



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

News Release

BLM Utah State Office

Media Contact: David Hercher (435) 644-1209 dhercher@blm.gov

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GSENM accepting applications for 2021 Artist-In-Residence Program

KANAB, Utah — The Bureau of Land Management is pleased to announce applications are now being accepted for this year's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) Plein Air Artist-in-Residence (AiR) program, sponsored through a partnership between the Monument, Escalante Canyons Art Festival (ECAAF) and Glen Canyon Conservancy.

Together, sponsors will select one artist resident to live and work in and around Escalante, Utah while serving as an ambassador for GSENM. The residency is limited to artists who produce two-dimensional work in the plein air style. By promoting a deeper connection to the natural, cultural and historic resources of GSENM, the residency provides an opportunity for learning and dialogue about the value of the National Conservation Lands and their connection to the local community.

“The purpose of the residency is to promote awareness through the arts,” said **GSENM Artist-in-Residence Coordinator Allysia Angus**. “Each year, our goal is to provide our selected artist with special opportunities to really bond with the heart of the Monument and express that connection in a way that helps all Americans gain a deeper appreciation for the stewardship of public lands. It allows uninterrupted time in a stimulating and rugged environment for an artist to pursue their work and share it with the public.”

The residency period will be scheduled for four weeks ending on September 26, to coincide with the last weekend of the festival. The artist will be provided exhibit space at the festival, September 24-25. Additional details are available at escalantecanyonsartfestival.org. Applicants must be over 18 years of age, a U.S. resident and apply within the deadline period.

Interested artists may find more information and application materials at <https://go.usa.gov/xsmdh>. Applications must be received by midnight April 1, 2021 and should be submitted to Allysia Angus via email at aangus@blm.gov.

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The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The agency's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. Diverse activities authorized on these lands generated \$111 billion in economic output across the country in fiscal year 2019—more than any other agency in the Department of the Interior. These activities supported more than 498,000 jobs.

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