Thank you for your interest in TVCOG's Maker-in-Residence program.

Below is a copy of the 2023 Trimester 1 program application in its entirety.

Program and Application Overview:

Fill out the following form via the online portal in order to apply for the 2023 Trimester 1 program. Applications are due by 10pm, February 13, 2023. Applicants will be contacted via email about the status of their application within 1-2 weeks.

About the Program:

The maker-in-residence (MIR) program at Tech Valley Center of Gravity was created with the intention of empowering makers and creators in our community. The program offers local makers the chance to pursue a creative, social impact-driven project of their choice at the COG with dedicated space and resources, including a complimentary membership & equipment training, a small project supply budget and a $500 stipend. The program is broken into three core elements: the Project, Community Engagement, and Long-Term Maker support.

This application offers the chance to apply to the residency program at one of two levels: as an MIR, or as an Emerging Maker-in-Residence(EMIR). The residency schedule and focus is the main difference between the EMIR and MIR residency programs. The EMIR program offers makers with limited professional experience the chance to participate in the MIR program, with the program offering a trimester of training and classes for the resident before they begin their MIR duties. If the MIR program interests you, but you feel you are not yet prepared for the duties expected of the MIR, we encourage you to apply for the EMIR position. The application process and form is the same for both levels.

Program Eligibility and Application Requirements:

This residency program is only open to Capital Region residents whose taxable income in the last year was $39,526 or less. Applicants must be individuals; teams are not accepted. All participants must be 18 or older. To be considered a resident of the Capital Region, you need to be a resident of one of the following counties: Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington.

We strongly recommend reading through the entire application prior to applying. In addition, we encourage you to read through the information provided on the program webpage, in order to better understand the program elements, requirements, benefits, timeline etc.

TVCOG is hosting a MIR Application Workshop from 6:30-7:30pm on Monday, February 6, which will include guidance on filling out the application from TVCOG staff, with time for Q&A and open writing time. https://www.tvcog.net/mir-community-workshops.

A copy of the application form begins on the next page. Submissions should be sent in using our online forms portal. There are no character limits for any input fields.

Notice Regarding Personal Information:

All information provided in this section is confidential and will be provided to TVCOG staff only. The "Basic Information" and "Demographic Information" sections will not be included in the copies of the application provided to the selection committee, ensuring that all applicants remain anonymous in an effort to remove bias from our selection process.

Basic Information(All Fields Required)

This residency program is only open to Capital Region residents whose taxable income in the last year was $39,526 or less. If your application indicates ineligibility, it will not be passed along to the selection committee.

Applicant Name:*
This should be your preferred name, and does not need to match your ID.

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Pronouns:*

Text Input Box

Email Address:*

Text Input Box

Mailing Address:*

Text Input Box

Phone Number:*

Text Input Box

Financial Eligibility*
Please provide your annual taxable income as of last year. Please note, we reserve the right to request proof of income upon acceptance into the program. This information will be kept confidential.

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Demographic Information (All Fields Optional)

The following questions are completely voluntary, and are for grant reporting and informational purposes only. If you would prefer not to answer, you can just leave the field blank. All answers will be kept completely confidential.

In your own words, how would you describe your race and/or ethnicity?

Text Input Box

Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQIA+ Community?

Text Input Box

Birth Date

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What is your current employment status?

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About the Maker (Required)

This program will look different for everyone who participates in it, but no matter the Maker, the residency remains a collaborative, community-focused program. Our Maker Residents are expected to be an active member of our community, represent us in various media, and collaborate with staff throughout the duration of their program. So, we want to take this chance to learn a little more about you, and why you would be a good fit in this program.

Which level of residency are you applying to?*
TVCOG reserves the right to offer program entry at a different level than the one selected on the application.

☐ Maker–in-Residence
☐ Emerging Maker-in-Residence

Maker Statement*
Tell us a little about yourself! Please provide us with a short (3-5 paragraph) "Maker Statement," introducing us to you and your work. We want to know about your background, the kinds of things you make, and your philosophy as a Maker.
*Answers can be provided as attachments, **or** entered directly into the text box. You do not need to provide both. In addition, while this section of the form is designed for written answers, if you feel that you can better answer via a different format or medium (video, presentation, etc.) please feel free to do so.*

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Program Interest*
Tell us a little bit about why you want to join our community as our MIR or EMIR. Why are you interested in being a part of this program? What skills do you hope to gain and/or share? **How will participating in this residency support you on your personal creative journey?**
If you would like, you may provide a short statement of financial need in this section.

