

CATWALK - FAQ'S

Frequently Asked Questions

ABOUT CATWALK:

1. What type of place is Catwalk?

Catwalk is an artist residency program located in a private residence of Jim and Purcell Palmer. Patrons of the Arts, they have developed a program that opens their home and grounds to creative professionals each year during the warm months. Artists are selected by participating institutions and submitted by these schools to attend the program. Artists who visit live in separate private residence spaces and each occupy a studio space to work in while attending. Use of the natural surroundings of the estate grounds and nearby area sites in addition to studio work is encouraged. Approximately two to three artists attend the residency at one time. Artists of all types come to Catwalk and there are virtually no limits to the type of work and creativity that happen while visiting Catwalk. To read more about the program visit the ABOUT link. You may also consult your Artist Agreement for policies and procedures.

RESIDENCE SPACES AT CATWALK:

1. Are meals provided at Catwalk?

Although you may be invited to share a meal with the Palmers on occasion, artists are on their own schedule for meals and can dine easily in one of the many cafes and restaurants in Catskill or Hudson. They are also welcome to purchase food from the nearby grocery stores such as Price Chopper.

2. Can I cook my own meals Catwalk?

Each residence has a completely furnished kitchen for use during the residency term and artists may cook meals at any time. Supplies include a fridge and stove, pots, pans, utensils and appliances. Coffee maker and microwaves are in each residence as well.

3. Do I need sheets and towels?

Although artists are welcome to bring their own bedding, each residence is fully stocked with plenty of clean linens and towels, pillows and blankets. Beds are made and ready when artists arrive.

4. Are the rooms furnished?

The residences are totally furnished and have televisions, desks, chairs and dining tables, couches and lamps.

5. Is there heat and A/C at Catwalk?

If it is cold, the living spaces can have the heat turned on by thermostat. There are also plenty of fans available to circulate the air. Studio spaces have portable heaters and fans if needed.

6. Does the residency have maid service?

Housekeeping is provided at Catwalk between residents' periods only. Catwalk asks that artists keep their spaces clean and picked up during their stay. Cleaning supplies are

located in each space. Each residence is cleaned before arrival of a new artist.

TRANSPORTATION & TRAVEL:

1. What are the arrival dates and times for my residency?

You will be notified of your residency period, which is designed to accommodate artists' requested schedule where possible. Make sure to time your arrival before 4PM on Tuesdays and your departure on Sundays. Because Chuck the Property Manager will take residents around the grounds for a tour when they arrive, please make sure to allow time for this meeting. Intro tours take about one hour and Chuck leaves the property usually by 5PM weekdays. Mondays are set aside as times for turnover and housekeeping of the apartments as preparations are made for the next guests, so we ask that you leave the residency by Sunday evening.

2. Do I need a car?

Catwalk strongly suggests that residents have a vehicle to use to get around the area. With many historic and natural sights in the nearby villages, having a car to available to use is an excellent tool for exploration and independence. Personal vehicles can be parked on the grounds in an area designated by Chuck the property manager. Rental cars can be obtained in Hudson and at the Airport in Albany.

3. How do I get around the neighborhood?

Car travel is the recommended means for transportation around Catskill. Although some transit can be provided occasionally by Chuck or the Palmers, artists should not rely on assistance to get around the area. There is currently no public transit system in Catskill. It is possible to walk or bike to the Catskill Village or call an area taxi if needed. Hudson is a further trek, and can be done by the robust visitor, and likewise taxi service can be used if needed. Please note that although taxis are available, they are limited and local, so carpooling or ride sharing is suggested as an alternate plan.

4. Does Catwalk have bicycles?

There are two bikes at Catwalk, that artists may borrow and use at their own risk. Residents are urged to wear a helmet when riding.

5. How can I get to Catwalk?

Travel can be done by driving up highways or the Interstate toll roads. The closest train stop is Hudson NY, which has several trains arriving each day from Albany and New York City.

6. Where are the maps, directions and contact info?

Please consult our CONTACT page on the website for maps and address info. You can submit your address with Catwalk's address to the GPS functions in your car or smart phone. Phone to the residency is 518 943-4631

CATWALK POLICIES:

1. How much does Catwalk cost?

There is no charge to attend Catwalk, but artists are responsible to pay for their travel food, entertainment and art supplies, unless underwritten by their sponsoring institution. Please consult your institution directly for information regarding stipends or underwriting.

