VENICE FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME
BRITISH PAVILION
2027 FELLOW APPLICATION FORM

20th International Architecture Exhibition
Saturday 8th May - Sunday 21st November 2027 (Preview 6th and 7th May)
Giardini, Venice, Italy

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for a Fellowship position, please follow these steps:

1. Download this application form as a Word document and complete.
2. Send a copy of your CV with your completed application Form to your Programme Partner (the organisation or institution from whom you heard about this opportunity).
3. Complete the Equality and Diversity Monitoring Form. This is voluntary and anonymous.

The deadline is set by your Programme Partner and will be a date between the period October - November 2026. Please check the specific deadline date directly with your Programme Partner.

All applicants must submit their CV to their Programme Partner as an accompaniment to this form. Any applications without a CV will not be considered.

We welcome applications in written, audio or video format. Please use the method that is most comfortable for you. Please see SECTION 4 for further information about submitting this application in video or audio formats. All applications (written, audio or video) should include the “SECTION 1): APPLICANT INFORMATION” in writing only. Please remember to complete this section even if you are applying via audio/video format.

Many thanks for your interest and care in applying to the Venice Fellowships Programme. We are grateful for the time you have taken to apply to the programme.

SECTION 1): APPLICANT INFORMATION

*Please note that questions marked with an * are mandatory.*

Full Name:*	MEESHA
Pronouns:	SHE/HER
Nationality:*	MALAYSIA
Address:*	NO.5, JALAN 3/2B, JALAN PUTRA MURNI, PUTRA HEIGHTS, 47650, SUBANG JAYA, SELANGOR.
Town/city:*	SUBANG JAYA
Phone number:*	019-2388923
Email address:*	meeshalopez2003@gmail.com
Name of Programme Partner (the institution/organisation you are connected to/enrolled with): *	
Name of course or programme you are enrolled on (if relevant):	

Please confirm that by indicating on / submitting this Application Form, you:	
● have read the Guidance Notes, paying particular attention to the full details of the Programme outlined under *Eligibility & Requirements* (Section 4).*	Yes
● are aware you will need to travel to and live for a full month in Venice.*	Yes

• are aware you will need to arrange and book your own travel, local transport and accommodation.* *Each Fellow will receive a Travel Grant of £5,050 (five thousand and fifty British pounds). See the Guidance Notes for more details.*	Yes

Access Support We encourage applications from D/deaf, disabled and/or neurodivergent individuals. It is the responsibility of Fellows to anticipate any access support they may need for their Venice Fellowship. Fellows should take into account any access needs relating to travelling to Venice, invigilating at the British Pavilion, conducting a project and living in the city for a full month. *Please see the Guidance Notes for details regarding access support and the process for allocating access funds.*	
• Please state if you anticipate that you will need to request access support or funding.* *This does not affect your application. We ask this of all candidates to assess how best we can support our Fellows for their participation in the Programme.*	No

Confirm you have completed the Equality and Monitoring Form *	Yes

Confirm you submitted your CV to your Programme Partner as part of your application *	Yes

Signature *	
Date *	28th October 2026

SECTION 2): TRAVEL GROUP PREFERENCE

Please state, in order of preference, three Travel Groups in which you wish to undertake your residency month in Venice.

Please note that you will need to be available for the full dates of your selected Travel Group as listed below.*

1st choice: 2
2nd choice: 3
3rd choice: 4

Travel Group	Activity	Date
Group 1	Arrive in Venice	Monday 3rd May 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Group 1)	Tuesday 4th May 2027
	Invigilation residency month	Tuesday 4th May – Sunday 30th June 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 1; 2)	Monday 31st May 2027
	Leave Venice	Tuesday 1st June 2027
Group 2	Arrive in Venice	Sunday 30th May 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 1; 2)	Monday 31st May 2027
	Invigilation residency month	Tuesday 1st June - Sunday 27th June 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 2; 3)	Monday 28th June 2027
	Leave Venice	Tuesday 29th June 2027
Group 3	Arrive in Venice	Sunday 27th June 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 2; 3)	Monday 28th June 2027
	Invigilation residency month	Tuesday 29th June - Sunday 25th July 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 3; 4)	Monday 26th July 2027
	Leave Venice	Tuesday 27th July 2027
Group 4	Arrive in Venice	Sunday 25th July 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 3; 4)	Monday 26th July 2027
	Invigilation residency month	Tuesday 27th July - Sunday 22nd August 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 4; 5)	Monday 23rd August 2027
	Leave Venice	Tuesday 24th August 2027
Group 5	Arrive in Venice	Sunday 22nd August 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 4; 5)	Monday 23rd August 2027
	Invigilation residency month	Tuesday 24th August - Sunday 19th September 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 5; 6)	Monday 20th September 2027
	Leave Venice	Tuesday 21st September 2027

