

"Playing with Nature" - Earth Art Festival 2027

The Land Keeps Moving...

Welcome Artists to Join the Fun

Introduction to the Earth Art Festival:

The Earth Art Festival is a site-responsive artist residency and community collaboration initiative launched by Dacheng Arts Experimental Elementary School in Pingtung, Taiwan. In 2024, Dacheng Arts Experimental Elementary School launched its first Earth Art Festival, inviting artists to work alongside with students and local residents creative practice.

At Dacheng, we believe that an artist is not only a creator, but also an educator. Through observation, inquiry, action, artists develop ways of understanding the land. These same approaches become pathways through which students and teachers engage with the world and learning.

The Earth Art Festival is more than an opportunity for art to enter a school. It is an ongoing experiment in which art and education nourish one another.

Beginning from the school campus, this artistic initiative extends outward into the surrounding three-kilometer living community, fostering connections between people, place, and everyday life.

Open Call Theme: "The Land Keeps Moving..."

In 2024, the Earth Art Festival was organized around the theme "**Playing with Nature.**" Artists and children were invited to rediscover nature through creative practice while exploring their own relationship with the environment.

The encounters and conversations that took place beneath the trees, across fields, and throughout the community did not end with the festival itself. Instead, they continue to take root and slowly evolve in everyday life.

For 2027, we offer a new question: "**The Land Keeps Moving...**"

But in what ways does the land keep moving? We invite artists to come with their own sensitivities, experiences, and imaginations, and to engage in dialogue with the land, nature, and local ways of life through creative practice.

Move with wonder. Create with the land. Learn through living.

Artists from all disciplines are welcome to apply, including performance, movement-based practices, theatre, contemporary art, visual arts, sound art, and interdisciplinary approaches. There are no restrictions on artistic form.

We encourage the use of natural, reclaimed, and recycled materials, and give priority to environmentally responsible and site-sensitive methods of creation.

Residency Environment Overview:

The art festival will be centered at Dacheng Art Experimental Elementary School in Datie Village, Xinpi Township. Within a three-kilometer radius, the area offers unobstructed views of Dawu Mountain and is surrounded by lush forests and agricultural fields. The region boasts a rich cultural history with a diverse population, prominently featuring Hakka culture, along with well-preserved traditional beliefs and community structures.

Residency Environment Reference:

[Map](#)

[Art work location](#)

[Website of Dacheng Art Experimental Elementary School](#)

[Playing with the nature 2024 documentary film](#)

Materials and Tools Available Onsite:

- **Natural Materials:** Rice straw, rice husks, betel nut leaves, coconut shells, cocoa shells, etc.
- **Recycled Materials:** Recycling station in the school
- **Tools:** Hammers, hand saws, scissors, burlap gloves, etc.
- **Digital Equipment Available:** Desktop Computer (Jetway PC, Intel Core i5) › Laptop Computer (ASUS Laptop, Intel Core i5) › iPad (10th Generation, 64GB) › Portable PA System (MIPRO MA-808) › Bluetooth Speaker (Marshall Middleton) › Projectors (EPSON X06, EPSON EF-22) › Smart Display Television (Sheng Yuan, 75-inch) › HDMI Cables

Eligibility for Application:

1. Individual artists aged 20 years domestic and international artists are eligible to apply. Artist collectives of up to three members may also submit proposals. Applications are open to all artistic disciplines and creative forms.
2. Artists or teams with at least three years of creative experience, irrespective of nationality.
3. Applicants should have moderate English communication skills; Chinese and English will be the main languages during the residency.

Artistic Proposal:

The residency program invites artists to submit proposals related to the theme and addressing local culture, geography, human landscapes, and social issues. Artists must exhibit their works before the end of the residency. All types of media and artistic forms are accepted. The program will publicly select ten artists. Applications from dancers, sound artists, visual artists, and theater artists are especially encouraged.

Application Process:

In support of environmental protection, all application documents must be submitted online. The organizers will evaluate the submitted materials, and any incomplete or non-compliant submissions will not be considered, nor will the applicants be notified.

Residency Administrative Timeline:

- **Application Deadline:** July 26 (Sunday), 17:00 Taiwan time.
- **Selection Announcement:** August 21 (Friday), 17:00 Taiwan time. Selected artists or teams must sign a "Cooperation Agreement" before the residency; failure to do so will be considered a withdrawal.
- **Residency Period:** January 2 (Saturday) - January 24 (Sunday).
Works must be completed by January 22 (Friday), with a public presentation on January 23 (Saturday).

Participating Artists Will Be Expected To :

- Artists must complete their proposed projects and participate in the exhibition and presentation of their work during the residency.
- Artists are required to participate in educational outreach, press events, public programs, and related residency activities.
- During the residency, artists must conduct a collaborative workshop of at least three hours every Wednesday afternoon with students and/or local residents. Details will be discussed upon selection.
- Artists must comply with all space and facility regulations, maintain safety and cleanliness, and refrain from bringing prohibited or hazardous materials.
- Intellectual property rights, copyrights, and artistic concepts remain the property of the artist. Physical artworks retained on site may be preserved and cared for by Dacheng Arts Experimental Elementary School. Any future reproduction, adaptation, relocation, or use beyond the original context of the festival shall require further agreement between the artist and the school.
- Artists are responsible for the safety of installations and exhibitions. Any additional installation costs must be covered within the project budget.
- Breakfast and dinner are not provided. Artists are responsible for their daily living arrangements outside scheduled residency activities.

Residency Support

- Studio and workspace access.
- Accommodation from January 2 to January 24, 2027.
- Travel support (for one artist per project):
 - International artists: one round-trip economy-class airfare to Taiwan, plus round-trip public transportation between the airport and Chaozhou.
 - Domestic artists: one round-trip Taiwan High Speed Rail standard-class ticket and one round-trip train ticket between Kaohsiung and Chaozhou.
- Project Grant: NT\$70,000 per artist, plus NT\$10,000 for material costs.

- One or two volunteers assigned to each artist to support production, communication , and community engagement
- Photography documentation of the residency and creative process.
- Lunch and afternoon tea during the residency period.
- Bicycle loan service.
- Artist talks and public presentations.