

Homo Faber Fellowship

General Information and Conditions
2025-2026 edition

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1) What is the Homo Faber Fellowship?

Homo Faber Fellowship is a yearly 7-month sponsored professional integration programme designed for duos of established artisans and craft graduates. Participants will develop business and marketing knowledge, as well as design and hands-on practical skills through transmission from one generation to the next. The programme is developed with the support of Jaeger-LeCoultre who share our vision for the future of craftsmanship. This edition is taking place from September 2025 to March 2026 in partnership with local members of the Foundation's network.

2) Who benefits from the programme?

Homo Faber Fellowship 2025-2026 will benefit 25 duos of established artisans and fellows based in Cyprus, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom whose craft has a strong connection to the local area and heritage.

3) What does the programme offer?

The 7-month fellowship incorporates:

- 1-month entrepreneurial masterclass delivered by academic partner ESSEC Business School and Passa Ao Futuro for fellows in a creative residency
- 2-day masterclass for established artisans
- 6-month sponsored placement in an established artisan's workshop
- Mentoring throughout the fellowship
- 1 co-created object per duo inspired by the Art-Deco style
- Exhibition opportunities to provide visibility for the duos and open business prospects

4) Timeline for 2025-2026

- 27 November 2024 – 20 February 2025: submission of duo applications
- April 2025: results are announced to participants via email
- August - September 2025: month-long entrepreneurial masterclass for fellows
- September 2025: 2-day masterclass for established artisans
- October 2025-March 2026: individual six-month placement in a workshop of an established artisan

5) How to apply?

The Michelangelo Foundation strives to offer equal opportunities and access to all candidates in crafts regardless of their age, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, socio-cultural and socio-economic background.

All applicants must submit their applications via this [link](#).

The programme is designed for duos of master artisans and craft graduates. To apply and be considered for the programme, you must have formed a duo consisting of a welcoming artisan and a fellow. We expect the duo to have been in contact prior to applying, to ensure both parties are aligned.

Please note that each member of the duo must **submit their own, separate application** referencing each other.

The deadline for receiving applications is 23.59 CET on 20 February 2025.

6) What's needed to apply?

- Personal information;
- A PDF of your portfolio (please include your top 3 creations on page 1);
- A high-resolution profile photo;
- A motivation letter and a training plan;
- For established artisans, information regarding your workshop;
- For fellows, information regarding your studies.

7) Selection

The duos of established artisans and fellows will be selected by a jury committee and announced in April 2025.

II. CONDITIONS

1) Commitment

To participate in the Fellowship, both fellows and established artisans are expected to commit to the entirety of the programme from September 2025-March 2026 and be willing to travel to the location of the masterclass.

2) Terms

- The Foundation, the fellows and the artisans will sign a participation agreement.
- The Foundation will sponsor a contribution for the fellows' placement. The Foundation will pay the established artisan or local partner who will be liable to pay the fellow the relevant contribution.
- Fellows will sign a contract/convention with their artisan and receive a contribution in line with local wages and student status from the master artisan or local partner. There are three contractual options that duos can consider: the artisan employs their fellow in their workshop, the fellow and artisan enters a freelance contractual relationship or the fellow signs an internship convention or agreement as part of their studies (dependant on student status). The contractual relation between fellow and artisan does not involve the Foundation.
- Accommodation will be provided during the masterclass in September.
- Duos will receive a limited financial contribution for the material needed for the co-created object.

3) Fellows must meet the following criteria

- Be at least 18 years of age and a recent graduate (2024-2025) of applied arts and crafts.
- Be based in one of the selected countries (Cyprus, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom), or beyond. Applications from outside the selected countries will depend on visa requirements which must be organised by the applicant. Fellows who fail to secure their visa by one week before the start of the masterclass will not be able to participate in the programme. The Foundation does not provide or cover any financial costs related to the visa application process.
- Be in search of a first work opportunity in their craft.
- Wish to continue the craft they were trained in and indicate that participating in this programme represents the next logical step in their career.
- Have a clear plan demonstrating what they hope to achieve during this programme.
- Be inspired to pursue a career in the craft they were trained in and open their own workshop or business.
- Have high regard for their craft and strive for excellence in their field.
- Have a thirst for knowledge and a personality that is open to advice and change.
- Be able to communicate in English (minimum B2 level) as the masterclass is conducted in English.

4) Established artisans must meet the following criteria

- Be based in one of the selected countries (Cyprus, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom) and can accommodate a fellow in their workshop.
- Be a recognised expert in their craft that is rooted in territory and the local heritage.
- Have the facilities to train a fellow in their workshop.
- Have a financial need or urgency to transmit knowledge for the growth or transfer of their workshop.
- Have a clear plan demonstrating what they hope to achieve during this programme.
- Be inspired to pass on their knowledge to the younger generation.
- Have a high regard for their craft and strive for excellence in their field.
- Have a thirst for knowledge and a personality that is willing to support younger generations.

5) Acceptance

The successful fellows and established artisans will be notified in April 2025 and must accept the fellowship offer in writing within 7 (seven) days after receiving said offer. The Michelangelo Foundation reserves the right to cancel fellowship applications from candidates who fail to confirm within the prescribed time without reason.

6) Participation agreement

The selected duos will sign a letter of acceptance with the Michelangelo Foundation outlining the programme and conditions for participation.

