

OPEN CALL FOR THE YEAR 2027

**STUDIO GRANT FOR DESIGNERS IN THE DISCIPLINE OF
FASHION & TEXTILES**

FOR OAXACA, MEXICO



(Selina Gasser: unfinished business no. 2, photo: Atelier Mondial)

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Atelier Mondial – International Arts Exchange Program Basel - Mulhouse - Freiburg – offers artists from the Basel region (Switzerland), the Canton of Solothurn (Switzerland), the city of Freiburg im Breisgau including the region of South Baden (Germany), and from the region Alsace (France) the opportunity to spend several months working abroad as part of the annual open call.

Atelier Mondial has been offering scholarships for visual arts, cultural mediation, literature and performing arts in collaboration with various partners for several years. The same conditions apply to these scholarships as to the scholarship for textile designers. The calls for applications in the fields of visual arts, cultural mediation, literature and performing arts are published in separate texts. It is not possible to apply for different fields at the same time.

SPONSORSHIP

The project is supported by the Christoph Merian Foundation (project management), the Cantons of Basel-Landschaft, Basel-Stadt, and Solothurn, the city of Freiburg im Breisgau, and the Alsace region.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The Atelier Mondial project management is the responsibility of the Christoph Merian Foundation. It coordinates the organization and administration of the exchange program at home and abroad and represents the Atelier Mondial sponsorship externally.

FUNDING OBJECTIVE AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The open call in the discipline of Fashion & Textiles is aimed at designers who work in the disciplines of textiles and fashion or textile crafts and would like to expand their expertise in an exchange with our partners in Mexico. The focus of this new open call is explicitly on non-commercial projects that could not be realised without a grant. The aim of the stay abroad is to offer the grant holder the opportunity for research, stimulation for projects, and networking opportunities for work in the field of fashion/textiles/design. Likewise, expertise in the field of (historical) textile crafts can also be acquired or deepened. The grant holder also has the opportunity to get to know the vibrant cultural scene in Mexico, to establish connections and to exchange ideas and inspiration.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Criteria relevant to the jury process are the professionalism of the submitted dossier, the quality of the letter of motivation (reference of the project to the chosen destination and the reflection of one's own creative point of view) as well as the relevance of the scholarship for the career in the field of textile design at the current time

FINANCE

Confirmation for a studio abroad comes with a fixed contribution for travel and living expenses depending on the partner location. Any additional costs incurred during the stay abroad (personal expenses, fixed costs at the home location, etc.) are generally the responsibility of the participants. For the travel grant a lump sum of CHF 15'000 is provided. The Christoph Merian Foundation, the Cantons of Basel-Landschaft, Basel-Stadt, and Solothurn, the City of Freiburg im Breisgau and the Région la Ville de Mulhouse or the DRAC Grand-Est cannot grant any further contributions in addition to this amount. If a stay abroad must be terminated for various reasons, the grant holder is obliged to reimburse the grant on a pro rata temporis basis to Atelier Mondial.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

At the end of the stay abroad, the artists must submit a report evaluating the stay (approx. four A4 pages) to Atelier Mondial.

LIABILITY

Participation in the Atelier Mondial programme is at the artists' own risk. Atelier Mondial accepts no liability whatsoever.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Museo Textil de Oaxaca (MTO)
www.museotextildeoaxaca.org.mx
- Centro de las artes Casa San Agustín (CaSa)
<http://www.casa.oaxaca.gob.mx>
- Kunsthalle Mulhouse
<http://kunsthalleulhouse.com>
- HEAR Mulhouse
www.hear.fr

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Please note that only *online applications* via the website

<https://ateliermondial.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/86968>

can be considered. Please read the following conditions of participation carefully, *no documents can be submitted at a later point*. Incorrect documents that do not meet the full criteria listed below cannot be submitted to the jury.

1. Eligibility is limited to professional designers in the disciplines of Fashion & Textiles with special interest in historical design and handicraft techniques who reside or work in the following areas, regardless of age or nationality:
 - Basel-Stadt
 - Basel-Landschaft
 - Solothurn
 - Freiburg im Breisgau
 - South Baden region (postal codes 79...)
 - Alsace region

2. Applicants must provide proof of their current residence or place of work in one of the respective regions by means of an attached document *dated no later than 2026*.

ATTENTION: Rental contracts, ID cards, foreigner's ID or permit, and passports are not valid! Only the following documents are considered as proof:

Proof of residence:

- Switzerland:
Residency certificate from the Resident's Registration Office (Einwohnerkontrollamt) (dated 2026), health insurance bill (dated 2026), gas, electricity, water bill (dated 2026)
- Germany:
Registration certificate (dated 2026), gas, electricity, water bill from the energy supplier (dated 2025)
- France:
Certificat de Domicile (2026), gas, electricity, water bill from the energy supplier (dated 2026)

Proof of work of place:

- Employment contract or confirmation from the employer
- Self-employed persons: Letter of confirmation of self-employment AHV (Old Age and Survivors Insurance) or latest AHV contribution statement from 2026
- Confirmation of enrolment at the HGK, university, or equivalent study or training programmes
- Rental contract for studio

3. Students must have completed their studies (BA or MA) at the start of the grant.
4. Artists who have been awarded a Fashion & Textiles grant by Atelier Mondial for the year 2025 are not eligible to participate.
5. It is not possible to apply for different disciplines at the same time (Visual Arts, Fashion & Textiles, Culture Mediation, Literature, and Performing Arts).
6. Applicants must provide proof of participation in all previous exchange and residency programmes.

7. Applicants agree to provide three high-resolution photographs including captions for promotional purposes if they are awarded a grant. They also agree to collaborate with Atelier Mondial on social media during their stay in Mexico.

