



ART CIRCLE Austria, Wolfgangsee 2026

General details

About ART CIRCLE

ART CIRCLE is a festival founded in Slovenia in 2011 composed of annual art residencies, exhibitions, performances, artist talks and other cultural events. These events take place throughout the whole year in Slovenia with satellite events in the neighboring countries of Italy and Austria.

The primary goals of ART CIRCLE International are:

- reenforcing the relationship between art, community, and joie de vivre
- increasing access to international contemporary art in non-urban regions
- connecting culture with the economy and tourism
- promoting international cooperation
- generating cultural networks

Location

St. Wolfgang, located on the shore of the beautiful Wolfgang Lake, has a very long history. Its name comes from Saint Wolfgang who was the bishop of Regensburg and came to this area around 976 AD. According to historic stories he built the very first church here with his own hands. This iconic building still sits in the heart of St. Wolfgang and looks out over the lake and the scenic mountains with the impressive Schafberg.

Art, culture and tourism have always been a part of St. Wolfgang. After the canonization of Saint Wolfgang the town of St. Wolfgang became a major pilgrimage site, being the fourth largest in the world during the 15th and 16th centuries. The many pilgrims coming to St. Wolfgang caused the region to prosper and arts and culture to flourish. Some iconic art works, like the polyptych created by Michael Pacher in 1481, can still be seen in St. Wolfgang and are testimony of its importance. In the 1920s and 1930s the Wolfgang Lake was also the site of an artist colony (Zinkenbacher Malerkolonie) founded by Viennese artists, some of which were part of the world-famous Viennese Secession. This artist colony was an early form of the "art residencies" we know today and brought artists together to be inspired by each other and the breath-taking Austrian landscape.

ART CIRCLE Wolfgangsee

ART CIRCLE Wolfgangsee began in 2023 as the first annual ART CIRCLE event outside of Slovenia. Each year we invite around 20 artists from across the globe to live and work for a week in amazing hotels overlooking the Wolfgang Lake. During this time the artists are introduced to the cultural heritage of the region and are given the chance to make art and show their works at an exhibition at the end of the week.



ART CIRCLE Austria, Wolfgangsee 2026

Open Call for professional artists

Application Period: October 1st – December 15th 2025

Residency Period: April 26 – May 04, 2026

Eligibility

Professional working artists from all fields are welcome to apply, however a focus is placed on visual arts.

Student applications cannot be considered.

Please be aware that the workspaces provided are found in and around the hotels and do not have special equipment or tools of any kind.

Art Circle Wolfgangsee provides

- Free accommodation and meals at a hotel in St. Wolfgang for the duration of the residency.
- 500 € artist stipend (lump sum).
- Artist materials up to 400 €/artist
- A group exhibition at the end of the residency period.

Artist obligations

- Transport to and from St. Wolfgang.
- Presence in the studio from 15:00 –17:00 each working day. The studios will be open to the public during this time.
- Contribute to the final presentation.

Please note: we do not allow artists to bring pets, partners, family members, or any other people with them to the residency. Visitors are more than welcome to attend the final exhibition.



APPLICATION FORM

Please fill out this form and all other required documents in English.

APPLYING FOR: Art Circle Austria, Wolfgangsee - 2026

PROFESSIONAL TITLE:

NAME, SURNAME:

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN/NATIONALITY:

E-MAIL:

HOME ADDRESS (POST):

LINKS (WEBSITE, INSTAGRAM, etc.):

☐

Please check here if you are interested in giving three-hour painting master class during the residency period for an additional sum of 300 €.

MANDATORY ATTACHMENTS:

1. Short professional biography (max. one page DIN-A4)
2. 5 to 10 images of your recent art production (preferably as a single PDF)
3. A short project proposal for the residency period specifically outlining artistic medium and spatial requirements. (max. one page DIN-A4)

Please note: the majority of workspaces will be indoors where dust and dangerous vapors must be avoided. Applicants not working in the visual arts should describe how they intend to contribute to the final presentation.

Please submit this form and all attachments to artcircle.wolfgangsee@gmail.com by the end of December 15, 2025. Applicants will be chosen by a professional jury and will be notified by January 1, 2026.