

Ida Improv Artists in Residence: Call for applications!

Each year, Theater Ida invites two improv performers to come to Zurich for ten days as Ida Improv Artists in Residence. We are currently inviting applications for the next Residency, which is taking place from 27 September to 6 October 2024!

Artists come to Zurich in pairs to work on an improv project together. Usually, we invite two improvisers who already know each other, but who do not normally get to work together, for instance because they live and work in different places. During their Residency, the two improvisers can use our theatre space for their rehearsals. They will perform various shows during their stay and each of them will teach a weekend workshop for experienced improvisers. They will also get to engage with local improvisers from Zurich and the region.

Theater Ida is a non-commercial community theatre, run by a group of enthusiastic improvisers on a voluntary basis. You can read more about [Theater Ida here](#), and about [previous Ida Artists in Residence here](#).

Who is the residency for?

- Two highly experienced improvisers who engage with improv* as an artform.
- Two improvisers who want to work on a new project together. Ideally, they do not usually have the opportunity to work together.
- Two improvisers who are interested in getting to know the local improv community of Zurich.

** NOTE: We realise that "improv" is used in different ways in different parts of the world. With "improv" we refer to improvised theatre and/or improvised comedy that includes acting. This can be so-called long form or short form, comedy or dramatic. While we are perfectly open to formats such as improvised musicals, we cannot consider applications from dance troupes and music ensembles. Have a look at our past [Ida Improv Artists in Residence](#) for further reference.*

What will you do during your residency?

- Work on an improv project together. You will be able to use our theatre space for five days (Mon to Fri) during the day.
- Teach a weekend workshop (one 2-day workshop per performer).
- Perform shows on seven nights. This should include a duo show that you perform several times, as well as other types of shows and events (e.g. solo shows, shows with local improvisers, jams, panel discussions, etc.). See also sample programme below.
- Get to know local improvisers from Zurich and talk a lot about improv.
- Visit Zurich, climb Uetliberg, swim in the Limmat river, eat some Fondue and have a genuinely good time!

What will you get?

- An artist fee of 1,200 CHF per person (roughly 1,200 EUR, depending on exchange rate).
- Our theatre as a rehearsal space for your project for five days (Mon to Fri until 6 pm).
- Free accommodation (either private accommodation in an improviser's guest room or a shared(!) hotel room for the two of you, depending on availability).
- A contribution towards your travel expenses (max. 500 CHF per person)

How do you apply?

Send us your application in a single(!) PDF document. The document needs to include the following information (preferably in this order – yes, we are Swiss and we are very well-organised! ;-)):

1. A short description of the project on which you want to work together during your stay (max. 1 page). Don't forget to tell us why you need the Residency to realise this project.
2. A short profile text about each of the two improvisers, which can be used for advertising (100-150 words each).
3. Suggestions of four two-day workshops, two workshops per performer:
 - First suggestion of workshop taught by performer A
 - Second suggestion of workshop taught by performer A
 - First suggestion of workshop taught by performer B
 - Second suggestion of workshop taught by performer B
 - Note that you will teach only one workshop each, but we would like to have a selection of topics to choose from.
 - All of the workshops should be targeted at advanced improvisers who practice regularly with their own group, who have attended various courses previously (more than 100 hours of instruction by highly experienced improvisers) and most of whom have show experience.
 - Each workshop should cover two full days (10 am to 5 pm with a lunch break) and ideally conclude with a student showcase.
 - The description of each workshop should be 100 to 150 words and it should be written so that it can be used for advertising.
4. A description of a duo show you would like to perform repeatedly during your stay in Zurich (100–150 words). Note that this can, but does not have to be related to the project on which you want to work. Your show should be 40 to 50 minutes. It will be performed as one half of a night's performances. See also sample programme below.
5. Ideas and suggestions for different shows and activities such as jams, kids shows, shows with local improvisers, panel discussions, etc. This can include results from the project on which you want to work. See also sample programme below.
6. A confirmation that both of you are available for the entire period of the Residency. You need to arrive in Zurich on Friday, 27 September 2024 before 2 pm and stay until Monday, 7 October 2024 in the morning.
7. Information about where you travel from, how you travel, and an estimate of your total travel costs. Note that we can only contribute to your travel expenses a maximum of 500 CHF per person.
8. A profile picture of each performer, which can be used for advertising.
9. Any other comments you would like us to know about you and your application.

Send us your application by mail to gs@theaterida.ch by **17 March 2024!**

You will receive a short confirmation that we received your application within three days. We will let you know about the outcome of your application by 15 April 2024.

Note on confidentiality

We will treat your application as confidential, and we will not pass on any of the materials and ideas you submit as part of your application to anyone.

Sample programme

To give you an idea of what your Residency could look like, consult this sample programme, which is based on previous Residencies. Of course, your Residency may look quite different – it's your time and we invite you to adjust the programme to your ideas.

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
										Departure
Arrive by 2 pm	Weekend workshop by performer A (10:00 – 17:00 with a lunch break)		Rehearsal time, working on project			Rehearsal time, working on project	Tourist stuff: climbing mountains, swimming in rivers, eating cheese, ...	Rehearsal time, working on project	Weekend workshop by performer B (10:00 – 17:00 with a lunch break)	
						Show for local kids				
Duo Show	Solo show performer B	Student showcase				Duo show		Show with local improvisers	Show resulting from rehearsals	Student showcase
Jam with local improvisers	Duo Show	Duo Show				Panel discussion or Q& A		Duo Show	Duo Show	Duo Show