*Answers can be provided as attachments, **or** entered directly into the text box. You do not need to provide both. In addition, while this section of the form is designed for written answers, if you feel that you can better answer via a different format or medium (video, presentation, etc.) please feel free to do so.*

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Schedule Availability*
This program offers a flexible schedule, and time requirements vary depending on the project, but the MIR will need to be available to meet with TVCOG staff during regular business hours several times during the program. Our office hours are 11am-4pm, Monday-Friday.

In order to help us design the right program schedule for you, please tell us a little bit about your current schedule/availability.

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Portfolio*
Please provide a portfolio of projects you have completed in the past. Please note that this does not need to be a professional-grade portfolio; we are just looking to gather information about your skill level and the types of projects you create. We recommend sharing at least 5 projects with us in order to help us get a better sense of your work.

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About the Residency (Required)

The main requirements of your residency will be completing your signature Maker Project (a project of your own choosing) and completing the Community Engagement requirement, which will take the form of free workshops/seminars/events designed to share your skills with the public. In addition, our Maker Residents will serve as active media ambassadors for TVCOG.

In this section, we ask you to provide your vision for your residency. We want to know what the program could look like for you, keeping in mind the core elements of the program.

The Project Proposal*
What project would you like to pursue here during your residency? **Please provide a detailed project proposal.** Assume a dedicated project materials budget of $400 and 24/7 access to all machinery in the general makerspace and in the Prototyping Center. Sketches, computer renderings and rough project timelines are encouraged. .

Project proposals should be for creative, social-impact driven projects that make use of multiple work zones here at TVCOG. To find out more details about the equipment we have available, please check our website here.

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TVCOG Equipment You Plan to Use*
Which work zones will you be making use of to complete your project?

- ☐ Woodshop
- ☐ Metalshop
- ☐ Laser Cutting
- ☐ 3D Printing
- ☐ Welding

- ☐ Electronics
- ☐ Glass Arts
- ☐ Fiber Arts
- ☐ Prototyping Center
- ☐ Model Shop

Community Engagement and Skill Sharing*
Your community engagement element should make use of your project and the skills you've honed during project creation. For example, if your Maker Project was a sculptural piece, you might decide to host a series

of free workshops exploring the process that you used. The Community Engagement element will be planned and designed by the Resident in conjunction with TVCOG staff.

Do you have any prior experience teaching or leading workshops? If so, please elaborate.*

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Provide an outline of 1-3 possible workshops you could develop as part of your residency. Assume a dedicated workshop materials budget of $200, and include information on intended audience and projected learning outcomes for the workshops.

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Additional Information (Optional)

Open Share

Please share anything else that you feel would help us get to know you better. If you have a resume or reference letters to share, attach them here. If you have follow-up questions about the program, you may also enter those in the text field below.

Not sure what else to share? This field is completely voluntary and can be left blank. Examples of information you could decide to provide include: curriculum you've developed in the past, links to your website or social media, your resume, personal and professional references, a statement of financial need, or anything else that gives us more insight into you as a Maker! These materials are highly encouraged, especially for individuals applying to the MIR level.

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Final Steps!

Maker In Residence Program Agreement*

This is not an offer of employment, and as a "Maker-in-Residence" (MIR) or "Emerging Maker-in-Residence" (EMIR) you will be considered an independent contractor. The MIR/EMIR is also considered a member of the Tech Valley Center of Gravity (TVCOG) and as such will be expected to abide by all TVCOG membership policies.

By entering my initials below, I agree to the terms of TVCOG'S MIR program as stated above if accepted.

> Initials Here

I understand that I will be expected to sign a program agreement contract at the beginning of the residency, should I be accepted into the program.

Program agreements are modified to fit the needs of the individual MIR. You can view a general version of the program agreement on the MIR program informational page.

☐ Yes

I understand that all program participants may be subject to a criminal background check, at the discretion of TVCOG staff. Furthermore, I understand that criminal background checks are required for anyone hosting programs through our children's section, the THINQubator.

A criminal history does not prohibit anyone from joining TVCOG as a member, or participating in the Maker-in-Residence program. However, TVCOG does reserve the right to deny membership and/or program entry to anyone convicted of a violent or sexual offense. Appeals to such denials may be made, in writing, to the Board of Directors Executive Committee.

☐ Yes

This is a copy of the application for TVCOG'S Trimester 3 2022 MIR Program. Applications are due by 10pm, February 13, 2023 and should be submitted via our online forms portal. Applicants will be contacted about the status of their application within 1-2 weeks.

Online applications submitted through our forms portal are preferred. If this is prohibitive, TVCOG will provide a paper version upon request.