

A...cademy of Fine Arts Vienna

# Open Call

## Exhibition Mentoring Program 2025

Exhibit Gallery

Schillerplatz 3, 1010 Vienna

September 5 – October 12, 2025

Opening: September 4, 2025, 6 PM

**Application Deadline: Friday, April 4, 2025, 11 AM**

Since 2017, the Mentoring Program has offered graduates of the Academy and recipients of the BMKÖS Starter Grant (Startstipendium) the opportunity to gain diverse insights into the art sector and practical knowledge for developing a professional artistic career through collaboration with a mentor.

Recognizing the importance of exhibition opportunities as a key criterion for establishing oneself in the art world, the Mentoring Program was expanded in fall 2023 to include a new biennial exhibition series at the Exhibit Gallery. The next edition of this series will take place in fall 2025.

Ten participants from the Mentoring Program over the last three program years will have the opportunity to present their artistic works to a wide audience. Furthermore, a discursive accompanying program will address central questions related to the transition from academic studies to independent artistic practice and aim to increase transparency regarding the diverse structures of Vienna's art scene. Ideally, this program will be organized in cooperation with art fairs and festivals taking place concurrently with the exhibition.

### Target Group

This call is addressed to **artists who participated in the Mentoring Program during the last three program years (2022/23–2024/25)**. Applicants can submit an artistic work or project for the exhibition; the submitted work does not need to have been created during their time in the Mentoring Program.

### Exhibition Theme

Applications addressing the theme of “Care” will be given preference. The term “Care” is understood as protective and sustaining, encompassing (self)responsibility for caring practices, appreciation in forms of cohabitation, and connections to sustainability and mindfulness.

“Take care!” is often said as a farewell, intended as a kind word, encouragement before a bold action, or even uttered casually as an empty phrase. From emotions to rationality, “Care” is imbued with tensions and complexities that will be explored and contrasted in this exhibition, curated by Ingeborg Erhart and Sofie Mathoi.

### Venue

The Exhibit Gallery, located on the first floor of the Academy building at Schillerplatz, offers 219 m<sup>2</sup> of exhibition space. Compliance with fire safety regulations, insurance requirements, and the structural

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conditions of the historic rooms is mandatory. For example, suspending heavy objects from the ceiling is not permitted.

## Implementation and Budget

The Academy's Office for Contemporary Exhibitions and Public Relations Office will handle the consultation, planning, organization, and public relations for the exhibition.

Each participating artist will receive an honorarium of € 600. No additional production budget is available, so **applicants are explicitly requested to submit existing works**.

## Submission and Process

**Application Deadline: Friday, April 4, 2025, 11 AM**

The following documents must be submitted via the platform <https://calls.akbild.ac.at>:

- A written statement with information about the submitted artistic work/project (max. 1 A4 page)
- Information about the spatial and technical requirements of the submitted work
- Print-ready images (300 dpi on A4) with credit details
- CV (max. 1 A4 page)
- Portfolio with an overview of the artistic work (max. 10 MB)

A jury comprising Ingeborg Erhart (Vice Rector for Art | Teaching), Sofie Mathoi (Head of the Office for Contemporary Exhibitions), Barbara Pflanzner (Mentoring Program Coordinator), and external members will review the submissions and select approximately 10 works for the exhibition.

The selection results will be announced by early May 2025. Exhibition implementation will begin in May 2025 in collaboration with the Office for Contemporary Exhibitions.

## Contact

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