

Do you work in the field of design, textile design, architecture, art, literature, performing arts, or interdisciplinary projects? Do you have a strong interest in textile production and its context? Then the TaDA Artist-in-Residence Programme offers you the unique opportunity to collaborate with renowned textile companies and research institutions in the cantons of Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Appenzell Innerrhoden, Glarus, Graubünden, Schaffhausen, St.Gallen, Zurich, and the Principality of Liechtenstein.

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Programme

TaDA – Textile and Design Alliance is a cultural funding programme launched in 2020 by the cantons of Appenzell Ausserrhoden, St.Gallen, and Thurgau and organised as an association since April 2026. It enables experimental and innovative engagement with Swiss textile and design culture and is conducted in collaboration with textile companies and cultural institutions rooted in the cantons of Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Appenzell Innerrhoden, Glarus, Graubünden, Schaffhausen, St.Gallen, Zurich, and the Principality of Liechtenstein.

TaDA annually offers six national and international personalities a work residency in Switzerland. The residents develop projects in the fields of art, design, architecture, literature, performing arts, or in interdisciplinary contexts. Textile companies and institutions from Eastern Switzerland work together as programme partners to provide know-how and technology. This gives the residents the opportunity to carry out practical artistic work and applied research. The partners, in turn, count on creative exchange with the invitees. The work results are presented to the public at various events.

Notes

The residency is aimed at artists and creative professionals from all disciplines who have a demonstrated interest in the textile industry, textile culture, and sustainability. Basic technical knowledge of textile production is an advantage. Projects with a pronounced experimental approach are particularly welcome. The connection to the TaDA partners must be included in the project outline for the application.

Benefits

- Shared apartment in Arbon (private room, shared use of kitchen, and two bathrooms) in close proximity to Lake Constance
- Shared workspace in the former textile and engine factory Saurer AG (3 minutes walk from the apartment)
- Coverage of travel costs
- Contribution to living expenses
- Professional advice and exchange with around 12 partner companies and organisations, selective use of their infrastructure
- Individual professional support by textile designer Martin Leuthold, the TaDA team, and external experts if needed

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Residency periods 2027

- April to June 2027
- September to November 2027

Languages

Good knowledge of English or German is required.

Deadline

12 August, 2026, 23:59 CEST

Application Materials

Applicants are requested to submit the following documents online as a PDF:

- CV
- Portfolio providing insight into all work, with a focus on the last five years; the connection to textiles must be explained
- Project outline of no more than two A4 pages, including at least four images (sketches, technical drawings, other visual representations) that illustrate the idea or process; the project outline must refer specifically to possible collaboration with TaDA partner companies. The focus is on new ideas that expand on existing work. The project outline should also highlight opportunities for scaling.)
- Letter of recommendation of no more than one A4 page (for example from research institutions or companies in the textile sector, employers or other artists with whom the applicant has worked)

Only applications submitted via the official online application form will be accepted:
<https://form.jotform.com/TaDAresidency/tada2027>

Decision announcement

Early November 2026

Jury

- Rachel De Lagenest, head of design, Bischoff Gamma
- Dirk Hegemann, scientist, Empa
- Michel Hueter, design expert
- Sandra Mbanefo Obiogo, curator and expert in the creative industry, Nigeria
- Barbara Signer, artist, St.Gallen
- Ursula Steinhauser, head of the Office for Culture of the Canton of Appenzell AR
- Domenica Tischhauser, textile technician, Tisca Tischhauser AG
- Roman Wild, historian and cultural manager

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Partners

Empa
Filtex AG
Lobra AG
Lässer AG
Rigotex AG
Saurer Museum

Sitterwerk
Switzerland Innovation Park Ost
Textilcolor AG
Textildruckerei GmbH
Textilmuseum St.Gallen
Tisca Tischhauser AG