8. Pandemic regulation: Applicants who are awarded a scholarship agree to sign an agreement regarding the handling of the scholarship in the context of a pandemic or similar exceptional situation.

OPEN CALL 2027: STUDIO GRANT FOR DESIGNERS IN THE DISCIPLINE OF FASHION & TEXTILE

The following studio grant is open for application:

- 1 x Oaxaca, Mexico: July 2027 – December 2027

Atelier Mondial is offering this scholarship in the city of Oaxaca de Juárez (capital of the state of the same name in south-west Mexico) in collaboration with the Museo Textil de Oaxaca (MTO) in Oaxaca City and the Centro de las Artes de San Agustín (CaSa) in Etna - around 20 kilometres outside the city. The scholarship holder initially spends 4 months in Oaxaca City, accompanied by the MTO, and can then live and work in the CaSa for 2 months, depending on the project, accompanied by the CaSa team. A BnB room in Oaxaca City is available for the entire duration of the stay. In Oaxaca City, the studio as well as private accommodation based on the bed-and-breakfast model is organised by the MTO each year anew according to the needs of the scholarship holder. The studio in Oaxaca City is located in Hilos Flojos' newly built community studio, in the CaSa he/she has a place in the spacious community studio as well as one of the seven guest rooms with bathroom on site.

www.museotextildeoaxaca.org.mx

- CaSa
<http://www.casa.oaxaca.gob.mx/wp/>
- Hilos Flojos, Carolina Garza
hilosflojos.com

SELECTION PROCESS

In each discipline, a separate, independent jury reviews all the dossiers and makes the final decision on the distribution of the grants and the contribution to living expenses. The juries reserve the right to invite artists for a personal interview for the final decision. *The jurying of all disciplines will take place at the end of August 2026. All applicants will be informed of the decisions in writing by Atelier Mondial by mid-September 2026 at the latest.*

The jury of experts in the discipline of Fashion & Textiles for the 2027 grants is composed as follows in 2026

- **Nora Lardon**, curator Textile Collections Canton Basel-Landschaft
- **Sandrine Wymann**, director Kunsthalle Mulhouse
- **Selina Gasser**, textile artist and designer, Basel

Alexandra Stäheli, project manager of Atelier Mondial, is represented on all juries in an advisory function.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application is submitted by filling out an *online form including the upload of three attachments (PDF files)* with the required documents.

Please name the PDF attachments according to content and your name.

Please read the terms and conditions of participation on page 5 and have all documents ready for your online registration.

1 PDF-File Letter of Motivation:

- A letter of motivation for the studio grant in Mexico with description of the planned activities (project outline) in German and English or French and English.
- Max. 10 MB
- PDF-Name example: Motiv_FirstName_Surname.pdf

2 PDF-File Proof of the Region's Affiliation:

- Confirmation of residence or place of work (see TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION, p. 5, point 2)
- Max. 10 MB
- PDF-Name example: Proof_FirstName_Surname.pdf

3 PDF-File CV and Artist Dossier and Portfolio with References (Fashion & Textile):

- Biography (including details of previous artistic activity and participation in previous exchange and residency programmes)
- Artist dossier and portfolio in the discipline of Fashion & Textile with reference projects of max. 20 pages
- Max. 10 MB
- PDF-Name Example: CVDoss_FirstName_Surname.pdf

Online-Registration:

<https://ateliermondial.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/86968>

Application deadline: 21 June 2026

STUDIO INFORMATION

OAXACA, MEXICO

Duration: 1 x 6 months

Dates: July - December 2027

Studio since 2016

The city: The city of Oaxaca de Juárez, capital of the state of Oaxaca in southwestern Mexico and a World Heritage Site since 1987, has a remarkable cultural diversity with a legacy from the time of the Zapotecs, the Aztecs and the Spanish conquistadors to the activities of contemporary indigenous communities. Like a fan, the different historical layers and traditions unfold before visitors in a colourful vibrancy, with textile crafts in particular able to reflect the most diverse historical, regional and technical approaches to art and culture. In the Latin American hemisphere, the city is considered the center – not to say the Mecca – of textile arts and crafts. And at latest since the Mexican artist Francisco Toledo, Oaxaca's most famous son, took over the Centro de las Artes de San Agustín just outside the city, contemporary art has also arrived in the city.

Studio: For the duration of the stay, the scholarship holder will have a studio in Oaxaca City in the newly built community studio of Hilos Flojos (Carolina Garza); during the time at the Centro de las Artes de San Agustín (CaSa) in ETLA, which is located a few kilometres outside the city, the scholarship holder can use the spacious community studio and take part in everyday craft activities. The accommodation is located in Homero Pérez's BnB.

Special features: The small but beautiful and extremely rich Museo Textil de Oaxaca, affiliated to the Fundación Alfredo Harp Helú, has a remarkable collection of textiles from the entire region, documenting the diverse techniques in weaving, hip weaving, hand spinning, natural dyeing techniques, felting, and embroidery, most of which are still used today. It is interesting to note that almost every community in the state of Oaxaca has a different specialty within textile processing – techniques and peculiarities that both the MTO and the CaSa pass on to interested people through courses, workshops, and introductions. Guests can attend all these courses free of charge.

Requirements: The open call is aimed at designers in the disciplines of Fashion & Textiles who are open to intercultural exchange and who would like to deepen their expertise in the field of textile crafts through research on site and in cooperation with the MTO.

Address: Museo Textil de Oaxaca
Hidalgo 917, Centro
Oaxaca 68000, Mexico
www.museotextildeoaxaca.org.mx
Hilos Flojos: <https://www.hilosflojos.com>