HOMO FABER

Fellowship

FAQ - 2027/28 Edition

DUOS

- **Is the programme open to all crafts?**

  We invite makers of all forms of craftsmanship to apply. Candidates (master artisans who are not part of the Homo Faber Guide and fellows) can also visit Homo Faber Guide to gain a better understanding of the types of crafts and techniques that our artisans practise.

- **Is my country eligible for the Homo Faber Fellowship?**

  Master artisans (*mentors*) must be based in either Canada, the United States of America, or a selection of countries in Europe:

  Albania, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Iceland, Italy*, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Czech Republic, Romania, United Kingdom, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey.

  Emerging talents *(fellows)* from anywhere in the world are welcome to apply.

- **What does the programme include?**

  1-month in-real-life masterclass, 6-month workshop placement, the co-creation of an object, online learning and mentoring as well as participation in an international exhibition.

- **Will this programme run every year?**

  Yes. Each edition lasts 8 months, beginning in the autumn and ending in the spring.

- **If I apply now, can I defer my application for the next year?**

  No, a new call for participation will be launched for each year's edition.

- **Can I apply even if I do not have a duo formed?**

  No, you will need to form a duo before applying.

- **Do both members of the duo need to submit a separate application?**

  Yes. Each member of the duo must submit their own separate application online, referencing each other. An application is only valid once both the mentor (master artisan) and the fellow (emerging talent) have submitted their respective forms before the deadline on 27 January 2027.

- **How can I find my duo?**

  Duos: download the Homo Faber app for iOS or Android and create your **Homo Faber Connect** profile. State your favourite crafts, materials and cities which will allow you to "match" with like-minded individuals and message them through the app.

  Fellow: browse Homo Faber Guide to discover and contact artisans based in one of the countries chosen for the Fellowship who could be interested in applying with you.

  Mentor: reach out to schools in your country who may suggest the opportunity to their students or contact us on education@homofaber.com.

- **What is the financial support to participating duo?**

  The Foundation provides duos with a grant ranging from EUR 10,000 to EUR 30,000 determined across regional tiers. From the total awarded grant amount, 70% is paid directly to the fellow, while the remaining 30% is paid directly to the mentor.

- **What is the selection process like?**

  Duos are selected by a jury. The jury selects 40 duos as finalists in addition to a waiting list. Candidates will be notified of the next edition's results by end of April 2027.Pre-selected finalists will be invited to a final call.

- **What happens after I am selected?**

  Upon selection, all duos will sign an agreement to formalise their participation in the programme. After this, duos will undergo academic enrolment with IE University and an programme onboarding with the Michelangelo Foundation.

- **Will the co-created objects be presented to the public after the programme?**

  The Foundation reserves the right to exhibit the co-created objects with an aim to create visibility and business opportunities.

- **If my duo is selected and one of us drops out, can the remaining person stay in the programme with a new partner?**

  No. The jury evaluates and selects candidates as a pair. If one member of a duo drops out, the remaining partner cannot continue in the programme with a replacement.

- **Why is there an asterisk (*) next to Italy on the list of eligible countries?**

  Placements in Italy are only eligible if an Italy-based mentor is welcoming an international fellow, or if an Italian fellow is undertaking a placement abroad. Italian duos (where both the mentor and fellow are based in Italy) are invited to consult the Una Scuola, Un Lavoro programme by Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte.

- **Who owns the co-created object?**

  The co-created object is jointly owned by the mentor and the fellow. The Foundation recommends that the duo define the specific ownership terms in a dedicated agreement before the placement. The Michelangelo Foundation reserve the right to request the object for specific exhibitions and events.

- **What happens if the co-created object is sold?**

  Any decisions regarding the sale, pricing, or split of proceeds from the co-created object are made entirely by the duo. The Foundation does not participate in commercial discussions or take a financial cut.

- **Who owns the intellectual property (IP) rights in the co-creation?**

  The mentor and the fellow jointly own the intellectual property rights in the work they co-create during the programme, including any jointly created studies, designs, drawings and objects. Each participant retains their pre-existing intellectual property rights and know-how. We recommend that the duo agree in writing, before the placement begins, on the terms governing the use of their jointly owned rights. The Foundation is not a party to these arrangements, which must not restrict the licences granted under the programme's Conditions.

