

## NAFA MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

### OVERVIEW

The NAFA Mentorship Programme (MP) nurtures and grooms emerging artists and designers. The programme is open to students from the NAFA Talent Development Programme (NTDP) and young graduates, alumni and staff who have exemplified high potential to excel in their craft.

Successful applicants will undergo a 3-month to a 1-year mentorship programme with an established NAFA alumnus or industry leader. The programme will match these emerging artists and designers with a practitioner to discuss ideas or concerns about their creative practice and learn from these professionals to further develop their practice.

### WHAT DOES THE MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME COVER?

The mentorship programme is tailored to suit each applicant's needs. It can range from 3 months to a year and covers the following areas (but are not limited to):

- Participating in and developing Projects
- Setting up an Exhibition or Performance
- Career Guidance
- Industry and Networking
- Entrepreneurship / Start-Up

### WHEN

Application is open all year round. The programme supports up to 10 mentorships in a year.

### SPECIFICATIONS

#### Roles and Responsibilities

The Special Projects Unit (SPU) of the Planning and Projects Office (PPO) administers the call for applications, interviews and approvals of proposals. Candidates will be reviewed by a selection panel composed of members from SPU, Student Services Division (for alumni applicants) and the Academic Division.

SPU will work closely with the Alumni Relations Office (ARO), Education and Career Guidance (ECG) Office, Institute of Southeast Asian Arts (ISEAA) and Programmes to source and match suitable mentors to candidates if no preferred mentor is indicated in the application.

Mentors will meet with mentees weekly/monthly for consultation and act as a sounding board to guide and support the mentee in developing capabilities by sharing their experience and expertise; raising awareness, sharing relevant resources and connecting mentees to their professional network.

Mentees have to be committed, open, proactive, and receptive to new ideas, making the most of the mentor's support and guidance.

#### Eligibility

All students graduates from NAFA Talent Development Programme, staff and alumni.

Individual artists/designers or a collective of up to four artists may apply. The Primary Applicant will have to undertake responsibility on behalf of the collective.

Applicants should:

- demonstrate evident artistic traits and high potential to excel in the arts and design sectors
- show strong desire, determination, commitment and passion for excelling in their creative practice
- be an active participant in external arts and design-related activities

Candidates will be reviewed by a selection panel composed of members from SPU, Student Services Division (SSD) and the Academic Division.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

### Application

Submit the application form along with the following to [spu@nafa.edu.sg](mailto:spu@nafa.edu.sg), indicating **“Application for Mentorship Programme”** as the subject line:

- Curriculum Vitae with two supporting references
- Portfolio

The Application Form and all supporting materials should be sent as attachments, in PDF (.pdf) format. Please ensure that the total file size does not exceed 5MB. Alternatively, you may send a link to access the required documents or share a link to an online portfolio.

Application is open all year round. Please submit at least **three months before** the start date of the mentorship programme. The following table illustrates an example:

For Mentorship to start on	Apply by:	Notified by:
1 August 2025	1 May 2025, 23:59	15 July 2025

### Selection and Assessment

The selection panel will consider the applicant’s artistic strength, track record and proposal. Applicants may be called for an interview by a selection panel composed of members from SPU, Student Services Division (for alumni applicants) and the Academic Division.

### Award

Upon acceptance into the mentorship programme, successful applicants will each pay a one-time, non-refundable programme fee, as indicated in the table below:

Alumni	3 months	6 months	1-year
Graduated within 2 years	\$100	\$200	\$300
Graduated within 5 years	\$200	\$300	\$400
Graduated more than 5 years	\$300	\$400	\$500
Staff	3 months	6 months	1-year
The programme can be considered as part of Learning and Development for full-time staff; approved by RO	\$300	\$400	\$500
NAFA Talent Development Programme (NTDP) Student			
Students from NTDP can tap on NTDP funding for this mentorship programme for external mentors.			

The programme is tailored to the diverse needs of each individual. Any additional fees incurred for masterclasses or workshops will be reviewed and co-paid by SPU and mentees.

**Deliverables**

- Regular interaction with the assigned mentor towards pre-determined milestone checkpoints and complete a Progress Report midway through the programme.
- A Post-Mentorship Report, submitted within a month of the programme's completion.
- A testimonial provided at the end of the programme.

All deliverables must be met to be considered for future applications.

If you have any queries, please email to [spu@nafa.edu.sg](mailto:spu@nafa.edu.sg).

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**

Q. I am interested in seeking mentorship from an international artist/designer. In light of the current pandemic situation, will virtual mentorships be allowed?

A. This will be assessed and reviewed by the selection panel.

Q. If I need the mentor to conduct a one-to-one masterclass or workshop, what will be the co-payment arrangement be?

A. You should indicate in the application form should you require any masterclasses or workshops. The co-payment amount will be discussed and agreed upon before the programme commenced.

Q. Can I end the mentorship before the agreed-upon end date?

A. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Programme fees paid are non-refundable.

Q. Can I continue the mentorship after the end date?

A. Special Projects Unit (SPU) will not intervene should both mentor and mentee (applicant) mutually agree to prolong the mentor-mentee relationship after the mentorship programme's end date as agreed upon.

Q. Is there a penalty if I did not meet the deliverables?

A. There is no penalty; however, you will not be considered for any future applications for programmes under SPU.

Q. Can I apply multiple times and with a different mentor?

A. Yes, this will be assessed and reviewed by the selection panel.

### **For NAFA Staff**

Q. As a NAFA part-time staff, can the residency fee be covered by the Programme?

A. No, HR will only cover full-time staff under the Learning and Development scheme.

Q. I am a NAFA administrative staff who has an artistic practice. Am I eligible for this mentorship programme?

A. Yes, the programme is open to administrative staff as well.

Q. As a NAFA staff, do I have to seek my RO's permission before applying for this mentorship programme?

A. Yes, please seek your RO's approval before application.

Q. Can this mentorship programme be considered as part of the NAFA staff Learning and Development?

A. Yes, participating as a mentee can be considered as part of your L&D. SPU will assist in sending the hours to HR for their record. If you are engaged as a mentor, the mentorship programme can be recorded as your service to NAFA in the performance appraisal form.