

Dear Friends and Supporters of Residency Unlimited,

My name is **Ibtisam Tasnim Zaman**. I was thrilled to participate in a **RU residency on Governors Island** in 2022. I did not have a studio for a little over a year, so when RU offered this incredible opportunity I was overjoyed.

Having a studio for six months in this unique location has been a longtime dream of mine. It allowed me to complete work and try new mediums such as beadwork and embroidery. I am in gratitude for the ongoing art programming that RU facilitated. Throughout my residency there were monthly open studios and there was really beautiful engagement with people and creatives through the guest artists invited to the house. This kind of community building is fundamental and crucial to my own expansion within the arts. There are many artists whom I was introduced to who have shifted how I think about making, and what I make.

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Ibtisam Tasnim Zaman's studio at Governors Island

Additionally, I was provided with a stipend which was incredibly helpful. Last but not least, RU has been monumental in advancing my career in many ways. Some of the pieces created during the residency were presented in a duo exhibition **Our Mothers' Garden** with Damali Abrams at Ace Hotel Brooklyn. I was also given the opportunity to speak as a guest

lecturer at Montclair University about my artistry. Most recently, I was awarded a grant for my project proposal titled 'Stolen Women', that Residency Unlimited had assisted me with the earlier drafts of, so I am very humble and thankful for their ongoing support.



Our Mothers' Garden opening reception at Ace Hotel Brooklyn

When applying to residencies, RU's level of support and well curated creative environment is what I am seeking to replicate in experience. This is an experience of a lifetime and I would live it again and again.

To ensure that RU's invaluable residency program continues to support working artists like myself, please consider making a **contribution** today.

With warm gratitude,

Ibtisam Tasnim Zaman

Donate to Residency Unlimited (RU) and support the exchange of art and ideas through local, national, and international residencies and year-round public programs. Thank you!

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