



2024-25 William Blair Bruce European Fine Art Travel Scholarship (\$5,000)

Award Description

The William Blair Bruce Travel Scholarship provides \$5,000 for European research travel, to be undertaken within the award year. The proposed travel must be critical to the research project laid out in the application. As a final part of the travel scholarship, recipients give a public lecture in Visby, sponsored by the Brucebo Foundation, on the investigative theme pursued during their recent European travel.

History and Purpose

Since 1972, the Brucebo Foundation of Gotland, Sweden, has offered art residencies and scholarships to emerging professional Canadian artists by providing a study or work stay on the island of Gotland, in the Baltic Sea.

The Brucebo fine art scholarships date back to the post-impressionist era in Europe, when two young artists, Caroline Benedicks of Sweden and William Blair Bruce of Hamilton, Canada, met in Paris. They married and after many years on the European continent, settled on the island of Gotland. With the death of William in 1906, and that of Caroline in 1935, the estate created the Brucebo Fine Art (Scholarship) Foundation in the early 1970's, an organization promoting island-based cultural history and art.

To commemorate the unique Swedish Canadian link of Caroline's and William's marriage and impressive artistry, two annual scholarships for Canadian artists were established: the Brucebo Fine Art Summer Residency Scholarship and the William Blair Bruce European Fine Art Travel Scholarship.

The Residency and Travel Scholarships respond to the needs of emerging artists and are recognized as being among the most significant awards for emerging artists in Canada. The purpose of these awards is to provide an inspiring work-study experience for the most promising graduate students in the visual arts and to help them transition to a professional career.

Eligibility

The Scholarships shall be granted through competition, based on academic merit, to full-time students pursuing a Master's (MA, MFA, MDes) or Doctorate (PhD) degree in the Faculty of Fine Arts (Visual Arts) at Concordia University nearing the completion of their degrees. Eligible applicants include those with a studio-based research-creation practice, including MA, MFA, MDes, as well as the MA/PhD Individualized Program (INDI) and the Interdisciplinary Humanities PhD Program (HUMA),

with a primary supervisor in the Faculty of Fine Arts. Performance-based art practices are not eligible for consideration unless they are undertaken within the context of contemporary visual arts practices and form a minority of the applicant's practice. The Scholarships are open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents only. The Scholarships are not renewable.

Concordia University, in partnership with the Brucebo Foundation, values diversity and encourages applications from candidates who bring unique perspectives, experiences, and contributions to enrich our academic community. We are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where all individuals can thrive.

Award Details

Candidates must demonstrate exceptional ability in their body of creative work. They will be assessed on their record of achievements to date, relevant experience and creative work, and on the quality of the research-creation program they propose.

As a final part of the travel scholarship, the recipient must give a public lecture in Visby, sponsored by the Foundation, on the investigative theme pursued during their recent European travel.

Award recipients must submit a report upon completion of travel, outlining their accomplishments and describing the impact of the scholarship on their research-creation practice.

The deadline for applications is Monday, March 3, 2025, by 12 pm/noon.

The selected candidate must be able to take up the award in the year of the selection.

Application Process

Please see the 2024-25 William Blair Bruce European Fine Art Travel Scholarship Application Form.