

INTERNATIONAL CINEMA WRITING RESIDENCY ALCA

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – RICA 2026

FORM FOR BAL LAB BIARRITZ AND IKUSMIRA BERRIAK PARTICIPANTS

AGENCE LIVRE, CINÉMA & AUDIOVISUEL EN NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE

For the 8th year running, ALCA, agence livre, cinéma et audiovisuel en Nouvelle-Aquitaine, is working in partnership with the Festival Biarritz Amérique Latine and Ikusmira Berriak, the residency programme co-organized by the San Sebastián Film Festival, Tabakalera and Elías Querejeta Film School, to offer one writing residency for international film directors.

Film directors who participated in 2025 in BAL LAB, rencontres de co-production du Festival Amérique Latine de Biarritz, and in the Ikusmira Berriak residency in 2026 may apply for a four-week writing residency to work on a full-length feature film. The resident will be invited to the Villa Valmont, Espace International de Residences, devoted to contemporary writing in its myriad forms. The Villa Valmont, a residence for writing and landscape, is situated on the hilltops above Bordeaux at the Parc de l'Ermitage in Lormont.

- The duration of the residency is 4 weeks (in one block) **between May 28th and June 28th 2026**. Arrival and departure dates may vary by one or two days depending on the writers' constraints and transport company possibilities.
- **Accommodation at the Villa Valmont residence**. The film director chosen will be invited to reside at the Villa Valmont for 4 weeks to work on their writing project. The following facilities will be made available: an individual room containing a bedroom space, work space and bathroom. The author will also have access to communal areas in the residence.
- A 1 500 € writing bursary, allocated by ALCA.
- **Personalised consultation or support** implemented by ALCA in partnership with the author.
- **Cost of return travel**, and if necessary the cost of a visa and insurance, from the author's home address to Bordeaux (maximum 1 000 €).
- **Application requirements:**
 - **Authors concerned:** authors having already participated in BAL LAB in 2025 and in the Ikusmira Berriak residency in 2026.
 - **Undertaking a writing project for a feature length film**, of any genre, and supplying an application dossier in French or English.
 - **You must be available between May 28th and June 28th 2026**.
- **Application deadline: April 13th 2026**.

DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED IN YOUR DOSSIER

1. This form, completed and signed by you.
2. A letter of application detailing your career as an author, your expectations and motivation in applying for a residency, your requirements in terms of support (one page max).
3. A dossier presenting your project, including:
 - A synopsis (5 pages max).
 - A note of intention (2 pages max).
 - Annexes or any additional elements enabling us to better understand your project (images, mood board, teaser...).
4. CV / Filmography.
5. Vimeo links to previous films.
6. If relevant: copy of the contract signed for the project in hand.

Please submit your entire application package in one pdf file by: April 13th 2026.

E-mail to: residences.cinema@alca-nouvelle-aquitaine.fr

SELECTION PROCEDURE AND JURY

Dossiers will be examined by a commission set up by ALCA comprising:

- 1 representative from ALCA.
- 1 representative from the Villa Valmont.
- 1 film industry professional.

Candidates will be informed of the commission's final selection by e-mail before May 7th 2026.

FURTHER INFORMATION

ALCA Nouvelle-Aquitaine - Cinéma et Audiovisuel department

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APPLICATION FORM

Last name:
First name:
Date of birth:
Nationality:
Full home postal address:
Country:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Blog or internet site:

Have you already benefited from a period in residency to work on this project?

Yes / No

If yes, please give the year(s) concerned and the name of the organisation which granted you the residency:

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YOUR RESIDENCY PROJECT

Title:

PRESENTATION OF YOUR PROJECT IN A FEW LINES

(Short summary)

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.....
.....
.....

Feature film:

Fiction / Documentary / Animated

1st film / 2nd film / Other

- Genre (drama, comedy...):
- Stage of project (conception, writing, development):
- Financial already obtained (if effective):
- Estimated budget (if available):

Do you already have a producer for this project?

Yes (Name of the production company and producer:)

No

Have you already applied for other forms of financial aid or bursaries for this project?

Yes / No

If yes, please give details of the date, name of the organisation concerned and result of your application (financial aid granted/refused/pending):

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.....

Do you have specific support requirements: consultancy, artistic advise, visual effects, etc.?

Yes / No

If yes, please give details:

.....
.....

Place:

Date:

Signature:

DETAILS OF THE RESIDENCY

NATURE OF THE RESIDENCY

Creative residency

The residency will provide the successful candidate with the time and freedom to work on their writing project in all serenity. The resident may be invited to participate in public awareness events.