7) Operational aspects

The Michelangelo Foundation will provide:

- Accommodation and travel for the 1-month entrepreneurial masterclass only. These costs will be organised and paid in advance by the Michelangelo Foundation and partners.

- Contribution to the artisan with the financial contribution for the 6-month placement according to local wages and conditions but within the agreed budget (local employment contracts to be signed by the established artisan and fellow).
- Courtesy limited financial support for the material needed for the co-created object.
- The Michelangelo Foundation is not responsible for any scenarios and/or costs that may arise outside of the costs mentioned above. The Foundation will not cover or contribute to the costs of visas for fellows.
- During the month-long masterclass, established artisans will be invited to participate for 2 days. Accommodation and travel subsistence will be covered and organised by the Foundation.

The Michelangelo Foundation will not provide:

- Financial contribution to cover costs of public transportation during the masterclass or 6-month placement (including connections to and from the airport)
- Financial contribution to cover costs of meals during the masterclass or 6-month placement
- Legal, administrative or financial support to secure visas to participate in the masterclass or the 6-month placement
- Coordination or financial contribution to cover costs of return flights after the 6-month placements
- Accommodation during the 6-month placements

8) Ownership of objects and loans

Objects created during the programme are co-owned by the established artisan and fellow. The Michelangelo Foundation and partners reserve the right to exhibit selected pieces at all times and free of charge given a specific calendar.

9) Intellectual property

All intellectual property rights related to any study, design, drawing, and items, created in connection with the programme will be held jointly by the respective fellows and the established artisans involved in that creation. The fellows and the established artisans agree on a joint usage of such rights.

The partners, sponsor and the Michelangelo Foundation will be granted on a worldwide basis, in perpetuity and free of charge the right to represent and reproduce (and adapt) any images, videos and pictures of such study, design, drawing and items for the promotion of their own organisations.

The partners, sponsor and the Michelangelo Foundation reserve the right to request the objects for specific exhibitions and events.

10) Communication

The duos are invited to communicate on their participation in the programme on their channels and social media. Other information, guidelines, and detailed hashtags to include will be communicated at a later stage to generate a stronger impact.

The duos are expected to provide the Michelangelo Foundation and partners with any communication material requested.

The duos will document their participation in the programme with personal photos and/or film made with their own device (smartphone) that they will share with the Michelangelo Foundation.

The Michelangelo Foundation reserves the right to send a photographer and/or a film crew to document the programme. Assets produced by the Michelangelo Foundation will be shared with the duos. The duos can use these assets on the condition that credits are mentioned.

11) Code of conduct

Selected fellows are expected to complete the entire Fellowship including the entire masterclass in September 2025 as well as the entire placement from October 2025-March 2026.

Selected established artisans are expected to attend 2 days of the masterclass in September 2025 and participate in the entire workshop placement from October 2025-March 2026.

The Michelangelo Foundation promotes and encourages collaboration and knowledge exchange and believes in promoting a safe and efficient environment by enforcing behavioural standards. Active participation is strongly encouraged and expected. All beneficiaries must uphold integrity, respect of all other participants and organisers and their rights and property and safety of others.

The beneficiaries are encouraged to promote the programme through their own channels as mentioned above. They cannot post derogatory comments on the Michelangelo Foundation and partners, the programme and its organisers. This can be a motive for exclusion.

All the participants must deter from indulging in any and all forms of misconduct during and after programme hours, which can affect the image and reputation of the Michelangelo Foundation, the programme sponsor and its partners.

Theft, abuse, or damage of available resources, facilities of other participants properties will lead to exclusion.

Indulging in any form of harassment related to an individual's gender, race, religion or beliefs, colour, region, language, disability, or sexual orientation, marital or family status, physical or mental disability, gender identity, etc. will lead to exclusion.

12) Exclusion and cancellations

The Michelangelo Foundation is entitled to immediately exclude a participant in case of non-compliance with the above code of conduct, in situations that could bring prejudice to the Michelangelo Foundation, for any absence beyond reasonable control or in the case of force majeure for more than 3 days.

The artisan has the right to terminate a fellow in case of non-compliance with the above code of conduct with prior notification and justification to the Michelangelo Foundation.

In case of exclusion, the participants will have to reimburse travel and accommodation costs, leave the accommodation site and will be excluded from future Michelangelo Foundation projects until decided otherwise.

If fellows or artisans are forced to discontinue his/her participation for any legitimate reason, he/she may be relieved from the programme subject to written agreement by the organisers. As a result, the participant will be asked to clear the accommodation site. We will try to pair fellows and established artisans with a new partner in the case of any dropouts.

The participants can cancel participation prior to travel bookings. After travel booking is arranged, the participants are required to reimburse travel costs and depending on the reason may be excluded from future Michelangelo Foundation projects.

13) Data privacy

Applicants' data are collected and treated according to Michelangelo Foundation's [Privacy Policy](#) and will be shared with organisers for operational purposes, only as well as with partners and sponsor when relevant.

14) Insurance

The Michelangelo Foundation is exempt from any and all liabilities for whatsoever reason in connection with said accidents during the course. Any and all possible claims against the Michelangelo Foundation are therefore irrevocably waived.

The participants are required to contract the necessary insurance.

15) Survey

The participants will be expected to reply to surveys throughout the programme.

16) Cancellation

The Michelangelo Foundation is allowed to cancel the programme any time before the start of or during the programme for any reasons whatsoever, including a case of force majeure.

For any questions related to the application process or the Homo Faber Fellowship in general, please contact education@homofaber.com