

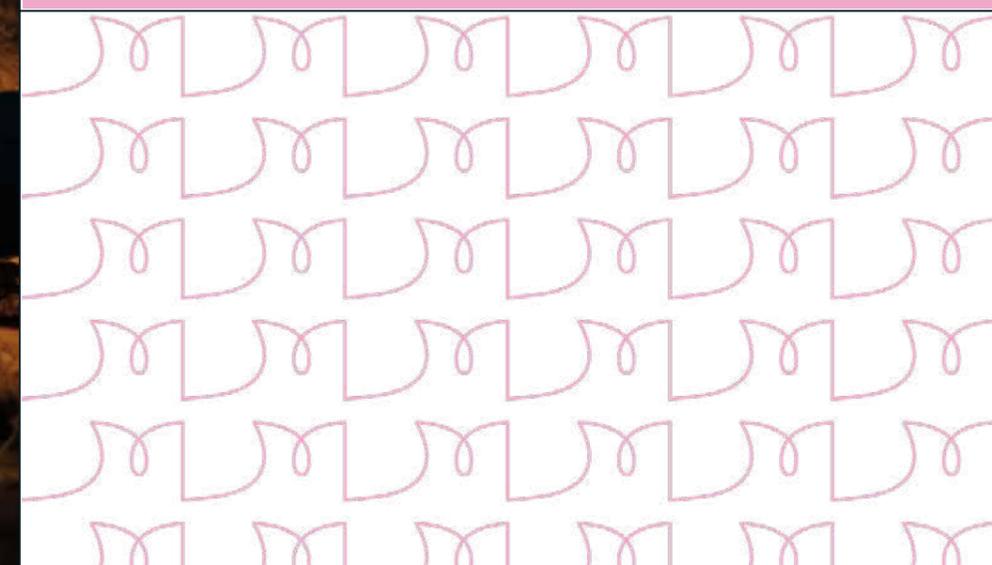
**Pôle international
de la marionnette**
Jacques Félix

RESIDENCIES

Creation - Graduate - Nurseries - Research

2026/2027

**Call for applications
From 9 March
to 3 May 2026**



As a major centre for puppetry arts, the Pôle International de la Marionnette – Jacques Félix supports artistic creation and research at both national and international levels.

Through its residency programmes, the Pôle aims to:

- Support puppeteers in the creation and production of new works;
- Assist recent graduates of the École Nationale Supérieure des Arts de la Marionnette – Margareta Niculescu (ESNAM) in launching their professional careers;
- Provide artists with opportunities to explore and experiment through a research-creation approach, particularly via the unique “artistic cot” concept;
- Encourage fundamental research;
- Support educators seeking to enhance the theoretical and scientific foundations of their teaching;
- Strengthen links between the creative and research communities.

In doing so, the Pôle ensures a strong and visible presence for puppeteers and researchers, embedding puppetry as a living, evolving practice within the city and region.

At its core, ESNAM fosters research, experimentation, and professional training. The puppeteer-actor curriculum benefits from ongoing critical reflection and interdisciplinary exchanges surrounding puppetry arts.

The Pôle offers **four residency programmes:**

Creation residencies

Graduate residencies

Residencies in **Nurseries**

Research residencies



SELECTION TIMETABLE AND PROCEDURES

Applications are open from 9 March to 3 May 2026.

Projects will be selected by a committee composed of the Pôle's permanent team.

The selected projects will be announced in early **June**.

A formal agreement will specify the residency's conditions and the commitments of the selected team or researcher and the Pôle.

Applicants may submit proposals to multiple residency types but may only be awarded one residency.



The Creation residencies support the development and production of artistic works by professional puppeteers with diverse aesthetics and artistic languages.

Who can apply?

These residencies are intended for **professional puppetry artists**. The discipline may be explored in all its forms, including its intersections with other art forms.

The residency is designed to support artists throughout the entire creative process—from writing and stage research to lighting, sound design, puppet construction, and rehearsals.

Terms and Conditions

Projects must be carried out by a **professional legal entity** that complies with social and labour regulations.

Residencies will take place **between October 2026 and July 2027** and may last from 1 to 2 weeks (up to a maximum of 10 working days, excluding weekends and public holidays), depending on space availability, the nature of the project, and technical requirements

The Pôle will provide access to different types of workspaces:

- **Construction residencies in the ESNAM workshops:** supervised by the workshop manager. The company must be able to operate the machines independently and provide its own personal protective equipment (PPE).
All materials and consumables are at the company's own expense.
- **Residencies in scenic spaces** (Theatre, Blackbox, SE1): installation is supervised by the technical manager. The company must be fully autonomous throughout the residency.
- **Studio residencies:** the company is entirely autonomous for set-up and throughout the residency.