Group 6	Arrive in Venice	Sunday 19th September 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 5; 6)	Monday 20th September 2027
	Invigilation residency month	Tuesday 21st September - Sunday 17th October 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 6; 7)	Monday 18th October 2027
	Leave Venice	Tuesday 19th October 2027

Group 7	Arrive in Venice	Sunday 17th October 2027
	Briefing and Exchange Day (Groups 6; 7)	Monday 18th October 2027
	Invigilation residency month	Tuesday 19th October - Sunday 14th November 2027
	Exchange Day (Group 7)	Monday 15th November 2027
	Leave Venice	Tuesday 16th November 2027

SECTION 3A): APPLICATION QUESTION: MOTIVATION AND VISION

Candidates must demonstrate:

- an interest in one or more of the following: Venice; La Biennale; the 20th International Architecture Exhibition; the British Pavilion; Malaysia, and/or the 2027 commissioned exhibition;
- a passion for one of more of the following: visual art; architecture; design; craft; performance; curatorial practice; exhibition interpretation; education; audience engagement; and/or culture and its social value;
- an interest in pursuing a career in the creative arts;
- a desire to work in collaboration, build a community of practice, engage with peers, and bring a horizontal learning ("*I know something you don't know, and you know something I don't know"),* genuine camaraderie, active listening, an interest in innovative, creative, flexible, inclusive, and generous approaches.

3A.1) Please introduce yourself. Please share with us anything you would like us to know about yourself, including, for example, your passions, hobbies and/or interests, and how these relate to one or more of the following focus areas of the Fellowships Programme*: visual art, architecture, design, craft, performance, curatorial exhibitions, education, visitors' engagement, culture and its social and educational value*.

(Maximum words: 150)*

I am an architecture graduate student of Indian and Chinese heritage, currently pursuing my Master of Architecture at Tsinghua University in Beijing! Growing up with different cultural influences from both sides of my family has shaped how I understand identity and belonging, and how these are expressed through architecture. To me, buildings hold memories, traditions, and stories that connect people.

Beyond architecture, I enjoy exploring traditional arts and cultural practices, particularly Bharatanatyam and the Guzheng. I am fascinated by how these traditions preserve cultural identity while continuing to evolve. As a previous Vice President of the Malaysian Architecture Student Alliance, I am also passionate about building connections within the architectural student community. Having represented Malaysia at the ARCASIA Student Jamboree in 2025, I hope to continue learning from different perspectives and exploring how architecture can bring people, cultures, and communities closer together!

3A.2) Please explain what has intrigued or motivated you the most about the Venice Fellowships Programme.

(Maximum words: 150)*

Honestly, what intrigued me most about the programme is the opportunity to step outside my familiar environment, meet people from different backgrounds, and broaden my understanding of the world through architecture and culture.

Coming from a multicultural background in Malaysia and now studying in China, I have become increasingly curious about how identity, memory, and tradition are carried across different places and generations.

I have never been to Europe, so the opportunity to experience Venice and the Biennale would be especially meaningful to me. Beyond seeing new places, I hope to engage in conversations, exchange ideas, and learn how people from different cultures approach architecture and its role in society. I would love to bring these experiences and fresh perspectives back to Tsinghua, allowing them to inform my studies and the way I approach architecture in the future.

SECTION 3B): APPLICATION QUESTION: INVIGILATOR ROLE

Candidates must demonstrate:

- previous experience of a public facing role. Preferably this past role would be within an arts or cultural venue, however, applications from those who have worked in other public-facing settings are welcome. Candidates need to demonstrate experience in interacting with members of the public;

- a willingness to experiment and step outside of their comfort zone (in the spirit of experimenting, trying, learning, and adapting);

- an enthusiasm for instigating conversation with members of the public, making new connections and engaging with diverse audiences.

