HOMO FABER

Fellowship

General Information and Conditions

2027/28 Edition

GENERAL INFORMATION

1) What is the Homo Faber Fellowship?

Homo Faber Fellowship is an annual eight-month international sponsored craft training programme designed for duos of master artisans (the 'mentors') and emerging talents (the 'fellows'). During the programme, each fellow undertakes a month-long creative and entrepreneurial masterclass, followed by a six-month sponsored placement in their mentor's workshop resulting in a co-created object. The Fellowship concludes with a showcase of all the original objects at an international exhibition.

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 fifth edition is taking place from September 2027 to April 2028. The programme provides a grant to each duo.

2) Who benefits from the programme?

The Homo Faber Fellowship 2027/28 will benefit **up to 40 duos of mentors and fellows.**

Mentors: master artisans **based in geographic Europe, the United States of America or Canada**, whose craft has a strong connection to the local area and heritage. Eligible countries in Europe are listed in the Grant section on page 4.

Fellows: recent craft graduates (of years 2025, 2026, 2027) or emerging talents, from all nationalities and countries of residence, subject to applying for and obtaining their visa if they are travelling to another country (see 2.c in *Conditions* for more information).

3) When does the programme take place?



4) What does the programme offer?

Participation in the Homo Faber Fellowship 2027/28 represents a considerable sponsored investment in a duo's career and craft transmission. Accepting an offer signifies your formal commitment to fulfilling the expectations of the programme.

In return, each duo receives comprehensive financial, academic, and operational support funded by the Michelangelo Foundation and partners. This package includes:

- A grant distributed to the duos across four regional tiers (ranging from EUR 10,000 to EUR 30,000).
- Full coverage of tuition fees for the two-part hybrid "Homo Faber & IE School of Architecture & Design Diploma in Craft Entrepreneurship" with official student status for the fellow including:
    - For fellows: a month of masterclass face-to-face in September 2027 and online courses during 6-month placements from October 2027 to April 2028.
    - For mentors: a 3-day masterclass face-to-face in September 2027 and online courses during 6-month placements from October 2027 to April 2028.
- Tailored mentoring with IE professors throughout the 6-month placement.
- Travel expenses, as agreed by us, to and from Spain, as well as masterclass accommodation for the fellow (shared double occupancy rooms for 1 month) and mentor (single occupancy rooms for 3 days).
- Organization, transportation, insurance, and scenography for exclusive showcase of co-created works at high-profile international exhibitions (the value of this exhibition support goes beyond the package estimate).
- Potential features across Homo Faber's communication relay (press, newsletter, social media, etc.) and direct inclusion in the Homo Faber Guide for mentors.
- Special review by the sourcing team for potential inclusion in Homo Faber 2028.
- Inclusion in the global Homo Faber NextGen alumni network.

5) Our sponsors

The Homo Faber Fellowship is made possible through the generous support of our sponsors and partners. We are deeply grateful for their commitment, which enriches our educational programmes, empowers emerging talents, and helps shape the future of craft. Jaeger-LeCoultre is the Founding Partner of the Homo Faber Fellowship. We benefit from the support of dedicated country sponsors, including duos with a strong link to Japan thanks to Mazda, as well as duos in Norway, Spain, France, and Italy.

6) How to apply?

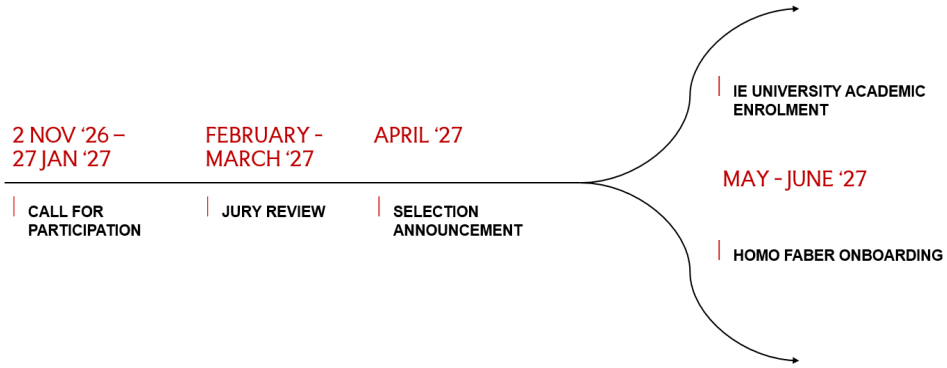
The Michelangelo Foundation offers equal opportunities and access to all candidates in crafts, considering equally all applicants irrespective of age, origins, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, socio-cultural and socio-economic background.

