

MAK Schindler Scholarships for 2026/2027 Awarded

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MAK – Press and PR

Press Release

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On 22 September 2025 the coveted MAK Schindler Scholarships, that for the past three decades have contributed to supporting young artists and architects from around the world, were awarded for the 30th time. Out of 303 submissions from 47 countries, including 248 in the field of fine arts and 55 in that of architecture, the jury unanimously selected six projects and three replacement projects. The internationally renowned MAK Center Artists and Architects-in-Residence Program, announced annually by the Federal Ministry for Housing, Arts, Culture, Media and Sport—Arts and Culture Division, in cooperation with the MAK – Museum of Applied Arts, offers scholarship holders a unique opportunity to live for six months of the academic year 2026/2027 in Los Angeles, in the Pearl M. Mackey Apartments designed by Rudolph M. Schindler, and there to realize their visionary projects.

“Especially in art and culture, international networking is a necessary foundation for artistic advancement. Precisely for this reason, the MAK’s Schindler Scholarships are an important institution that opens doors for ambitious young artists and architects. Los Angeles is an exciting cultural metropolis that will most certainly be a great source of inspiration for scholarship holders.” – Andreas Babler, Austrian Vice Chancellor

“This year the Schindler Scholarships celebrate their 30th anniversary, and I am delighted that over the years so many outstanding artistic positions have been shaped and careers launched through our American branch. The MAK Schindler Scholarship program is one of the world’s most important international residence programs, its status underlined year for year by its top-class international juries. The fact that despite—or partly because of—the current troubled geopolitical situation more than 300 applicants from many different regions of the world have once again competed for a scholarship in Los Angeles is evidence of the relevance and attractiveness of this transatlantic cultural exchange program.” – Lilli Hollein, General Director and Artistic Director of the MAK

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This year the jury consisted of Aric Chen (Director, Zaha Hadid Foundation, London), Lilli Hollein (General Director and Artistic Director of the MAK, Vienna), Markus Krottendorfer (Artist, Vienna), Daniel Muzyczuk (Director, Muzeum Sztuki, Łódź), and Laura Weißmüller (Editor, Wochenende/Architektur [Weekend/Architecture], Süddeutsche Zeitung GmbH, Munich).

The Schindler Scholarship addresses freelance artists, students of architecture (2nd part of the degree/master's degree), and graduates of diploma/master's degree in architecture directly after their graduation. The focus of the program is on engaging for the duration of the scholarship with the place of residence, Los Angeles—a center of critical artistic, architectural, and urban-theoretical creativity—as well as on a distinctly experimental approach in the broader fields of art and architecture.

The program thus directly connects to the founding idea of the MAK Center, established in 1994 by the MAK in cooperation with the Federal Chancellery of the Republic of Austria's Arts Department and the "Friends of the Schindler House" as a branch of the MAK, to preserve the legacy of the Austro-American architect Rudolph M. Schindler and to advance his vision of promoting and shaping art and architecture.

A contemporary, experimental, interdisciplinary center for art and architecture, the MAK Center utilizes three of the most outstanding houses designed by Rudolph M. Schindler—the Schindler House (1922) in West Hollywood, the Fitzpatrick-Leland House (1936), and the Pearl M. Mackey Apartments (1939)—for exhibitions, MAK Talks, symposia, and lectures. The MAK Schindler Scholarship Program in Schindler's Mackey Apartments is a vital component of these activities.

Twice a year, in March and in September, the MAK Center presents the projects developed on site in the *Final Projects* exhibitions. The works are documented, catalogued and stored in the MAK Center archive, that can be accessed online at MAKcenterarchive.org.

The projects of the following architects and artists were chosen for the Scholarship Program 2026/2027:

Category Architecture:

7 April 2026 – 29 September 2026

Sarah Silbernagel (Germany; lives and works in Zurich)

12 October 2026 – 23 March 2027

Jakob Grabher (Austria; lives and works in Vienna)



Category Fine Arts:

7 April 2026 – 29 September 2026

Alexandra Kahl (Germany; lives and works in Vienna)

Simon Lässig (Germany; lives and works in Berlin)

12 October 2026 – 23 March 2027

Mohammad Poori (Iran; lives and works in Hamburg)

Arjuna Neuman (Austria; lives and works in Berlin)

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Replacement Category Architecture:

Yvonne Yexuan Gu (China; lives and works in Champaign, Illinois, USA)

Replacement Category Fine Arts:

Axel Koschier (Austria; lives and works in Vienna)

Marcus Deusdedit (Brazil; lives and works in Belo Horizonte)

Statement of the Jury

Out of 303 submitted projects from 47 countries, two projects from the field of architecture and four from the field of fine arts as well as a total of three replacement projects were unanimously chosen.

The jury considered a large number of Austrian and international submissions that showcase current issues from innovative standpoints. In the present geopolitical situation, a transcontinental scholarship program is essential to maintaining creative interchange between Europe and the USA. Significantly, past and present winning projects in the Schindler House—that more than 100 years ago helped shape the beginnings of Modernism—explore similar issues in innovative and experimental ways: water, diaspora, diversity, feminism, gender, systems, and networks. The spirit of the Schindler House as arena for experiments situated between life and artistic production remains a location of radical friendship and tolerance. The winning architects and artists presented visionary concepts that focus on developing new projects associated with Los Angeles.

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