2. Can I change the dates of my residency?

We ask that you adhere to the dates of your term and arrive on Tuesdays and depart on Sundays. Because work time is so valuable at Catwalk we ask that you do not cut the time short by leaving early or arriving late to maximize your experience at the residency. If an unavoidable change or cancellation in your schedule occurs, please notify the Palmers immediately so a substitution or replacement can be made as soon as possible. Because we have more artists than we have space, it is important these desired times do not go unused.

3. Can I return to Catwalk?

Many of our artists who have had a great experience at Catwalk have come more than once. We encourage you to let the Palmers and your institution know if you are interested in returning to see if this can be arranged in the future. Space and time permitting, it may be possible for you to visit again.

4. Are pets allowed at Catwalk?

Because there are many of nature's creatures on the grounds of Catwalk we ask that you enjoy these animals and leave your own pets at home. It is also important to help with the health of residents who may have allergies by keeping animals out of the residences and studio spaces. Lyme disease which is dangerous to humans is transmitted by tick and flea bites can also come from exposure to domestic and wild animals as well. If you use a service animal please consult the Palmers regarding the appropriate procedures to accommodate these needs.

5. What is Catwalk's social media protocol?

While Catwalk invites our artists and friends to join us with following our facebook and Twitter social media connections, and encourage the free expression of our artists, we ask that all Catwalk artists use good judgement with image postings and responses when it comes to public conversations online about the residency. We ask that you protect the privacy of the Palmers with your written conversations and images, and refrain from posting personal comments that might be offensive to others or in bad taste. If you have any questions about the appropriateness of your images or comments please contact us via email in advance of posting questionable material on these sites. Material posted on these sites that is deemed inappropriate will be removed.

6. What is off-limits at Catwalk?

Unruly overly loud behavior, illegal drugs and un-approved guests are not permitted. Smoking is not allowed in the interior spaces of the residency. Because the residency is shared with a private home as well as with other participating artists, respect and courtesy for others around you is expected. Destruction of property or natural surroundings at Catwalk is prohibited. If any accidental damage occurs during your visit, please notify the Palmers or Chuck.

SAFETY & PREPARATION:

1. What if I get sick at Catwalk?

If you become ill at Catwalk or are injured please notify Chuck or the Palmers immediately. There are many urgent care clinics and a substantial local hospital in Hudson. Assistance with arrangements for you to return home if needed can be made at the artist's expense. If you have a medical condition that requires medical attention or medication, please let the

Palmers know when you arrive.

2. What precautions must I take before I come?

We suggest that you bring prescription medications and check your health before you attend Catwalk. Please note that the area has a incidents of Lyme disease from tick bites, so precautions should be made during walks in the natural surroundings to check for ticks and prevent bites on bare skin. Mosquitos can be prevalent during certain times, so bug spray or similar remedy can be necessary.

Sun hats, sunblock and outdoor rain gear protection is recommended when in the outdoors. Stable shoes and boots are useful.

3. What should I pack with me to bring?

General packing for some outdoor activity, necessary clothes worn for making artwork, and having social activity during the day or evening is suggested. The weather can vary from rainy and chilly to very hot so check the weather report before coming and to be safe, prepare for all types of weather. There are opportunities to go swimming, running, hiking and biking around the area in addition to enjoying the sunshine in a hammock. If needed, supplies and clothes can also be purchased at local hardware and retail stores.

4. Do I need to check in?

When you get to Catwalk you should come to the small door with "service entrance" on the door at the large green home and ring the bell or knock and come in. After you arrive and meet the Palmers and finish the tour with Chuck you are free to go about the property as you wish. It is suggested though that you let someone know where you are from time to time especially if you are walking in remote areas alone or swimming in the river or pond. It is also suggested that you hike and walk in pairs for your safety as well, or let someone know when and where you will be going as needed. Cellphone service does work in the area but can be spotty in certain locations.

5. Can I go around anywhere on the property?

Chuck will advise you during your tour as to where you may wander, walk, work and take photos. Most of the many acres property grounds are yours to explore and paths have been marked by him. The Palmers ask that you use good judgement with your exploration, keep your journey within the property boundaries or on public areas. It is advised that you use special caution near the Hudson River, ponds and on steep or rocky inclines. Walking and hiking and physical activity is all done at your own risk.

STUDIO SPACES & WORKING:

1. Does Catwalk have Internet and computers?

It is recommended that if you need Internet access you bring a laptop or smart phone or tablet. Catwalk has free WiFi wireless Internet on areas of the grounds, in studio spaces and in the residence spaces. Signals vary with time of day and with demand on the signal but Internet is generally sufficient for regular use and emailing. It is suggested that those working on video and other media sites have alternate working methods that can be established regardless of Internet availability. Areas in town have free Internet such as McDonalds, the public library and nearby coffee houses. Consult the Palmers for the password code.