To apply and be considered for the programme, **you must have formed a duo** consisting of a mentor and a fellow. **The duo must be 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 application will only be valid once both the mentor and fellow have applied.

All applicants must submit their duo application via the link provided on the website, starting **from 2 November 2026. The deadline for receiving applications is 23.59 CET on 27 January 2027.**

7) What are the key milestones from application to onboarding?



8) What's needed to apply?

For both:

- Personal information;
- A PDF of your portfolio (please include your top 3 creations on page 1);
- A high-resolution profile photo in JPEG or PNG format;
- A motivation letter (max. 1000 characters) or video (max. 2 minutes) **in English**; which should include the following:
    - Your motivation for participating in this programme;
    - Your objective as a crafts professional;
    - Why you need this programme.

For mentor applications:

- A training plan for the 6-months **in English** with your fellow (max. 1000 characters);
- Information regarding your workshop (address, photos or description of space).

For fellow applications, information regarding your studies.

CONDITIONS

1) Commitment

To participate in the programme, both fellows and mentors are expected to commit full time to the entirety of the programme from September 2027 to April 2028 and be willing to travel to the location of the masterclass in Spain.

2) Grants

Financial grants are allocated per duo across four regional tiers and distributed directly to individuals by our philanthropic partner Chapel & York: **70% to the fellow** and **30% to the mentor.**

The grant is intended to support direct living expenses, local social security/insurance costs, and co-creation workshop materials during the 6-month placement. The Foundation is not responsible for the issuance of any grants.

The grant is distributed in Euros. Participants are solely responsible for local tax compliance and administrative reporting in their country of residence. Bank fees and currency exchange fluctuations are not covered by the Foundation.

Total Grant	Fellow	Mentor	Countries
EUR 10,000	7,000	3,000	Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Turkey
EUR 15,000	10,500	4,500	Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia
EUR 20,000	14,000	6,000	Austria, Belgium, France, Ireland, Italy*, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom, USA
EUR 25,000	17,500	7,500	Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, USA (high cost-of-living states: reviewed on a case-by-case basis)
EUR 30,000	21,000	9,000	Switzerland

**Only Italy-based mentors welcoming international fellows, or Italian fellows abroad are accepted. Italian duos can consult Una Scuola, Un Lavoro of Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte*

3) Criteria of participation

For fellows:

- Be at least 18 years of age, and either a recent graduate (2025, 2026, 2027) in applied arts and crafts or an emerging talent who can demonstrate equivalent personal training (e.g., self-taught practice, workshop experience, lessons, or informal craft education).
- Be based in any country, subject to obtaining the necessary visas.
- Be seeking to develop their knowledge about their craft through theoretical and hands-on experience.
- Wish to continue the craft they were trained in and indicate that participating in this programme represents the next logical step to prepare for 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 and all communications through the programme are exclusively in English.

For Mentors:

- Be based in one of the selected countries.
- Be legally registered as a workshop business entity or as a freelance/independent professional.
- Be a recognised expert in their craft.
- Be able to accommodate a fellow in their workshop on a full-time basis for six months between October and March and have the facilities to safely train them.
- Be inspired to pass on their knowledge to the younger generation.
- Have a thirst for knowledge and a personality that is willing to support younger generations.
- Have a clear plan demonstrating what they hope to achieve during this programme.
- Have a high regard for their craft and strive for excellence in their field.
- Have an urgency to transmit knowledge for the growth or transfer of their workshop.

4) Selection

a. Process

Applications undergo a multi-stage evaluation by the Foundation and an independent jury to select up to 40 final duos.

- The Foundation reviews and scores applications to form a shortlist of 70 duos.
- Jury members independently review and score the shortlisted duos.
- Jury scores are tallied to present the highest-scoring duos.
- The jury meets in London to finalize up to 40 selected duos and 5 waiting-list duos.
- Selected duos will be invited to join a short call to confirm their participation.
- Notifications will be sent by email to all applicants in April 2027 to share the final selection decisions.

b. Criteria

The selection process will review the following elements in each application:

- Quality of portfolios
- Quality of training plan
- Motivation for the programme
- Level of need of the programme

c. Acceptance

Selected candidates will be notified in April 2027 and must accept the Homo Faber Fellowship offer within 7 days of receiving the agreement. The Foundation reserves the right to cancel participation from candidates who fail to confirm within the prescribed time without reason.

5) Legal framework

With Michelangelo Foundation and IE School of Architecture of Design:

The participation is subject to a joint agreement letter addressed to the duo, the Michelangelo Foundation and IE School of Architecture and Design. An enrolment agreement will be signed by the duos and IE University to formalise the fellow's student status and the internship.

With IE School of Architecture of Design:

The six-month placement is subject to the signature of an internship agreement with IE School of Architecture and Design. Mentors must notify their local authorities about the internship according to their country's laws.

