

CREATING BELONGING IN MINNESOTA PARKS — ARTIST RESIDENCY IN THE PARKS

MINNESOTA PARKS ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PILOT PROGRAM

JUNE 25, 2024: ARTIST INFO SESSION FAQ'S

<p>Can you also talk about our research sources?</p>	<p>This will vary from host site to host site and will be solidified between the artist and the host site.</p>
<p>What is the goal for the theme of belonging as part of this residency?</p>	<p>The overarching goals are to welcome and engage current and new audiences, define, and advance the value and benefits of public art in parks and trails, enrich visitor experiences, implement programs to integrate public art with nature, and enhance interpretive program opportunities to create a stronger sense of belonging and purpose for all Minnesotans in outdoor recreation. The intended outcome is to create an opportunity to foster deep community engagement and relationship building in state and regional parks, improve access to Minnesota parks and trails, and increase collective appreciation for park uses, outdoor recreation, and natural resources, especially in underserved communities.</p>
<p>What are the criteria for selecting artists? Is there rubric?</p>	<p>Selection criteria is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Involvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extent and depth of historical community involvement - Specific examples and outcomes of community engagement - Innovation and effectiveness in involving communities 2. Relationship to Land, Minnesota, and Parks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarity and depth of connection to the land, Minnesota, and parks - Personal or professional experiences that illustrate this relationship - Insight into how this relationship influences their practice <p>3. Artist Interest and Alignment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding of the program and its objectives - Clear articulation of what aspects of the program are appealing - Alignment of the program's goals and values [curiosity, belonging, discovery] with personal or professional aspirations <p>4. Collaboration Style</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of preferred collaboration methods - Examples of past successful collaborations - Adaptability and openness to different collaboration styles <p>5. Sample Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quality and relevance of sample work to the program's focus - Demonstrated skills and competencies in the submitted works - Diversity and innovation in the work samples <p>6. Interest in Top 3 Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear and compelling reasons for interest in each site - Alignment of site interest with project goals and personal or team expertise
<p>How do we know what the sites are looking for?</p>	<p>This will come out in the selected artist's initial conversations with the host site.</p>
<p>Could you elaborate a bit on what a 3, 6 and 9-month plan looks like and how it works?</p>	<p>A 3, 6, and 9-month plan is a strategic roadmap used to outline goals, milestones, and artistic output over specific time periods within the project. These plans will help the selected artist ensure clarity, focus, and measurable progress over time, and will clearly</p>

	communicate what they will be doing, when, with whom, and why. This will be developed as part of the cohort.
Is what each of the parks looking for in artists available to applicants?	See the criteria for selecting artists.
could designing community be considered as an artistic expression?	Yes.
What is the vision for the future of this program?	We hope that it is repeated regularly in the future.
Re: research sources - there was a photo of an artist refereneing some archives - can you talk about what that research might involve	Research will be determined by each artist's specific practice and work plan, but could involve: understanding the flora and fauna within the host site, looking through visitor data to understand who has visited the parks in the past, understanding marketing and programming campaigns, etc.
Will we have to get pre-approval of the use of the money by Forecast?	Yes.
Can I pay a collaborator from the Materials Budget? A researcher, dancer or writer etc?	If you have someone in mind you would like to collaborate with, consider applying with them as part of your artist team. The materials budget can be used for goods and services related to the project, and this will be developed as part of your collaborative work plan with the host site.
what would happen if you wanted to drop out in the middle of the residency?	We are interested in artists who can commit to the entire length of the residency. We understand that life happens. Should you have to leave the residency after starting, there may be financial and contractual obligations. There will also be an impact on the host sites, the project, and relationships with community members.
Can i purchase liability insurance using money from the 14k?	No.
so if you apply as a team- do you equally split the pymnt or can that be flexible according to participating	This should be determined by the team.
Are there preferred mediums/art forms?	No. All disciplines are welcome. We'll talk more about this.
Will this be a recording that will be sent out to people afterwards or that people can access even if they aren't attending right now?	We'll post the recording in the Submittable page for the application.

Can we find out in advance what kind of space will be available for the artist to use in the different parks throughout the year? For example, will there be a designated “studio” space? Indoor or outdoor?	Some of the amenities, structures, etc are listed on the application.
Are the Cohort Activities part of the 20 hours/week?	Yes
Are we expected to choose 1 or do all of the essay questions?	All.
Are the 9 park sites already selected?	yes
So to clarify - 3 seperate submissions as the 3 artworks and then 1 one-pager for the titles and descriptions?	Correct!
can we pick a park that is not on the list?	No
I can really only access 1 site for the year as I live in Cook County. Do we need to choose 3, or should I choose 3?	you’ll have opportunity to select only 1 if that’s all you can do
Will a single park take more than one resident?	Only if they apply as a team.
How are Forecast and the host parks thinking about ownership of intellectual property developed during the residency? Who will own it?	VARA applies for this and all Forecast-involved projects.
Do you know if staff expect folks to come in person once a week, once a month or is it entirely different based on site? Is there a way to see which sites may expect which frequencies of in-person visits?	It really does vary by site and artists.
Are there specific issues that parks are seeking to improve or resolve with artist assistance?	it’s a focus on Belonging.
When will you notify the artists chosen for residency?	August
If there are only 2 sites that are realistic for us to travel to, should we indicate that on the application?	Yes, you’ll have an opportunity to do that on the application
are the parks apart of the process of picking the artists?	Yes, the parks will be given a list of top candidates for their site and will select their top choice.
Is there any point in the application where we are able to share our projected year-long plan or share ideas about how we hope to use our residency?	No. You shouldn’t formulate that before the residency; only in consultation with the Host Site.
Can you give an example of what you consider a public art project	The residency isn’t focused on public art projects. The role of the artist is to create

