This project, organized by the Agency for Cultural Affairs (Bunka-cho / Government of Japan), is an artist in residence program which aims to provide three outstanding young animation artists from around the world with an opportunity to come to Tokyo and create new works while directly interacting with Japanese animation culture. In doing so, we aim to promote both the creation of excellent works of animation and a better understanding of Japanese culture.

Duration of the program: 70 days between January 7th and March 17th 2014

Support provided

1. Travel expenses
2. Living allowance
3. Travel insurance
4. Rental accommodation (including workspace)
5. Location: Tokyo

6. Expert assistance

7. Opportunity to present finished work

8. Opportunities to interact with Japanese creators

Program summary

1. Education/training: participants will give reports on the progress of their work being created as part of the program and will receive guidance from accomplished Japanese animators/experts on a regular basis.

2. Visits/exchange events: participants will visit animation studios and participate in exchange events with artists and students enrolled in art programs at educational institutions.

3. Creation of a new work: participants will begin a new work while in Japan and present the finished work or one part of a work in progress at the end of their stay.

Conditions of participation

Applicants must:

1. Reside outside of Japan and be a citizen of a country other than Japan.

2. Have had one of their animated works screened at an international film festival, exhibition or similar event.


4. Be able to speak either English or Japanese at least well enough to communicate in everyday situations.

5. Be in good health.

6. Have access to the equipment necessary to participate in a remote interview (i.e. a computer capable of connecting to the internet and using Skype).

Deadline: Application forms and all required documents/materials must be received by September 9th.

Read the report on the 2012 Animation residence programme

Image: Visit to I. TOON Animation Studio (2012 programme)