3B.1) Please describe your experience of working in a public-facing role, preferably in an arts or cultural venue, and outline which elements of this role that you particularly enjoyed.

(Maximum words: 250)*

I have been volunteering at architectural events since my second year of architecture school, which has given me opportunities to engage with students, visitors, academics, and professionals from different backgrounds. My experiences include volunteering at the Malaysian Architecture Student Alliance booth before becoming its Vice President, assisting at a UIA booth during the conference in Kuala Lumpur, and volunteering at the International Forum of Urbanism Design at Tsinghua University just two months after arriving in China.

One particularly memorable experience was volunteering for Tsinghua University's Architecture School 80th anniversary, where I was assigned to welcome five Vietnamese professors, including the president of the Vietnam Association of Architects. I enjoyed helping international guests feel comfortable and welcomed, especially in a busy event environment where meaningful interactions can be brief but memorable.

What I enjoy most about volunteering is the opportunity to meet people beyond my immediate circle, learn from their experiences, and contribute to making an event welcoming and engaging. These experiences have taught me to be approachable, attentive, and adaptable when interacting with people from different cultural and professional backgrounds. I find it rewarding to know that even a small interaction can help someone feel included.

3B.2) Please describe the potential challenges you might face inside the British Pavilion when acting as an Exhibition Ambassador / Invigilator. What are your suggested approaches to overcome these challenges?

(Maximum words: 250)*

One challenge I usually anticipate is engaging visitors who come from different backgrounds and have varying levels of interest in architecture and art. While some may be eager to discuss the exhibition, others may find its ideas unfamiliar or simply want to explore on their own. I would try to understand each visitor's interests and find ways to make the exhibition more approachable, whether through a simple conversation, a question, or by listening to their interpretation.

Another challenge would be communicating across cultural and language differences. Having grown up in Malaysia and now studying in China, I have learned that people can see and interpret things very differently. My experiences welcoming international guests at Tsinghua have taught me to be patient, approachable, and open to perspectives beyond my own.

I also understand that starting conversations with strangers does not always come naturally, and not every approach will work. Rather than being afraid of getting it wrong, I would treat each interaction as an opportunity to learn and adapt. Ultimately, I hope to make visitors feel welcome while learning from their experiences and discovering new ways of looking at architecture and culture myself.

SECTION 3C): APPLICATION QUESTION: RESEARCH OR CREATIVE PROJECT

Candidates will undertake a project that informs their creative practice, research and/or academic interests. The proposed idea will be developed as a small-sized creative or research project during the one-month period in Venice and upon return to Malaysia and must:

- include the values of co-design and collaboration, genuine camaraderie and generosity, community-network building (Venice and/or UK), inclusion and interdisciplinarity practice; this could include connecting with other Fellows, creative practitioners working at La Biennale and participating pavilions, members of the public or individuals within their own community;

- be connected to or reflects one or more of the following: Venice; La Biennale; the 20th International Architecture Exhibition; the British Pavilion; Malaysia, and/or the 2027 commissioned exhibition;

- be realistic within the scope of the Fellowships Programme, ta king into account the 28hr weekly commitment of invigilation plus time to experience Venice and connect with peers;

- show a clear sense of what value the project could bring to its audience/community and how they would like to continue to develop and disseminate on their return to Malaysia with their community group in a mutual and collaborative approach.a

Please note that British Council cannot provide studio space, materials or additional budget for the development of projects.

3C.1) Please outline a) a project that you would like to develop while in Venice during the residency month period; and b) how this project sits within the wider context of your research/academic/ creative interests.

Project: **Between Cultures and Spaces**

As a Malaysian of Indian and Chinese heritage, now studying architecture in China, I have become increasingly curious about how our cultural backgrounds shape the way we experience spaces. During my time in Venice, I would like to explore this through a small collaborative visual journal, bringing together the perspectives of people I meet at the Biennale, including fellow Fellows, practitioners, and visitors from different backgrounds.