2. How do I get a studio space?

Studio spaces can be obtained upon arrival from Chuck. He will show you available interior and exterior working areas. In addition, each living space has a room or area set aside for working inside the residence if needed. For images of these spaces check the ABOUT - STUDIOS tab on the website.

3. What are the studios like at Catwalk?

Studio spaces are separate work areas that have basic furniture and work tables and chairs. Some spaces are a short walk from the house, and a few spaces are attached to the main house. Care should be taken with some of these spaces, which require "clean" art making practices, such as non-messy and non-toxic material use. Please consult with Chuck for the best space for your particular practice and needs. Some water and sloppy areas can be set up for those with these types of work. There are some basic tools available to borrow and a tool bench available to use, but this is not a professional woodshop. Please ask Chuck for details. Studios have electricity and lighting for use at night. It is also recommended that residents make use of the plentiful outdoor spaces and gardens as much as possible.

4. What art supplies do I need to bring?

Art supplies are the responsibility of the artist. If needed, basic supplies can be purchased at nearby stores or in neighboring towns, however special unique art supplies should be brought to the site, and each artist's practice may require particular items to be brought with them. The most successful artists at Catwalk have a general plan for a project or series, and then execute it during their residency period, bringing their art supplies with them in advance. We also find great success with people who remain open to new ideas and who allow the site and Catwalk itself to inspire their process and practice.

5. What times can I work at Catwalk?

Artists can work at any time they feel comfortable, however it is necessary for artists to keep down noisy activities and lower music during the night time hours to avoid disturbing other residents.

6. What type of work can be made at Catwalk?

Virtually any type can be made on site and Catwalk has had a range of artwork and practices here over the years. Catwalk is always open to new ideas and can hopefully accommodate artistic ideas and reasonable requests as much as possible. Please ask for guidance if you may be using any dangerous or toxic materials. If you have an idea and need help with execution - just ask Chuck or the Palmers for assistance.

7. Can I make work and use the materials on the grounds?

Catwalk welcomes exploration and use of the grounds and natural setting of the property, which is one of the most special aspects of this residency. In order to preserve the natural beauty of the site, we do ask that all artists respect the environment and it's creatures when making work. Please do not destroy or alter the landscape or leave behind materials or debris. Please also consult with Chuck or the Palmers before engaging in site specific installations or structures that could alter the environment or grounds.

FELLOWSHIP:

1. Can I work on my own, or with the other residents?

Artists can choose be on their own or collaborate with other residents if they wish.

Sometimes projects engage the Palmers or area residents or village sites as well. All types of working methods are encouraged depending on creative style or practice. Often one artist in residence can provide a helping hand or critique for the other, and we have seen many friendships and collaborations that were founded while at Catwalk.

2. Do I need to visit with the Palmers?

The Palmers as well as Chuck and Victoria encourage visiting and fellowship, even though Catwalk is a busy place with many activities and events occurring during the summer. Please feel free to visit with the Palmers, share a meal or invite them to your studio space if you wish. They enjoy seeing the work the artists create and look forward to spending some time getting to know the artists. They also respect the artist's need to work and have private time too. Although not a requirement, there may be activities going on in town or the area that the Mrs. Palmer will invite the artists to attend during the season. Keep in touch and let her know if you are interested in seeing more of Catskill.

3. Can I have friends visit me at Catwalk?

Catwalk residency space is limited to the accepted applicants. Sometimes in the case where artists are collaborative pairs or working partners, both artists may attend at the same time and stay in the same residence. Artists must notify the Palmers and gain approval in advance of their arrival for visitors or collaborative groups. For insurance and safety purposes, visitors should not be invited to the grounds without the approval of the Palmers.

4. What is expected of me?

Catwalk hopes that as one our artist in residence that your time is enjoyable and productive. We hope that your experience is unforgettable and you find the beauty and magic in the location that we find fulfilling and inspirational too. We invite you to sign our guest book at the end of your visit with a creative idea or even a simple signature. Some artists leave a sample or piece of their work as a memento, and others a note or other token. We encourage and ask that all visiting artists send us images of their work done at Catwalk, or work that is completed after leaving the residency, inspired by the site or started here. We post these images on our website and link your website to ours for each artist as well. We also invite you to keep in touch with us via email and facebook. Most importantly we expect that you make the work you want to make and hope that you have a terrific experience here!

The Palmers are eager to hear where improvements can be made in the program and are happy to entertain new ideas each year. We welcome suggestions and projects! Please make sure to fill out an evaluation form at the end of the season to offer this feedback, and be sure to keep in touch with us to let us know how you are and what you are up to!