



Newton Cemetery & Arboretum

Friends of Newton Cemetery & Arboretum 2026-27 Kayla Hardy Artist in Residence Application

Thank you for your interest in the *Kayla Hardy Artist in Residence Program*.

Kayla Anne Hardy (1986-2016) was Newton Cemetery's first artist-in-residence, although there was no formal program at the time. While an intern at Newton Cemetery & Arboretum, Kayla documented, researched, and photographed all the mausolea in place at the time and turned that information into a beautiful handbound book of her own design. Kayla was a gifted photographer, graphic designer, and artist who drew energy and inspiration from the landscape at Newton Cemetery & Arboretum.

The grant must result in a deliverable product, program, or event that is unique to Newton Cemetery. All projects will be presented to the public (how and when projects are presented is to be determined by the artist and the AiR Program manager).

Please complete the application so we can learn more about you and your proposed project. Fields marked with an asterisk * are required. Your questions can be sent to fonc@newcemcorp.org.

Eligibility: you must live close enough to the Cemetery (791 Walnut St., Newton MA) to immerse yourself in the environment here. We encourage artists of all races, genders, orientations, backgrounds, and experience levels to apply.

Parameters: If your proposal is accepted, you may not make extensive changes to the subject, scale, or scope of your project during your residency. However, minor adjustments will be considered.

Award amount: up to \$1,200

Application due date: February 14, 2026

Notification date: March 30, 2026

Project start date: April 1, 2026

End date: March 31, 2027

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name*: _____
First Middle Last

Address: _____
Street Address Apt/Suite

City State ZipCode

Email*: _____ Phone*: _____

ARTIST WORK

Artist Website: _____

Artist Instagram Handle/Username: _____

Artist Facebook Page: _____

Other Social Media Site: _____

Please attach your Resume/CV*, Bio, and a sample of your work.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Project Name (if applicable): _____

Discipline/Media: * _____

Attach a detailed description of your project. *

Your project must relate directly to Newton Cemetery, our Mission (i.e. to comfort the bereaved, to commemorate the dead, etc.), and/or the themes surrounding our work (e.g. death, grief, history, horticulture, nature, wildlife).

If you have created a similar project elsewhere, please describe said project and explain how your Residency project at Newton Cemetery would be different.

Projects can be presented at the Cemetery and/or potentially hosted offsite locally. If at Newton Cemetery, be specific with proposed locations within the Cemetery. If outside of Newton Cemetery, please offer potential locations, preferably in Newton.

Please be sure to answer the following questions:

- What ideas or themes related to Newton Cemetery will you be exploring?
- Who is the potential audience for your project?
- Do you expect to have any collaborators on your project?
e.g. I am a musician and will need to bring in additional performers (guitarist, vocalist, etc.) when presenting my final project.
- What is your proposed budget?
Include estimated cost of supplies, fees for collaborators, etc. Be as detailed as possible.
- Will you require additional outside financial support?
- Do you anticipate wanting or needing to work with any Newton Cemetery staff to complete your project?
e.g. Research, interviews, or shadowing that involves meeting/working with horticulture team, or Cemetery Services team, etc.
- Do you have a personal connection to Newton Cemetery as a visitor or in relation to a deceased resident. If so, does that connection have anything to do with your proposed project? Please elaborate.
Please note: a personal connection to the Cemetery is not required to be considered.
- What do you hope to achieve by creating work for Newton Cemetery, and how will you gauge the success of your project? *

Do you need access to the studio space at Newton Cemetery? Yes No

Applications may also be submitted by email to fonc@newcemcorp.org or mail to: Newton Cemetery 2026 AiR Program, 791 Walnut Street, Newton Center, MA 02459. Finalists will be contacted for an interview prior to award decisions.

Newton Cemetery (NCC) retains permission for the use of materials created during, and for, this project and may use images/media of the Grantee's project in progress and final work to create promotional materials for educational and marketing purposes (advertising materials, social media posts, website posts, and print materials); and in doing so NCC will clearly attribute the artwork to the Grantee. The Grantee will retain all copyrights of their artwork.

Signature: _____ Date: _____