Any additional technical needs (equipment, materials, furniture) not provided by the Pôle must be arranged and financed by the company.

Meetings with ESNAM students may be organised, including project presentations or “work-in-progress” performances.

These may also be opened to the general public upon mutual agreement with the Pôle.

The Pôle is a partner of the Theatre and Puppetry Class (Chat'M) at the Collège Rouget de Lisle in Charleville-Mézières. Unique in France, this class aims to introduce secondary school pupils to the art of puppetry. If you are interested, a classroom intervention to these pupils can be arranged.

Financial Support (all taxes included)

The Pôle will contribute to residency expenses as follows:

- Remuneration: based on 2 work sessions of 4 hours per residency day per person, calculated using the minimum standards of the French Collective Agreement (CCNEAC*);
- Meal allowance: one per person per day, based on CCNEAC* rates;
- Transport costs: up to €150 per person, with a maximum of €600 for the entire team, on presentation of receipts;
- Accommodation: provided where possible, with access to a kitchen.

*As of 09/03/2026, for reference:

- 1 work session (4 hours): €61.05 gross ≈ €96.50 employer's cost

- 1 meal allowance: €20.70

Workspaces and availabilities

Presentation of the spaces, specifications, technical equipment and furniture available, availability periods: [presentation document \(PDF\)](#).

Application

To apply for a Creation Residency, complete the form and upload all required documents: [online form](#).

INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

Cathy Wojeez +33 (0)3 24 33 72 67 / cathy.wojeez@marionnette.com

Simon Faurie +33 (0)3 24 59 99 88 / simon.faurie@marionnette.com



« J'habite dans une grosse dame », Luana Montabonei (ESNAM 13th class) ©Maeve Kumar

The Graduate residencies aim to support the professional integration of recent graduates from the École Nationale Supérieure des Arts de la Marionnette – Margareta Niculescu (ESNAM), by helping them develop their first artistic projects.

Who can apply?

These residencies are open to **ESNAM graduates within three years of receiving their diploma**, working in the field of puppetry. The discipline may be approached in all its forms and intersections with other art forms.

The residency is intended to support all stages of the creative process, from writing and dramaturgy to stage research, lighting and sound design, construction, and rehearsals

Terms and Conditions

Projects must be carried out by a **professional legal entity** that complies with social and labour regulations.

Residencies will take place **between October 2026 and July 2027** and may last from 1 to 2 weeks (up to a maximum of 10 working days, excluding weekends and public holidays), depending on space availability, the nature of the project, and technical requirements.

The Pôle will provide access to different types of workspaces:

- **Construction residencies in the ESNAM workshops:** supervised by the workshop manager. The company must be autonomous in using the machines and provide its own personal protective equipment (PPE).
All materials and consumables are at the company's own expense.
- **Residencies in scenic spaces** (Theatre, Blackbox, SE1): installation is supervised by the technical manager. The company must be fully autonomous throughout the residency.
- **Studio residencies:** the company is entirely autonomous for set-up and throughout the residency.

Any additional technical needs (equipment, materials, furniture) not provided by the Pôle must be arranged and financed by the company.

Meetings with ESNAM students may be organised, including project presentations or “work-in-progress” performances.

These may also be opened to the general public upon mutual agreement with the Pôle.

The Pôle is a partner of the Theatre and Puppetry Class (Chat'M) at the Collège Rouget de Lisle in Charleville-Mézières. Unique in France, this class aims to introduce secondary school pupils to the art of puppetry. If you are interested, a classroom intervention to these pupils can be arranged.

Financial Support (all taxes included)

The Pôle will contribute to residency expenses as follows:

- Remuneration: based on 2 work sessions of 4 hours per residency day per person, calculated using the minimum standards of the French Collective Agreement (CCNEAC*);
- Meal allowance: one per person per day, based on CCNEAC* rates;
- Transport costs: up to €150 per person, with a maximum of €600 for the entire team, on presentation of receipts;
- Accommodation: provided where possible, with access to a kitchen.

*As of 09/03/2026, for reference:

- 1 work session (4 hours): €61.05 gross ≈ €96.50 employer's cost

- 1 meal allowance: €20.70

Workspaces and availabilities

Presentation of the spaces, specifications, technical equipment and furniture available, availability periods: [presentation document \(PDF\)](#).

Application

To apply for a Graduate Residency, complete the form and upload all required documents: [online form](#).

INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

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« Un rien coloré », Tra Le Mani ©Florent Mayolet

This unique residency format — one of a kind in France — is the result of a partnership between the Pôle, the CAF des Ardennes, and several local nurseries.

