

## **PROGRAM & APPLICATION DETAILS**

### **Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument 2021 Artist-in-Residence – Plein Air**

**in partnership with Escalante Canyons Art Festival and Glen Canyon Conservancy**

*Program sponsored by Bureau of Land Management/Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) in partnership with Escalante Canyons Art Festival (ECAAF) and Glen Canyon Conservancy (GCC).*

#### **Background**

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) was established in 1996 and became the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) first national monument and 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.

The Escalante Canyons Art Festival (ECAAF) 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 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival, an event that draws artists and festival goers from across the country and world.

Glen Canyon Conservancy (GCC) 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. GCC 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.

#### **Mission Statement**

The purpose of the Artist-in-Residence partnership 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, ECAF and GCC 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 September 26, 2021. The artist will be provided an exhibit space at the 2021 Escalante Canyons Art Festival (September 24-25) but may not participate in the Plein Air Competitions. Additional information about the festival is available at: [escalantecanyonsartfestival.org](http://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:*

- Housing in local resident homes or space in local RV park for use of personal RV.
- A monetary stipend of \$1000 provided by Glen Canyon Conservancy.
- Recognition of achievement in press releases, advertising, and promotional materials, and on our websites. Press releases and media relations for all public presentation programs.
- An orientation tour of GSENM by BLM staff; backcountry access with BLM personnel, as needed and arranged.
- Use of AiR auto magnets during residency.
- Other reimbursements as necessary and agreed upon (i.e. art supplies for community events).

*In exchange for:*

- One outdoor creative community project proposed by the artist and approved by GSENM and ECAF to be executed anytime during the residency period.
- One outdoor public event (workshop/demonstration/tour) to be held as part of ECAF programming and approved by GSENM and ECAF.
- One outdoor youth event to be held prior to the week of the festival.
- An exhibit as part of the ECAF programming. Exhibit to include only artworks produced during residency.
- Judging the ECAF Plein Air Competition along with two other judges.
- One completed artwork that will be donated to the GSENM/ECAF AiR collection.
- A commission of 30% to ECAF on works sold during the residency.

*Artist must agree:*

- To sign a Bureau of Land Management Volunteer Agreement, a Licensing Agreement, a Release for Photographs & Videos, and any other applicable lodging waivers or agreements.
- To abide by all local, state, and federal laws, including all BLM rules and regulations during the residency. GSENM managers, the AiR program coordinator, 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.
- To allow themselves and their work to be photographed/used by the BLM for publicity and records. News media will also be permitted to photograph and interview the artist.
- That any identifiable representation of a person is accompanied by written permission that is provided to GSENM.
- To display the Artist in Residence car magnets at all times during the residency, as a sign of identification to help ensure safety and provide ambassador opportunities to the public.
- Complete more than 75% of the artwork during the residency of landscapes of/within GSENM.

- Follow CDC guidelines for COVID-19 safety during residency.

**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 September 26, 2021, 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 beyond it being hosted outside. We welcome bold and creative ideas for engaging the community beyond a lecture or painting workshop.

**PUBLIC and YOUTH EVENTS:** The selected artist will conduct at least two outdoor public events during the residency.

- One event is for the general public and will be included in the arts festival programming lineup.
- The other event will be for area youth and will occur prior to the week of the festival.

The details of these festival and youth 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.

*NOTE for events: Please be mindful of potential Covid-19 guidelines that could influence proposed events.*

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

**HOUSING:** Local area housing for one person will be provided though details are TBD. Neither pets nor smoking are allowed in provided housing.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Artist is responsible for all transportation costs, including arrival and departure to Escalante, as well as transportation into GSENM 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, laundry, etc.

**COPYRIGHT & PUBLICATION:** ECAF will own the donated artwork. Digital reproductions of the donated artwork may be reproduced in GSENM, ECAF and/or GCC 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 partners. 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:*

Allysia Angus, GSENM Artist in Residence Coordinator  
BLM Grand Staircase-Escalante NM  
755 West Main Street  
Escalante, UT 84726  
Email: [aangus@blm.gov](mailto:aangus@blm.gov)

## APPLICATION

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Applications must be **received by midnight on April 1, 2021** to be eligible. Incomplete applications will not be considered. **Applications are to be submitted via email to [aangus@blm.gov](mailto:aangus@blm.gov).**

### **SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Applicants are required to submit:

- 2021 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)
- Youth 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 GCC staff will select the 2021 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, Youth Event Proposals:* 30 points
- *Response to Application Questions:* 20 points

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

**NOTIFICATION:** Notification regarding the 2021 Artist-in-Residence – Plein Air selection will be made by the end of April.