Through informal conversations, sketches, and short written reflections, I hope to explore what makes a place meaningful to different people, whether through memories, cultural practices, or everyday experiences. Rather than approaching

architecture solely through its physical form, I want to understand how people give spaces meaning through the lives they live in them.

This project connects to my interest in the relationship between architecture, culture, and human experience. It would also allow me to learn from perspectives beyond my own, while creating something collectively rather than presenting a single interpretation of architecture. Using simple materials and working in small, informal sessions would allow me to develop the project alongside my responsibilities at the British Pavilion.

3C.2) Please outline how you plan to share this project with your community when you return to Malaysia after your residency month.

Upon returning, I hope to share my project with the Malaysian Architecture Student Alliance and my international coursemates in Tsinghua University's English-language Master's programme in Architecture. I would like to organise a small, informal sharing session where I can introduce the visual journal, share my experiences at the Biennale, and invite others to reflect on how their cultural backgrounds shape the way they experience architecture.

Coming from Malaysia and now studying in China, I have realised how much our perspectives can expand when we learn from people with different experiences. I hope to bring this spirit of exchange into both communities, allowing the stories collected in Venice to become a starting point for further conversations and contributions from students in Malaysia and across the international programme at Tsinghua.

Rather than treating the journal as a finished work, I would like it to continue growing through these exchanges. My hope is that sharing the project and my experience in Venice will encourage fellow students to look beyond architectural form and consider the people, memories, and cultural experiences that give spaces meaning.

SECTION 4): VIDEO/AUDIO APPLICATION FORMAT - OPTIONAL

We welcome applications in both paper (written) or audio/video format. Feel free to use the method that is most comfortable for you.

All applications (written, audio or video) should include the “SECTION 1): APPLICANT INFORMATION” in writing only. Please remember to complete this section even if you are applying via audio/video format.

If you are answering in video (audio and image) or just audio format, please use the below guidelines:

- A recorded application should not be overly produced. This is not an opportunity to demonstrate your skills in production, but to clearly communicate your skills/experience, project idea and interest in this opportunity in an accessible format.

- Please ensure your recording is no more than 10 minutes long, which is the equivalent to the word limit for written applications.

- You may link to a third-party platform such as Google Drive, Soundcloud, Vimeo or Dropbox. Please provide together with the link the password details, in case the link is password protected.

- Your recorded application should answer all the questions set out below in the written form. Please ensure you respond to these prompts clearly, and structure the content in relation to them, using the following timing guide: **150 words:** 30 seconds - 1 minute, **250 words:** 1-2 minutes

If this is your preferred method of application, add the link and password to the video/audio here:

SECTION 5) PROGRAMME PARTNER TO COMPLETE ONLY

Please confirm that you have completed the following screening for this shortlisted candidate:	
• Confirmed candidate's rationale for applying and level of interest.	Yes / No
• Confirmed that the candidate understands the commitment of the role.	Yes / No
• Confirmed that the candidate demonstrates the required level of fluency in English for the role.	Yes / No
• Discussed potential access requirements with the candidate.	Yes / No

If you are shortlisting this candidate for the British Council to be considered, please provide a short statement below explaining your reasoning and the support you intend to provide this candidate while in Venice and back in Malaysia.

(Maximum words: 300)

Name:
Email:
Organisation:
Position:
Date:

Privacy Notice

British Council will use the information that you are providing in connection with processing your application for the Venice Fellowships Programme 2027.

This information will be shared with your Programme Partner – the organisation that you are currently connected to or enrolled with – as part of the selection process.

You will not be named or otherwise identified in any reports and your personal data will not be shared outside the British Council without your explicit permission.

You have the right to ask for a copy of the information we hold on you, and the right to ask us to correct any inaccuracies in that information. If you have concerns about how we have used your personal information, you also have the right to complain to a privacy regulator.

If you have any questions relating to this form, please contact khadijah.turner@britishcouncil.org or venicefellowships@britishcouncil.org.

For detailed information, please refer to the privacy section of our website, www.britishcouncil.org/privacy or contact your local British Council office. The British Council's Information security and privacy global policy statement is available on our website here https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/how-we-work/policies/information-security-privacy