



MID-AMERICA ARTS ALLIANCE



For Immediate Release

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Artist INC is Coming to Lincoln to Boost Artists' Careers

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, August 30, 2023 – Painters, poets, printmakers, performers, and creatives of all kinds will have a new resource program coming to help their professional arts careers in Lincoln. Artist INC, a career development program of Mid-America Arts Alliance, has partnered with Lincoln Arts to support local artists, of all disciplines, develop the building blocks for a thriving and enduring arts practice.

Artist INC, which has been completed by more than 2,000 artists since 2009, explores core concepts of how to build a lasting arts practice. The partnership will continue over several years. The first programming begins in fall 2023 with the first Artist INC Express, a free nine-hour workshop, and continues with additional Artist INC Express workshops and Artist INC Live seminars, which run over the course of eight weeks in 2024–2027.

Led by a team of experienced, working artists, the hands-on programming helps artists address specific needs and challenges that they face throughout their careers. Through discussions, activities, hands-on exercises, and with the support of artist-facilitators and a new network of peer artists, participating artists set goals for their practices, write about their work, and build their personal brands.

Artist INC Lincoln is supported by a grant from the Kimmel Foundation and stems from Lincoln Arts' Emerging Artist program, which seeks to expand services and support to area artists. Artist INC Lincoln is a key component to developing career support for artists and expanding the vibrancy of the arts in the Lincoln area and beyond.

"Lincoln Arts is thrilled to introduce Artist INC to Lincoln, reinforcing our commitment to empower artists and fuel our dynamic creative community," states Troy Gagner, executive director of Lincoln Arts. "As the arts landscape evolves, demand for artist-tailored professional development grows. Partnering with Mid-America Arts Alliance to bring Artist INC aligns with our mission to foster artistic innovation by equipping local artists with tools, insights, and connections to thrive creatively and as arts entrepreneurs. And, by investing in the development of our artists, we are investing in both the cultural enrichment and economic vitality of our city."

Artist INC is not your standard classroom experience. If artists sign up for Artist INC programs, they are asked to commit, as exercises build on one another and participants develop deep relationships with their fellow artists over multiple sessions. Artists should be ready to participate throughout group discussions, hands-on exercises, and small group work.

Right away, Artist INC activates a network of artists in the community, leading to more peer-to-peer resource sharing, collaborations, and support long after the workshop concludes.

So worth it. I feel so empowered, seen, supported, hopeful and ready to launch what I learned. The difference in me from before to after is palpable.

- Artist INC program participant

Artist INC Express workshops will be available virtually and Artist INC Live seminars will be held in person at The Foundry, 211 N 14th St., Lincoln, Nebraska 68508.

Artist INC Express

Artist INC Express (AIX) is open to artists and creatives of all disciplines. It is a nine-hour, highly active version of the popular eight-week Artist INC Live program. Artist INC Express explores core concepts of how to build a lasting arts practice in a shorter, more flexible format, to help reach a broader audience of artists. Through discussions, activities, and hands-on exercises, artist-facilitators and a new network of peer artists, will help artists set goals for their practices, write about their work, and build a personal brand.

Dates:

Session 1 - Friday, November 10, 2023, 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Session 2 - Saturday, November 11, 2023, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Session 3 - Sunday, November 12, 2023, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Location: Virtual

Cost: Free

Register Now: <https://www.maaa.org/event/artist-inc-express-lincoln-virtual/>

Preferred Registration Deadline: Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 5:00 pm

Registration Deadline: Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 5:00 pm

Additional dates for the 2024 Artist INC Express workshops will be announced soon.

Artist INC Live

Artist INC Live (ALL) is open to artists and creatives of all disciplines. It has a competitive application process, a substantial time commitment, and requires participants to be within a specific community. Artists should reside within a 60-minute commute from these program locations. All sessions are in person.

Gathering for one evening a week for eight weeks, participants learn strategic business skills specific to their art practice and how to apply those skills cooperatively with their peers. Using a groundbreaking class design, Artist INC Live guides artists as they learn and grow together through artist facilitator mentoring, small group application activities, as well as large group discussion and multimedia lecture.

Dates: Artist INC Live will be offered in spring 2025 with applications to open late 2024.

Location: [The Foundry](#), 211 N 14th St., Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Cost: The program fee for Artist INC Live is \$150 with need-based stipends available.

Register: [Sign up for the e-news](#) to receive updates on the application information.

Artist INC Express and Artist INC Live are open to artists of all disciplines and skill levels.

Learn more about Artist INC Lincoln at <https://artistinc.art/communities/lincoln/>.

Now in its fifteenth year, Artist INC Live has been completed by more than 2,000 artists. Artist INC is supported in part by grants from the Windgate Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Learn more about Artist INC at www.artistinc.art.

About Lincoln Arts

Lincoln Arts is helping bring Artist INC to Nebraska. Its Emerging Artist Program, originally created to launch artists into the lucrative world of fine arts festival selling as part of the Lincoln Arts Festival, continues to expand in size and scope. To better assist promising new creatives succeed in the business of art sales, the 2024 Emerging Artists Program now includes additional resources and avenues for professional development. The Emerging Artist program will now connect artists of all disciplines (not just visual artists) to the tools, resources, and the opportunities necessary to develop their entrepreneurial skills and to strengthen their artistic practice.

Participants receive guidance from experienced art vendors, tools and materials to exhibit throughout the year, hands-on experience selling their work at Lincoln Arts Council's premiere event, maximum exposure to art buyers, and additional opportunities to grow and flourish throughout the year. Learn more at <https://www.artscene.org/>.

About Mid-America Arts Alliance

Mid-America Arts Alliance (M-AAA) strengthens and supports artists, cultural organizations, and communities throughout Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, and beyond. To learn more about M-AAA grants, programs, exhibitions, and fellowships, visit www.maaa.org and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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