	greater belonging in the park. How that 'belonging' manifests can look like a lot of different things: workshops, performances, physical visual works, etc.
if i was do do mural work do the parks have wall spaces	This will vary between sites. Once artists are selected, they will develop a work plan in collaboration with the host/park site.
Have parks expressed any interest in specific things or just open to working with artist's ideas?	We are encouraging all parties to come together and really begin this process together vs. coming in with plans. The parks may share needs/interests in the process but we want people to come in with an open mind
is the final product expected to be a permanent art installation? Or temporarily held workshops?	This could be a variety of things! Selected artists will work with their park/host site to determine the final outcome.
to confirm, on the application is says indicate top 3 'Park sites' this is later termed 'host site'	indicates the same thing
How can a writer fit into this project ? Does it need to be published works or just pieces centered a relevant theme?	If you're asking about samples, the works don't need to be published. A writer could do a lot in this residency!
does the host site have the money or will the artist be able to control their budget?	you'd have \$14,000 materials budget that would be for your use.
Will forecast or DNR or parks cover artistic insurance while in residence?	Insurance will be the responsibility of the artist.
will we be expected to have a detailed budget in advance? ie: materials etc? and could the materials allocation be used toward specialized people assistance or research costs?	This is negotiated over time for those selected.
Will artists be expected to assist in the daily running of the park, or attending meetings having to do with other issues at the park?	That is not meant to be an expectation. An artist could be curious to engage in those activities, but that's not the expectation.
are the word counts flexible?	You cannot exceed the word counts.
What if I am a better fit for a park that I didn't indicate? What if i'm open to more than 3 sites? Is there a way to indicate interest in more than 3?	Only 3.
Artist bios for each artist in a group or one total?	We'd love to hear about each artist in your group.
So sorry if this was mentioned, but how does it work with artist preference for specific sites? Can we be open to multiple sites if our work could be flexible?	You may choose up to 3 sites for which you'd like to be considered.

is artistic experience reviewed as professional experience or just general artistic creation?	“professional experience” as a community-focused artist.
Can you amend an application document on submittable once it’s submitted?	No. You can save drafts and amend those, but once you hit submit, you will not be able to amend it.
Would someone be recommended as primary choice for one site and perhaps secondary some place else, or would you only be put forward for one thing period?	you’ll be asked for your top 3, ranked.
as it is discovery throught the year, can one change disaplne during the year. say from painting to sound, or visual art to dance?	I think that would be fine. We are selecting an artist, not a medium, so you’d be able to move between mediums if that’s how you practice as an artist
I’m curious about the distribution of activities. For example would several already scheduled trips exclude me from applying?	That would not exclude you.
And are the budget lines of \$14,000 and \$40,000 firm holds?	Yes.
I am a lover of the outside and my work has to do with home/belonging, but doesn’t particularly integrate nature right now (trees, etc), how much nature expertise is required?	Great question! It’s not at all required.
Is this primarily for individual artists, or a team of individual artists, or can an arts organization apply?	Teams can apply and there are instructions on the app regarding that. But arts organizations, like a non profit, are not eligible.
Is the application set up so that it can be completed over several days?	Yes, you can save drafts in Submittable and come back to them. Once you hit “submit” you will not be able to make any edits.
I think some of my non-community art recently showcases some of my artisitic talent very well, and then some of the things I have done that are super community based aren't necesarily as great in terms of what the art looked like, but was very community focused. Should I try and show both with my samples, or focus on the community things?	That’s up to you but you might consider a variety
Can the time be structured in intensives? For example, Can I negotiate three or four 1-2 week intensive times to be at a park during strategic, mutually beneficial times?	Yes. The expectation is that artists will spend an average of 20 hours/week on this project over the course of the 12

	month residency. That may mean more hours some weeks and less hours others.
Further clarification on the budget lines, Does the applicant have to pay themselves \$40,000 and use up \$14,000 for supplies or can they fluctuate those two lines as needed?	The salary is given directly to the artist. The materials budget is not. The plan would help you figure out what to buy.
also are we independent contractors? Can we use an entity to receive the money such as a LLC or non profit orgC	You will be considered an independent contractor. If you have an LLC or use a fiscal sponsor, that is totally ok!
Will be taxed on the 14k?	No. This will be a reimbursement or we will purchase materials for you.
20 hours/week-is that all at the park, or maybe some at home while you are planning etc?	You can definitely use some of this time at home planning!
could educational experience, ex. an MA, be considered as professional artistic experience?	Possibly. It depends on what you did during that time. Schooling is not an exclusionary factor.
My work often engages the community first, and culminates in sculpture in the landscape that I work on alone or with an assistant, which is informed by the community engagement. Does this still fit the parameters of this project, since the final work will be a very stationary thing.	Yes!
Will be considered independent contractors if we are chosen to participate? Just thinking about how personal expenses (like travel) can be accounted for as an independent artist -- thanks!	Yes, you will be considered an independent contractor, not an employee.
will you put out a tentative schedule for the Forecast meetings, onboarding for August?	Only for finalists.
If we do a project, workshop, sculpture and someone from the community or workshop gets injured, who is considered liable? The DNR? The park? Forecast?	Artists will be responsible for having their own liability insurance.
The 40k, would that be on taxes as a "contractor"? Just thinking about how much would be deducted at the end of the year	Yes, you will be considered an independent contractor, not an employee or staff member.
is the 40K paid out biweekly?	No. It would be paid at regular intervals, but not bi-weekly.
would consultations of other artists be an option as part of the stipend if it was output specific?	Yes, potentially.