This programme will be established in partnership between ALCA, the Festival Biarritz Amérique Latine and the Villa Valmont and will take into account the resident's desiderata. Personalised consultation or support will be implemented by ALCA in partnership with the author.

Remuneration of the author

Writing bursary of 1500€ gross paid to the resident author during the first week of the residency.

This sum of money will be paid, depending on the author's wishes, in cash (in euros and in exchange for a signed receipt) or by international bank transfer.

Dates and place of residency

Between May 28th and June 28th 2026.

Arrival and departure dates may vary by one or two days depending on the writers' constraints and transport company possibilities.

ACCOMMODATION

Residence Villa Valmont - Lormont, near Bordeaux.

The Villa Valmont is an international residency venue for contemporary writing and landscape in its myriad forms situated on the hilltops overlooking Bordeaux in the Parc de l'Ermitage, Lormont. Its aim is to support creativity for a wide range of writers, be they experienced or budding, with particular emphasis on women authors, environmentally sensitive approaches, the implementation of new forms of public awareness activities, texts which are convivial, festive or performative and the purpose of writing as a means of fighting all forms of discrimination. In 2023, the Villa Valmont will be opening its doors to authors with whom public awareness events will be organised, ranging from encounters, workshops, work-in-progress roundtables, events with school pupils, the general public and specific groups. The Villa Valmont also offers a yearly cultural programme focussing on writing (workshops, masterclasses, performances, shows, literary rambles, film projections).

The Villa Valmont provides to the resident a bedroom/study and private bathroom, communal work and living spaces (sitting room, communal kitchen) and 'swimming pool', a 110 m² multipurpose workshop and exterior spaces (terraces to the front and rear of the Villa and a 3-hectare garden planted with trees).

EXPENSES

- The author will be responsible for the following expenses: individual insurance, living expenses, personal travel expenses and costs incurred by developing their project.
- Transport: ALCA will cover the costs of transport, visa and travel insurance (return journey home/residency), maximum 1 000 €.
 - Travel expenses to and from public events organised during the residency will be covered by ALCA or the Villa Valmont.
 - The author will be responsible for the cost incurred by personal travel, excluding meetings and public awareness events.
 - The resident will be provided with a monthly travel card for use on public transport within the city which may be used for personal travel.
- Catering: the author is responsible for their own catering. ALCA and the Villa Valmont will cater for the reception dinner to welcome the author and meals within the framework of public awareness events.

REQUIREMENTS INCUMBENT ON THE RESIDENT

- The selected film director is required to be in residency at the Villa Valmont on the dates specified.
- The selected film director is required to participate in encounters organised by ALCA and Villa Valmont, and to work on the writing project for which they applied for residency. They will inform ALCA of the project's progress. During and after the residency, the author will agree to indicating the fact that they benefitted from an ALCA residency to work on the film written during the residency.
- When the film is released, the selected film director agrees to inform ALCA of its release and provide a copy of the film (or private Vimeo link).
- The resident agrees to indicate the following in the film credits and have the credits validated by ALCA: 'With the support of ALCA Nouvelle-Aquitaine, as part of the international cinema writing residencies in Villa Valmont in Lormont.'
- Residence agreement: an agreement detailing requirements incumbent on the selected writer, the place of residence and ALCA will be signed.

REQUIREMENTS INCUMBENT ON ALCA

- ALCA will cover the cost of the author's remuneration (writing bursary), travel expenses (return ticket from their home), visa and travel insurance (maximum 1 000 €).
- ALCA and its partners will implement artistic support for residents and make every effort to respond to their demands in terms of establishing contacts with creators, places and

different sectors of the public and events in the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region.

- ALCA and its partners agree to make every effort to promote the author's residency and their work through selected promotional material and professional networks.
- ALCA will provide 10 tickets for the Utopia cinema in Bordeaux. The resident will return the remaining tickets at the end of the residency.

REQUIREMENTS ON THE FESTIVAL BIARRITZ AMÉRIQUE LATINE

The partner festivals will promote the call for applications among their participants and will foster links between ALCA and the applicants.

REQUIREMENTS ON IKUMIRA BERRIAK

The partner festivals will promote the call for applications among their participants and will foster links between ALCA and the applicants.

REQUIREMENTS ON THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE

- The Villa Valmont agrees to provide the selected author with the following facilities for a period of four weeks:
 - individual room comprising a bedroom space, work space and private bathroom with lavatory,
 - communal areas comprising communal work and living spaces (sitting room, communal kitchen) and 'swimming pool', a 110 m² multipurpose workshop and exterior spaces (terraces to the front and rear of the Villa and a 3-hectare garden planted with trees).
- Villa Valmont will make provide the resident with a monthly travel card for use on public transport within the city which may be used for personal travel.