MENTORS

- **What's in it for me as a mentor?**

  This programme offers a unique opportunity to pass on your craft to the next generation while receiving dedicated workshop and financial support. Key benefits include:
  - Receiving 30% of your duo's total grant (EUR 3,000-9,000, depending on location) paid directly to you to cover workshop materials, operating costs, and insurance.
  - Hosting a dedicated fellow in your workshop for 6 months to assist with your ongoing production.
  - Co-creating a piece based on a creative brief and showcase it exclusively at an international exhibition.
  - Partnering with a fellow to bring fresh perspectives and a rich exchange of knowledge into your practice.
  - Participating in a 3-day masterclass on craft entrepreneurship led by our academic partner, IE School of Architecture and Design.
  - Accessing mentorship from IE School of Architecture and Design throughout the placement.
  - Gaining visibility for your craft through the Foundation's communication channels.

- **How will you ensure compatibility between a mentor and a fellow?**

  Compatibility is pre-established. Applicants apply together as a duo, having either an existing working relationship or having connected directly to submit a joint application

FELLOWS

- **Is the programme specifically for graduates who hold a bachelor's or master's degree?**

  The programme is open to candidates holding or completing a training in craft, a bachelor's degree, master's degree, or professional craft certification. Emerging talents without a formal degree are also eligible if they can demonstrate equivalent practical experience, such as self-taught practice or workshop training.

- **I graduated two years ago. Am I still eligible as a fellow?**

  The objective of the programme is to facilitate the integration of emerging makers that have yet to integrate into the professional world and job market. We will study each application carefully by consequence.

- **If I am a fellow transitioning later in my craft career (in my 30s/40s) am I still eligible?**

  The programme is primarily focused on recent graduates however; the jury will consider specific cases linked to career shifts and adoption of a craft at a later stage in life.

- **Does the Fellowship count as an internship for universities?**

  Yes. The 6-month placement is formalized through an internship agreement with IE School of Architecture and Design, granting fellows student status. However, the Michelangelo Foundation cannot sign other university agreements.

- **Who is responsible for health insurance and social security during the 6-month placement?**

  Participants are required to secure their own insurance. IE School of Architecture and Design provides social security coverage for fellows under the age of 28 undertaking an internship in Spain. For placements outside of Spain, fellows are responsible for arranging their own health/liability coverage.

- **As a fellow can I apply for a placement based outside of Canada, the USA or Europe?**

  No, we are only accepting applications where the 6-month placement of the Fellowship takes place in the workshop of a mentor based in a selection of countries.

- **I am based outside of Europe. Can I still apply as a fellow?**

  Yes. Fellows can apply from anywhere in the world, provided the placement is in the workshop of a mentor in Europe, Canada, or the USA. International fellows must share a working language with the mentor and be responsible for securing their own visa.

- **Can the Michelangelo Foundation help me apply for a visa?**

  The Michelangelo Foundation cannot provide support in securing visas. Fellows are entirely responsible for researching, funding, and obtaining their own visa according to the host country's rules. We strongly recommend checking requirements early and applying as soon as selection results are announced.

- **Is there a deadline by which my visa must be secured?**

  Yes. Fellows must secure their visa at least two weeks before the masterclass begins in September 2027. Candidates who fail to secure their visa by this deadline will not be able to participate in the programme.

- **What is the accommodation during the masterclass like?**

  Fellows' accommodation consists of comfortable shared rooms with two participants per room. Bed linens, Wi-Fi, and access to a shared kitchen are all included during your stay. Mentors will stay in a hotel near the masterclass venue.

OTHER

- **As a fellow can I join the placement on a part-time basis?**

  The Fellowship is designed as a full-time 8-month commitment. However, part-time arrangements may be exceptionally considered, provided there is a strong justification and all required training hours can still be completed without compromising quality.

- **Do the mentors need to be from the Homo Faber Guide?**

  No, the programme welcomes new mentors. If selected and they meet the Homo Faber Guide criteria, they will naturally become part of the community.

- **Can only fellows from the Michelangelo Foundation network of schools apply?**

  No, the Foundation is open to receive applications from fellows who have graduated from different schools with the objective of enlarging its network of schools related to crafts.

Still have questions? Please contact us at education@homofaber.com