID RESIDENCY 2024

DEADLINE
**6
NOV**

1 - 30 April 2024
Ohrid, North
Macedonia

 www.looporg.eu/prosper

PROSPER calls for artists, designers, thinkers, and researchers who are interested in:

Peripheries as
spaces of possibility
& resistance

Climate &
environmental
challenges

Interdisciplinary
exploration with
local communities

PROSPER is an international project co-funded by the Creative Europe program of the EU, led by 5 partner organizations ([LOOP](#) (Greece), [Eho animato](#) (Serbia), [Oyoun](#) (Germany), [Peripetija](#) and [LDA Struga](#) (North Macedonia), which is exploring the theme of environmentally challenged regions of the Balkans by inviting artists, designers, researchers, cultural workers and thinkers of all disciplines to participate in an residency. The periphery selected for this open call is Lake Ohrid in North Macedonia. It is a UNESCO site which has been suffering ecologically due to unsustainable tourism practices, and it represents a common type of environmental challenge that we see globally and more frequently than ever before.

Participants will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in creative work that is informed by local communities that live and work in this periphery. This exchange takes place in the form of a 30 day residency with a group of eight international participants, and ends with a collectively curated one-day festival where the participants showcase the work they developed during the residency. The key objective is to inspire participants to find connections between their practice, the fragile environment they are inhabiting, and the people who live there, while ensuring respect for the core values: sustainability, inclusivity, and decolonial thinking.

**Please apply using this [online application form](#)
by **November 6th 2023 at 12:00 CET.****

For more info visit www.looporg.eu/prosper

For questions email residenciesinperipheries@gmail.com

LOOP

 eho
animato

 oyoun
Kultur NeuDenken

 peripetija
PERIPHERIES
INSTITUTE

 LOCAL
DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY

Peripheries as spaces of possibility & resistance

Peripheries as margins or edges of possibility: places of growth, ambiguity, uncertainty, failure, spontaneity, experimentation, play, change, and birth. It is where the outside meets the inside.

Peripheries as places of resistance: resisting societal constructs, mainstreams, or hierarchies; places of borders, boundaries, marginalization, and cutoffs. This can bear a negative connotation, especially when used in the context of urbanism, spatial organization, and social class.

Peripheral vision stands for everything that is not in our central point of view. Peripheries can challenge and stimulate the creative and artistic process, question and rethink central perception, and enable the expansion of borders and fields of work. Peripheries are spaces of possibility.

Reference: [William Kentridge, Peripheral Thinking](#)

Climate & environmental challenges

UNESCO Lake Ohrid is probably the most biodiverse inland water on Earth by surface area: Of the 1,200 plus species within its crystal waves, over 200 are found nowhere else on the entire planet. It is also one of the earliest inhabited areas of Europe with at least 6,000 years of human settlements and countless archaeological wonders. In recent years, both the lake and mountain have come under increasing pressure from a variety of human sources including urbanization, illegal construction, overfishing, poor maintenance of wastewater systems and even a swarm of mega tourism projects. All these endangered the balance of the whole ecosystem.

Reference: <https://ohridsos.org/>

Interdisciplinary exploration with local communities

All of the artistic activities are rooted in the local context of Lake Ohrid, which is defined by the current environmental strain that the region is experiencing, and the challenges that the local communities are facing. The PROSPER organizers will introduce artists in residence to local communities that include agriculturists, ecologists, cooks, artists, activists, craftspeople, and tourism workers. During their residency, the artists are expected to engage in site-specific research, converse with locals, attend workshops, and immerse themselves in collaborative creation and mutual learning practices. These interactions are opportunities for artists to offer their knowledge and ideas within their artistic disciplines, and for locals to offer their knowledge of the context. The residence will end with a one day festival in Ohrid that will present the results of these creative interactions to the locals and tourists.



ABOUT THE RESIDENCY

LAKE OHRID RESIDENCY 2024

1 - 30 April 2024
Lake Ohrid, North
Macedonia

The residency in Lake Ohrid will provide:

- Accommodation - participants will be accommodated in one shared housing in private rooms (except for duos) at Bache House
- Travel costs - return tickets and local transport
- Living costs amounting to 660 Euros (gross) per person
- Common work space
- Collective learning sessions with local communities
- Production costs (within a limited budget)
- Tours of Ohrid with a local tour guide

You will:

- Meet and connect with fellow residents
- Participate in collective learning sessions by the local community
- Offer your own presentation/workshop/masterclass/discussion to the local community
- Present creative work in any form for the one day festival developed during the residency



Criteria: Who can apply?

- Individuals or duos (duos must apply separately and mention their partner in the proposal)
- Artists, designers, thinkers, or researchers of any background – examples: performers, writers, video and film artists, choreographers, theater makers, digital artists, creative coders, visual artists, installation artists, street artists, composers, sound artists, multidisciplinary artists, designers, makers, architects, curators, journalists, critics, urban planners, independent scholars
- Applicants must be able to communicate in English
- Applicants must be available to travel to North Macedonia (invitation letters may be provided upon request for visa applicants)
- Applicants must be physically present and dedicated full-time to the residency

Considered an asset (but not required), applicants who:

- May identify as someone being connected to the concept of peripheries*
- Can show examples of their work that represent core values of the project (diversity, inclusivity, and decolonial thinking)
- Have some knowledge and/or experience that relates to environmental sustainability
- Have experience working and engaging with communities

** We encourage applicants who feel connected to the concept of peripheries to apply. This can mean not only geographical or societal (class, gender, age, family status...), but all imaginable types of peripheries. They may work on the edges, crossovers of countries, cities, nationalities, or work in the independent sector, those with less access to resources, or those working with and for vulnerable groups. The concept is taken broadly, and we encourage you to elaborate your relation to the concept of peripheries in your application.*

Requirements

- Proposal summary that describes what you would like to research and produce and in which type(s) of media during the residency
- A current CV (pdf).
- Portfolio / work samples. For example: visual artists may submit a portfolio (PDF); writers may submit up to 20 pages; filmmakers may submit up to 20 minutes of film (up to 3 links with a total duration of no more than 20 minutes; composers may submit music or sound samples as weblinks (up to 3 links with a total duration up to 20 minutes) and/or a score (PDF), performers may submit a video of their work no longer than 20 minutes (showreel, movie, presentation), researches can send pdf of their published articles or abstracts etc.
- Video presentation introducing yourself (3 min)

Selection Process

1. Two weeks after the deadline, all applications will be evaluated by the PROSPER partner organizations.
2. Shortlisted applicants will be invited for an online conversation before a final selection is made.
3. All applicants, whether selected or not, receive a response within 2 months after the application deadline.
4. Upon selection, the program participants will sign an agreement with the organizer.

Please apply using this [online application form](#) by November 6th 2023 at 12:00 CET.

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