

Fresh Tracks Residency Guidelines

New York Live Arts' **Fresh Tracks Residency & Performance program** is a season-long residency for emerging movement-based artists in support of new work creation and professional development. Fresh Tracks began in 1965 and was a signature program of Dance Theater Workshop to bring new choreographic artistry to the forefront.

Four artists will be selected through an in-person interview style audition process. The residency includes:

- an **Artist Fee of \$5,000 and 50 gratis studio hours** to support the development of a 15 minute performance work;
- **professional development workshops** led by renowned professionals from the field;
- **[Live Core Artist Membership](#)**;
- guidance from choreographer **[Juliana F. May](#)**, as **Artistic Advisor**;
- support from New York Live Arts' communications, development, production and programming staff towards a **fully-produced shared program in New York Live Arts theater**.

HOW TO APPLY FOR AN AUDITION

Through an open-call application, 16 pre-selected choreographers will be invited to an in-person interview style audition in front of a panel of artists and professionals from the field. The interview will begin by viewing the video of the work submitted virtually. It will also include questions from the panel relating to the choreographer's background, artistic work, creative goals, and what they hope to gain from the residency workshops.

Please read through the guidelines before applying. If you are a choreographer who is part of a team, one of you may apply on behalf of the group. You may not save applications in process. Applications can not be edited once they are submitted.

If you are selected and **not able** to attend, please contact Hannah Emerson Jernigan at hemerson@newyorklivearts.org.

The **Application Form** can be accessed [HERE](#).

Frequently Asked Questions can be accessed [HERE](#).

The Work Sample: As part of the application process, choreographers must submit a 5-minute video excerpt of the work they are applying for that is in the early stages of the creative process, **OR** an excerpt of a recently completed performance that best represents their choreographic work. **Do not** submit a compilation of works. The excerpt must be shared as a video link (Vimeo or Youtube) and submitted through the Google Form application. Please indicate a timecode if the video is longer than 5 minutes, and please make sure the video **is not** password protected.

Please note: Fresh Tracks is not a performance showcase for finished works. It is a residency for the development of a new work, while learning about the various elements of production and producing, as well as the building blocks of a career in live performance creation.

Application opens: Tuesday, July 1, 2025

Application closes: Sunday, August 10, 2025 at 11:59pm, no exceptions.

Applicants alerted: By Friday, August 29, 2025

In-person audition at Live Arts: Friday, September 12, 2025 between 10AM - 5PM
Each interview style audition slot is 20 minutes long. Please read the eligibility guidelines below to determine your eligibility. There is no fee to audition.

Notification of acceptance or decline: Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Selected artists announced to public: Week of September 22, 2025

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION

- Choreographers must be in the early stages of their career as a choreographer. Age is not a determining factor.
- Choreographers must be available for **all activities** listed on the residency calendar below. **No exceptions.** Performers in the work should be available for the dates with asterisks next to them.
- Choreographers must be based in New York City or the Tristate area during the time of the residency, September 2025 - May 2026. This allows residency artists to attend all workshops and meetings, as well as utilize studio hours.
- Choreographers must agree to Live Arts Anti-Harassment Policy that can be found [HERE](#).

You are NOT eligible to apply:

- You auditioned in 2024.
- You are scheduled to perform your auditioned work in New York City 30 days before or after the performances at New York Live Arts in May 2026 (Please see [Fresh Tracks FAQs](#) for exceptions);
- You have participated in the Fresh Tracks program previously.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The Fresh Tracks program is first and foremost a residency opportunity. In considering your eligibility for the program, please note that Live Arts values collaborative minds that are willing to engage in dialogue with other peers in the program. Live Arts is looking for choreographers who are interested to grow as an artist and apply proficiencies gained through the program to their future as choreographers. Fresh Tracks is not solely a performance opportunity.

Choreographers selected for the program are required to participate in all scheduled activities listed on the residency calendar below.

Fresh Tracks values experimentation, collaboration and a genuine commitment to the original ideas, aesthetics and perspectives. Please note that New York Live Arts rejects harassment and discrimination of any kind and strives to create a safe place for bold ideas and an environment of respect, empathy and compassion.

A panel of artists and other professionals from the field will select artists based on their demonstration of the above qualities and must possess a keen desire to develop and explore their work with their peers in the context of a residency program.

2025-2026 Fresh Tracks Residency Calendar

Workshop Schedule

Individual Sessions w/ Artistic Advisor	1 x 1-hr session, Nov-Feb to be scheduled by Artist & Advisor
Individual Studio Visit w/ Artistic Advisor	1 x 1-hr session, Mar-May to be scheduled by Artist & Advisor
Orientation	Thurs, Oct 2, 2025 - 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Dialogue Session #1 w/ Artistic Advisor	Mon, Oct 6, 2025 - 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Practical Tools, Resources and Strategies For Economic Well Being	Thurs, Oct 16, 2025 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Accessibility Workshop	Thurs, Nov 6, 2025 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Intro to Fundraising	Thurs, Nov 13, 2025 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Intro to Grant Writing w/ Live Core	Thurs, Nov 20, 2025 - 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Independent Artist Independent Producer	Thurs, Dec 4, 2025 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Tech and Production Workshop	Tues, Dec 9, 2025 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Dialogue Session #2 w/ Artistic Advisor	Thurs, Dec 11, 2025 - 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Dialogue Session #3 w/ Artistic Advisor	Thurs, Feb 5, 2026 - 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Cohort Artistic / Design Meeting	Thurs, Feb 12, 2026 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Communications Workshop	Thurs, Feb 26, 2026 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Live Arts Intake Meeting	Thurs, Mar 12, 2026 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
*In-Process Studio Showings	Thurs, Mar 26, 2026 - 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Dialogue Sessions #4 w/ Artistic Advisor	Mon, Mar 30, 2026 - 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Production Meeting	Thurs, Apr 16, 2026 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
*Final Designer Showings (theater)	Sun, May 3, 2026 - 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM (TBD)

Theater Show: Week of May 11, 2026

Please hold entire week until tech schedule is confirmed

*Load-in	Mon, May 11, 2026
*Technical Rehearsals	Tues - Wed, May 12 & 13, 2026
*Tech & Dress Rehearsal	Thurs, May 14, 2026
*Performances	Fri - Sat, May 15 & 16 at 7:30 PM
Post Mortem / Program Evaluation	Thurs, May 21, 2026 - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**All of the cohort's performers and/or collaborators should be available for the dates with an asterisk. Each cohort member is responsible for asking their own performers and/or collaborators to attend these notated activities.*