

PROGRAM & APPLICATION DETAILS

Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument

2017 Artist-in-Residence – Plein Air

in partnership with

Glen Canyon Natural History Association and Escalante Canyons Art Festival

Program sponsored by Bureau of Land Management/Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in partnership with Glen Canyon Natural History Association, and Escalante Canyons Art Festival.

Background

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) was established in 1996 and became the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) first national monument. At nearly 1.9 million acres, it is the largest area in the National Conservation Lands system, which includes some of the West's most spectacular landscapes set aside for conservation, protection, and restoration of their nationally significant cultural, ecological, and scientific values. From the spectacular Grand Staircase of cliffs and terraces, across the rugged Kaiparowits Plateau, to the wonders of the Escalante Canyons, the Monument's size, resources, and remote character provide extraordinary opportunities for scientific research and exploration. Its spectacular scenery of other-worldly landforms, outrageous combinations of colors, vegetation that ranges from ponderosa forests to lush riparian corridors, and light that is forever changing, provides artists with limitless inspiration and material.

Glen Canyon Natural History Association (GCNHA) is a cooperating association that supports and funds education, research, interpretation, and visitor services within the public lands on the Colorado Plateau in Northern Arizona and Southern Utah. GCNHA works in partnership with the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Reclamation in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Rainbow Bridge National Monument, and Grand Staircase–Escalante National Monument, to promote and inspire stewardship and preservation of our shared cultural and natural resources.

The Escalante Canyons Art Festival (ECAF) is an annual gathering of artists, musicians, artisans, and speakers that come together to celebrate all this region has to offer. This year marks the 14th anniversary of the festival, an event that draws artists and festival goers from across the country and world.

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Artist-in-Residence partnership between GSENM and ECAF is two-fold. First, it promotes awareness through art of the exceptional natural and cultural treasures preserved and protected by GSENM. Second, the program seeks to firmly establish the Escalante Canyons region in southern Utah as a destination for artists and those who love art. The program aspires to share the scenic beauty and unique stories of National Conservation Lands with the public through landscape art.

The residency provides artistic and educational opportunities to promote a deeper understanding of the natural, cultural, and historic resources on GSENM. The residency provides an opportunity for learning and dialogue about the value of the National Conservation Lands and their connection to the local communities. It allows uninterrupted time in a stimulating and rugged environment for artists to pursue their work and share it with the public.

Location

GSENM is located in southcentral Utah. Escalante is located in the heart of GSENM along Scenic Byway 12 (Utah's only All-American Road), surrounded by Bryce Canyon and Capitol Reef National Parks, Dixie National

Forest, three Utah state parks, and more untrammelled landscape than just about anywhere in the lower forty-eight states. Escalante is an approximately 5-hour drive from Salt Lake City or Las Vegas.

Residency Details

Sponsors GSENM, GCNHA and ECAF award the selected plein air artist the opportunity to live and work in and around Escalante, Utah while serving as an ambassador for GSENM. Work completed during the residency should be of landscapes within GSENM. The residency period will be four weeks ending on October 1, 2017. The artist will be provided an exhibit space at the 2017 Escalante Canyons Art Festival (September 29-30) but may not participate in the Plein Air Competition or Paint Outs. Additional information about the festival is available at: escalantecanyonsartfestival.org.

Applicants must keep in mind that GSENM is a rugged landscape spanning low-lying desert to coniferous forest, with scarce and scattered water sources, temperatures ranging from 20-100°F, limited travel corridors and vast, remote areas without cellphone coverage. This land of extremes requires a frontier mentality with the ability to make informed planning decisions, navigate on foot or by vehicle in the backcountry, and self-rescue. Please evaluate your experience and comfort level in your abilities to operate under these conditions.

The selected artist will be provided with:

- A travel trailer with RV hook-up located in Escalante.
- A monetary stipend of \$1000.
- An exhibit and sales space during the 2017 Escalante Canyons Art Festival. **The exhibit should include only works produced during the residency.**
- Recognition of achievement in press releases, advertising and promotional materials, and on our websites.

In exchange for:

- One creative community project to be executed during the residency period.
- One public event (workshop/demonstration/tour/presentation) to be conducted during the ECAF festival programming.
- One school event (workshop/demonstration/tour/presentation) working with local area elementary or high school students to be held prior to the week of the festival.
- One completed artwork for the ECAF collection, painted within GSENM.
- A commission of 25% to ECAF on works sold during the festival.

ELIGIBILITY: The residency is open to all artists over 18 years of age who are United States residents and who apply within the deadline period. The residency is limited to artists who produce two dimensional work in the plein air style. Selection is solely based on merit, without regard to sex, race, creed, religion, national origin, employer, or physical ability (see "American Disability Act–ADA" section below). Department of the Interior employees and their relatives are eligible to submit applications to the program.

RESIDENCY PERIOD: The residency must be scheduled for four weeks ending on October 1, 2017, to coincide with the last weekend of the festival.