IE provides social security coverage for fellows under 28 undertaking an internship in Spain. For placements outside Spain, fellows are responsible for obtaining their own coverage or enrolling in the mentor's plan where local regulations permit. The Foundation has no responsibility for these obligations.

Between fellow and mentor:

The Foundation recommends that the mentor sign a dedicated agreement with the fellow prior to the placement to define the specific terms of their collaboration, including day-to-day working arrangements, mutual expectations, and the ownership or Intellectual Property rights of the co-creation.

6) Visas

Neither the Foundation nor IE School of Architecture and Design provide or cover any financial costs related to the visa application process, nor do they provide recommendations on which visa to apply for. Fellows are responsible for researching and applying for the correct visa according to the host country's rules.

Because visa processing can take time, fellows should check requirements early and apply immediately after selection results are announced in April 2027. Fellows who fail to secure their visa at least one week before the masterclass begins will not be able to participate.

7) Operational aspects

As detailed in Section 3 (What does the programme offer?), the Michelangelo Foundation funds and manages the above core operational elements of the Fellowship. However, the Michelangelo Foundation does not cover or coordinate, among others, the following:

- Public transport costs during the masterclass or the 6-month placement.
- Accommodation, meals, or daily living costs during the 6-month workshop placement.
- Financial, legal, or administrative support for securing visas, work permits, local employment contracts, or tax registration.
- Social security registrations or health and liability insurance during the 6-month placement (except via IE University for eligible fellows in Spain).
- Return travel costs following the conclusion of the 6-month workshop placement.

8) Ownership of objects and loans

Objects jointly created by the mentor and fellow during the programme are co-owned by them. The duo should agree in writing on their respective ownership shares and the terms governing the commercialization and sale of these objects. The Michelangelo Foundation is not a party to these arrangements, which must not affect the exhibition rights and licences granted under these Conditions.

The duo agrees to make selected co-created objects available, free of any loan fee, to the Michelangelo Foundation, its partners and sponsors for exhibitions and events. Ownership of the objects remains with the duo.

9) Intellectual property

Each participant retains their pre-existing intellectual property rights and know-how. Intellectual property rights in studies, designs, drawings and objects jointly created by the fellow and mentor during the programme will be held jointly by them. The duo should agree in writing on the terms governing the use of these rights. The Michelangelo Foundation is not a party to these arrangements, which must not restrict the licences granted under these Conditions.

The fellow and mentor each grant the Michelangelo Foundation, its partners and sponsors a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free licence, for the full duration of the relevant intellectual property rights, to photograph and film the co-created studies, designs, drawings and objects, and to reproduce, display, publish, communicate to the public and adapt the resulting images and recordings in any media for the promotion of the programme and their respective organisations. This licence includes the right to authorise service providers to carry out these activities on their behalf, without further approval from or payment to the duo.

The partners, sponsors 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. Each member of the duo warrants that all content they provide is cleared for the uses below, including all necessary intellectual property rights and third-party permissions, including image rights. They grant the Michelangelo Foundation a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free, transferable and sublicensable licence, for the full duration of the relevant rights, to use, reproduce, adapt, publish and distribute such content in any media and for any purpose.

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 can be shared with the duos. The duos may use these assets to promote their work in connection with their participation in the programme, provided that they expressly acknowledge the Michelangelo Foundation and include all credits specified by it.

11) Code of conduct

Selected fellows are requested to complete the entire Fellowship including the month-long masterclass in September 2027 as well as the six-month placement from October 2027 to March 2028.

Selected mentors are requested to attend 3 days of the masterclass in September 2027 and participate in the six-month workshop placement from October 2027 to March 2028.

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, with the agreement listed herein and or thecode of conduct, in

situations that could bring prejudice to the Michelangelo Foundation, for reasonable grounds and for any absence beyond reasonable control or in the case of force majeure for more than 3 days.

The mentor has the right to terminate a fellow in case of non-compliance with the agreement signed with the fellow, or the 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.

Once the programme has started, any Fellow or Mentor seeking to discontinue their participation for a legitimate reason may be released from the programme subject to the prior written authorization of the organisers.

Participants acknowledge and agree that any authorized cancellation or withdrawal shall take effect immediately, and following the official start date of the programme, no replacement of participants or formation of new duos shall be permitted.

In the event of discontinuation, if travel and/or accommodation bookings have already been confirmed or committed, the departing participant shall reimburse the Foundation in full for all incurred, non-refundable expenses related to travel and accommodation.

Furthermore, if discontinuation occurs during the Masterclass, the departing participant(s) will be asked to clear their accommodation.

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 and beyond, as part of the Alumni community.

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.