

The Kuraray Foundation, in collaboration with the Ohara Art Foundation, supports the creative activities of artists and the development of human resources who are involved in the restoration and revitalization of works of art.

Supporting young artists through the ARKO (Artist in Residence Kurashiki, Ohara) program

About ARKO

Young artists selected through an open application process stay in Kurashiki for three months and create works of art with complete freedom in an art studio built in 1927 by Torajiro Kojima, a leading Impressionist painter in Japan. The works they create are then exhibited at the Ohara Museum of Art. Torajiro Kojima collected many of the works in the Ohara Museum of Art's collection at the behest of Magosaburo Ohara, the company's first president. Eighteen artists have worked in the studio since its launch in 2005, many of whom are still active in the art scene today. The Kuraray Foundation has supported this initiative since 2017.

Activities that contribute to the development of the arts

For artists, a spacious studio is a special space where they can try their hand at larger works and new things that would otherwise be difficult to create on a daily basis. It also helps to increase their creative motivation, providing an opportunity for them to broaden their future career prospects.

The content of ARKO is currently being reviewed, and the program will continue to contribute to the development of the arts from next year and beyond.



Natsuko Tanihara, ARKO in 2023