

**Venice Fellowships Programme
2027**

Guidance Notes Fellows

**Open Call for applications from
individuals via UK-based
Institutions and Organisations**

Published: September 2026

Deadline for Applications: *date set by Programme Partner*

OPEN CALL FOR 2027 FELLOWS

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for a Fellowship position, please follow these steps:

1. Download the [Application Form](#) as a Word document and complete.
2. Send a copy of your CV with your completed application Form to your Programme Partner (the organisation or institution from whom you heard about this opportunity).
3. Complete the [Equality and Diversity Monitoring Form](#). This is voluntary and anonymous.

We welcome applications in written, audio or video format. Please use the method that is most comfortable for you. Please see SECTION 4 for further information about submitting this application in video or audio formats. All applications (written, audio or video) should include the "SECTION 1): APPLICANT INFORMATION" in writing only. Please remember to complete this section even if you are applying via audio/video format.

All applicants must submit their CV to their Programme Partner as an accompaniment to the Application Form. Any applications without a CV will not be considered.

The deadline is set by your Programme Partner and will be a date between the period October - November 2026. Please check the specific deadline date directly with your Programme Partner.

The British Council is delighted to welcome applications for its Venice Fellowships Programme to take place during the 20th International Architecture Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia, 2027.

Information and Q&A Sessions

These sessions are open to candidates who are enrolled at or connected to a 2027 Programme Partner.

Information and Q&A Sessions for Candidates (prospective Fellows)

Candidates are encouraged to join an information session before submitting an application. A recording of the call will be automatically sent to all registered attendees.

Option 1

Wednesday 21st October 2026, 12pm-1pm BST
Register here: [Teams link](#)

Option 2

Wednesday 18th November 2026, 12pm-1pm GMT
Register here: [Teams link](#)

The Venice Fellowships Programme is a unique opportunity for creative individuals, students, researchers, artists, and professionals at the start of their careers, to spend a month in Venice during the world's most important art and architecture biennales.

Successful candidates will spend one residency month in Venice to develop a proposed project and gain invigilation experience acting as an exhibition ambassador for commissioned exhibition at the British Pavilion. As Fellows, they will engage with an international community of architects, artists, researchers, entrepreneurs, young leaders and change makers, and contribute with a proposed project.

We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds, areas of knowledge, academic departments, and life experiences. We are looking for creative individuals, interested and passionate about arts, culture, and its social value, and how arts can contribute to the world and address society's most complex challenges.

Please note that applicants must be enrolled or connected to a selected 2027 Programme Partner.

For queries or requests for further information, please contact Sophie Lucas, Venice Partnerships and Programme Manager, at venicefellowships@britishcouncil.org.

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Introduction

The [British Council](#) is the United Kingdom's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We build connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and other countries through arts and culture, education and the English language.

UK at the Venice Biennale

Since 1937, the British Council has managed the [British Pavilion](#) at the Venice Biennale: overseeing the selection process of artists and architects, and preserving the historic building itself.

La Biennale di Venezia

The Venice Biennale (*Italian: La Biennale di Venezia*) is an international cultural exhibition hosted annually in Venice, Italy by the Biennale Foundation. The Biennale has been operating since 1895, which makes it the oldest of its kind. The official Biennale exhibition is spread across two venues in the east of the city: the Arsenale and the Giardini. The Giardini, an area of parkland, houses the Central exhibition Pavilion and 29 national pavilions. Each of them, including the British Pavilion, presents its own showcase from a particular country or region.

20th International Architecture Exhibition

The 20th International Architecture Exhibition will run from Saturday 8th May to Sunday 21st November 2027 (preview 6th, 7th May) at the Giardini and the Arsenale venues, and in various locations around Venice.

2027 British Pavilion Exhibition

The 2027 British Pavilion exhibition will be a UK-Malaysia collaboration marking 70 years of diplomatic relations between the countries. This builds on the success of the UK-Kenya collaboration in the 2025 British Pavilion, which won La Biennale's Special Mention award.

The open call for 2027 invited proposals that would challenge contemporary architecture and respond to the British Council's UK–Malaysia Human-Nature programme, which explores relationships between people, place and the natural environment.

A panel of architects, educators and cultural professionals from across the UK and Malaysia, chaired by the Commissioner Sevra Davis, Director of Architecture Design and Fashion at the British Council, selected the team from a shortlist of six proposals.

The project will be led by UK-based curators Dr Guan Lee and Mike Lim, alongside a UK curatorial team including Maria McLintock and Ben Swaby Selig. They will collaborate closely with Penang-based artisans Ng Chi Wang, Lee Shao Chin and Koh Eng Keat (see curator and artisan biographies below).

The team's commission will explore impermanence in architecture, diaspora culture and how migration transforms living traditions present in Malaysia and the world today.