

# Incubate

## **A residency at Gostrode Farm with Surrey Hills Arts**

Surrey Hills Arts in partnership with Gostrode Farm Chiddingfold, are looking for a dynamic and socially engaged artist for a residency at the farm, for 3 months between mid-June to mid-September 2026. We are open to any artform, for example a performing artist, visual artist, filmmaker or writer. We are interested in work that relates to the history and current day workings of the farm, the animals and those who work there, as well as the surrounding landscape.

The residency will be an opportunity for you to develop work and explore connections across the site with support from the host organisations. There will also be opportunities to engage the community in the work at off-site locations.

**Gostrode Farm** is a medium-sized family farm, situated two miles south of Chiddingfold. Its main agricultural enterprise is a beef suckler herd, but it also has sheep and horses grazing at various times of the year. The fields grow a mixture of grass, legumes and wild flowers, some of which are fed to the animals in the winter. Gostrode is trying to help wildlife prosper on the farm and so much of the farm is in environmental stewardship schemes. These are helping improve soil health and benefit wildlife, in addition to ponds, bird boxes, etc.. Much of the farm is woodland, including ancient woodland and plantations of larch, chestnut and hazelnut. There are historic (but no longer visible) features such as a tumulus, an iron age fort, ancient glassworks, and brickyards. Between the 14th and 17th centuries, Chiddingfold was a centre for glass-making.

**Surrey Hills Arts'** mission is to connect people to the Surrey Hills through an imaginative arts programme, meaningful engagement and developing our creative community. We deliver contemporary arts projects that proactively build diverse audiences that connect to the history, geology, and characteristics of the landscape, and advocate positive action and a greater understanding to environmental challenges through direct engagement in community settings. We work in partnership to develop arts-led opportunities that achieve positive health, education and social outcomes and develop local artists of all art forms in creating work related to this National Landscape.

### ***What the residency offers***

Space - A large bare room in a converted barn. There is a bathroom attached as well as a kitchen with capability to wash brushes or larger items. You are welcome to bring a kettle and use the fridge. Please note, due to Gostrode Farm being a working farm with live

animals, there are restrictions around the use of chemicals, some organic materials. We cannot allow hot works. The space can be accessed Monday- Friday. Parking is available next to the barn.

Stipend for the 3 month residency : £1000

Regular support including coaching and mentoring sessions from the Surrey Hills Arts team.

A supportive relationship throughout the residency with the farm's owners and staff, who will provide information about the farm.

Promotion of your work in our newsletters and social media.

Potential opportunities to showcase your work as part of the Surrey Hills National Landscape programmes.

### ***Your commitment***

To be present at Gostrode Farm 2-3 days a week.

To create site-specific work as a development of your practice.

To provide engagement activity as part of these days at an off-site location/event.

Opportunities for a residency showcase may be available at the end of the residency, even if it is to show the workings of the 3 month enquiry without a finished piece. This would be at an off-site location.

### ***Key dates***

Deadline for applications: 10am, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026

Interview day: 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at Gostrode Farm

Residency start date: w/c 15<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Residency end date: 21st September 2026

### ***Who can apply***

We are looking for an artist from any discipline that meets the following criteria:

Required

- An established artist – over 10 years working in the field.
- Surrey-based.
- Commitment to a socially engaged practice.
- Ability to think and plan creatively and critically.
- Effective communication, interpersonal and facilitation skills.

## Access

- We particularly welcome applicants from diverse backgrounds, including race, disability, age, sex, gender, identity, sexual orientation, religion and belief marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity and those with caring responsibilities.
- We are committed to creating opportunities that are accessible to all however, please be aware that the farm is located down a long lane, an approx. 10 minute walk. A bus runs every hour from the top of the lane, to Haslemere station.

## ***Your Application***

- A statement outlining your approach to the residency (no more than 500 words).
- A short statement about your practice (max 300 words if written).
- Images and short descriptions of up to 2 recent and relevant projects. These can be recent course work.
- Links to your website or social media accounts if relevant.
- A CV including 2 referees.
- You are welcome to include the above information in a video if preferred.

Please send your application **compiled into 1 pdf document** to [theah.dix@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:theah.dix@surreycc.gov.uk)

## ***Additional information***

To find out more you can contact:

- Theah Dix – Surrey Hills Arts Officer – [theah.dix@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:theah.dix@surreycc.gov.uk)

[www.surreyhillsarts.org](http://www.surreyhillsarts.org)