CREATIVE COMMUNITY PROJECT PROPOSAL: As stated above, the residency provides opportunities for learning and dialogue about the value of the National Conservation Lands and their connection to the local community. We believe that creativity and art give us an opportunity for such dialogue among the diverse perspectives held in this small community of 800 people. There are no set parameters for the community project. We welcome bold and creative ideas for engaging the community beyond a lecture or painting workshop.

PUBLIC and SCHOOL EVENTS: The selected artist will conduct at least two public events during the residency. These could be in the form of a workshop, demonstration, tour, presentation, or other creative activity. One

event is for the general public and will be included in the arts festival programming lineup. The other event will be for area elementary or high school students and will occur prior to the week of the festival. The details of these festival and school programming events will be discussed and coordinated with the selected artist prior to the start of the residency to provide time for scheduling, outreach, and marketing.

STIPEND: A stipend of \$1000.00 for the four-week residency will be provided by the Glen Canyon Natural History Association - GSENM Aid to Parks Program.

HOUSING: A BLM travel trailer with RV hookup in a local area RV park will be provided. BLM will transport the trailer to and from the RV park and set it up. Basic linens, kitchenware, and cleaning supplies are provided. Pets are not allowed in provided housing.

TRANSPORTATION: Artist is responsible for all transportation costs, including arrival and departure to Escalante, as well as transportation into Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument during residency. Though not required, an **all-wheel drive vehicle with high clearance** will allow the artist access to more of the surrounding area, as most roads within the Monument are not paved.

PERSONAL EXPENSES: Artist is responsible for all personal expenses including travel, meals, cell phone, internet access, laundry, etc.

COPYRIGHT & PUBLICATION: ECAF will own the donated artwork. Digital reproductions of the donated artwork may be reproduced in GSENM, GCNHA and/or ECAF promotional print materials or electronic publication formats. The artist agrees that the artwork donated to AiR at GSENM Program may be used in exhibits and for educational purposes by program sponsors or by their non-profit cooperating associations. The artist will retain a royalty-free, non-exclusive use license under copyright of the art by AiR at GSENM. When the artist reproduces this artwork for his/her own purposes, publication information will include the language: "This artwork was produced under the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Artist-in-Residence Program."

VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT: The selected artist will agree to be an official BLM Volunteer during the residency and must agree to sign and abide by the official BLM Volunteer Agreement during the residency period. As such the artist is protected by such insurance appropriate to the BLM Volunteer Agreement (DOI Form 1114-4).

OTHER PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES: The Artist in Residence is acting as an ambassador for GSENM and needs to conduct themselves accordingly. The selected artist will be an official BLM volunteer and is encouraged to promote appropriate site etiquette, Leave-No-Trace principles, and landscape conservation in any public contacts while serving as the residence artist. The artist will abide by all local, state, and federal laws including all BLM rules and regulations during the residency. GSENM managers and/or the national BLM Artist-in-Residence program office have the right to cancel the artist's residency immediately for inappropriate behavior, serious disregard for safety, or failure to comply with BLM regulations.

APPLICANTS WITH DISABILITIES: Every effort will be made to accommodate disabled participants. However, accommodation corresponding to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards may be unavailable due to the historic or primitive nature of facilities in field locations.

For additional information, please contact:
GSENM - AiR Program Coordinator
Allysia Angus
aaugus@blm.gov
435-826-5615

APPLICATION

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Applications must be **received by midnight on March 12, 2017** to be eligible. Incomplete applications will not be considered. **Applications are to be submitted via email to aangus@blm.gov.**

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants are required to submit:

- 2017 Artist-in-Residence at GSENM Application Form
- 5 to 10 digital samples of work (at least half must be plein air samples)
- Resume detailing relevant education, experience, and achievements (not to exceed two pages)
- Creative community project proposal (Not to exceed one page)
- Arts festival public event proposal (Not to exceed one page)
- Student event proposal (Not to exceed one page)
- Responses to the following questions:
 - a. What is your primary motivation to seek this residency?
 - b. What would you specifically hope to accomplish during the residency?
 - c. What is your relationship to GSENM? To the Colorado Plateau?
 - d. Where/how did you hear about the GSENM AiR Program?

EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS: A panel consisting of art professionals, ECAF committee members, and GSENM and GCNHA staff will select the 2017 Artist-in-Residence at GSENM. The following weighted criteria will be used to evaluate the applications:

- *Portfolio:* 40 points
- *Resume (Education, Experience and Achievements):* 10 points
- *Community, Public, Student Event Proposals:* 25 points
- *Response to Application Questions:* 25 points

SUBMISSION: The completed application package containing all of the above must be sent via email to: **aangus@blm.gov.**

NOTIFICATION: The selection of the 2017 Artist-in-Residence - Photography and notification will be made within two weeks of the application due date.