It offers artists the chance to explore creation and experimentation with very young children (ages 0–3) in a research-creation context.

The residency also provides children, educators, and families an opportunity to experience the artistic process and foster an early appreciation of the arts, which plays a vital role in cognitive and emotional development.

Who can apply?

The residencies in nurseries are open to **professional puppetry artists working on projects intended for children aged 0 to 3 years.**

Puppetry may be explored in all its forms, including its intersections with other art disciplines.

Terms and Conditions

Projects must be carried out by a professional legal entity that complies with social and labour regulations.

Residencies will take place **between January and July 2027** and may last 2 weeks, consecutive or not (up to a maximum of 10 working days, excluding weekends and public holidays), depending on nursery availability and project requirements.

The team must consist of a maximum of 4 people.

The Pôle, in coordination with its partners, will arrange workspace within a local nursery.

The company must be completely autonomous, as no technical equipment (sound, lighting, video, etc.) will be provided.

The artist(s) must:

- Be French-speaking;
- Be present in the nursery to develop the project and lead hands-on workshops with the children (materials, shadow/light play, movement, etc.);
- Include one daily interaction with children, starting mid-week of the first week;
- Offer at least one final presentation (feedback session, parent-child workshop, etc.) for the children, staff, and families;
- Leave a keepsake for each child (e.g. a drawing, an audio recording, or a prototype that nursery staff can reproduce);
- Agree to be filmed and/or recorded during the residency.

Financial Support (all taxes included)

The Pôle will contribute to residency expenses as follows:

- Remuneration: based on 2 work sessions of 4 hours per residency day per person, calculated using the minimum standards of the French Collective Agreement (CCNEAC*);
- Meal allowance: one per person per day, based on CCNEAC* rates;
- Transport costs: up to €150 per person, with a maximum of €600 for the entire team, on presentation of receipts;
- Accommodation: provided where possible, with access to a kitchen.

* As of 09/03/2026, for reference:

- 1 work session (4 hours): €61.05 gross ≈ €96.50 employer's cost

- 1 meal allowance: €20.70

Application

To apply for a Nursery Residency, complete the form and upload all required documents: [online form](#).

INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

Cécile Purière +33 (0)3 24 59 70 62 / cecile.puriere@marionnette.com



**Research
Residency**



Centre de Documentation et des Collections ©PIM

The Pôle offers a programme dedicated to research in the puppetry arts, developed in close collaboration with national and international academic institutions.

This initiative is based on the principles of hospitality and support, encouraging researchers, teacher-researchers, and artist-researchers to develop and share new knowledge within the field.

Who can apply?

These residencies are open to **individuals conducting a research project intended for publication** (e.g., articles, theses, dissertations).

Two residences will be reserved for doctoral researchers, and two residences will be reserved for ESNAM teachers who wish to undertake research that could enrich their teaching.

Applications will be evaluated based on the research topic's originality and relevance, the scientific and/or artistic methodology, and the alignment between the project and the Pôle's Documentation and Collections Centre resources.

Terms and Conditions

Residencies will take place **between October 2026 and July 2027** and must last at least two weeks.

Residents will be hosted at the Documentation and Collections Centre, open Monday to Friday from 1pm to 5pm (excluding weekends and public holidays).

Residents will benefit from a personalised welcome by the documentation team, access to the Centre's full resources (archives, collections, documentation), potential connections with the Pôle's institutional and academic partners.

Financial Support (all taxes included)

The Pôle offers the following support:

- A grant of €1,500 paid as royalties. If the resident has appropriate status, this amount may be invoiced;
- Accommodation: single room in the Pôle's shared residence (shared with other artists or teachers-in-residence).

The resident agrees to submit a copy of the completed research output (article, dissertation, etc.) to the Documentation and Collections Centre.

An exchange with ESNAM students may be scheduled, such as a presentation of the research topic or process. This moment may be open to the public (to be agreed jointly with the Pôle).

Documentary Residencies

Some projects not selected for a Research Residency, or that do not involve formal publication, may be proposed as Documentary Residencies instead.

These do not include a grant or required duration. However, they allow access to the Centre's resources and accommodation.

Residents may be invited to hold informal discussions with ESNAM students or the Pôle's team, if deemed relevant.

Applications for documentary residencies are accepted year-round.

To apply, send the following to infodoc@marionnette.com: a CV, a description of the research topic, preferred residency dates, a list of resources you wish to consult.

Documentation and Collections Centre

Presentation of the site and the funds available: [presentation document \(PDF\)](#).

Application

To apply for a Research Residency, complete the form and upload all required documents: [online form](#).

INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

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