

Bureau of Land Management – Canyon Country District Artist-in-Residence Program Information

Accepting Applications April 4, 2023 through May 27, 2023.

Mission Statement:

Through an artist's perspective, the Artist in Residence (AiR) program's mission is to inspire, educate, and promote stewardship, that will enhance the understanding and need to preserve our public land resources for future generations.

BLM wide statement: The purpose of the Bureau of Land Management AiR Program is to provide artistic and educational opportunities to promote deeper understanding of, and dialogue about, the natural, cultural, and historic resources managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The BLM Artist-in-Residence Program aspires to share with the public the scenic beauty and unique stories of BLM and the National Landscape Conservation System through the world of art.

LOCATION:

Canyon Country District is located in Southeastern Utah, spanning 3.6 million surface acres that stretch from the Book Cliffs north of I-70 to the San Juan River near the Utah/Arizona border. The district is managed by Monticello and Moab field offices.

The Moab Field Office is a mecca for recreation, including off-highway vehicles, mountain biking, climbing, BASE jumping, hiking, horse-back riding, photography, and river rafting. Moab also supports a wide array of land uses such as oil and gas production, mining, and livestock grazing. The Field Office is known for evidence of dinosaurs and features the Mill Canyon Interpretive Track Site and Bone Trail. These canyonlands are home to many types of desert wildlife and the area supports a healthy population of big horn sheep and can provide great opportunities for wildlife viewing during the fall. Carved by the Colorado and Green River, the public land that surround Moab include a vast variety of geological features such as arches, natural bridges, mesas, and spires.

The Monticello Field Office is best known for providing opportunities to explore the past, by visiting cliff dwellings and rock imagery sites. Early Utah Pioneers also explored these rugged canyons and mesas, leaving traces of the Old Spanish Trail and Hole in the Rock Trail. The 75-mile Comb Ridge Monocline forms the backbone of the Bears Ears National Monument. Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) has a rich cultural heritage and is sacred to many Native American tribes who rely on these lands for traditional and ceremonial uses. Much of this landscape is still actively grazed by livestock, used for personal firewood collection, and is available for many forms of recreation. Outstanding opportunities to hike, visit cultural sites, backpack, mountain bike, float the San Juan River, and ride OHVs exist within the monument boundaries. Other world-class activities include scenic driving, photography, rock climbing, camping, paleontological exploration, and wildlife. Grand Gulch cuts a serpentine swath through Cedar Mesa and is the heart of the Grand Gulch and Butler Wash Historic Districts.

PROGRAM GOALS:

The Artist-in-Residence program is intended to promote:

- Appreciation of the various resources within Canyon Country District and the field offices;
- Traditional knowledge and understanding of the landscape;
- Awareness of the unique and the fragile nature of these resources;
- Visitor ethics, stewardship, and conduct that support resource preservation and responsible recreation; and
- Management objectives and program goals.

RESIDENCY DETAILS:

The Moab and Monticello field offices will alternate each year hosting the Artist-in-Residence program. The 2023 program will be hosted by the Monticello Field Office and is open to visual artists and writers only. Work completed during the residency must represent Canyon Country District with a focus on Bears Ears National Monument. Although not defined, management may request the artist to focus on an area or theme within the field office boundaries to bring awareness to District goals and/or objectives.

The selected artist will be provided with:

- Lodging (see below and may differ between field offices)
- Recognition of achievement in press releases, advertising, and promotional materials, and on BLM websites and social media platforms. Press releases and media relations for all public presentation programs.
- An orientation tour by BLM staff, depending on artist's interest, familiarity of the area, and experience
- Backcountry access with BLM personnel, as needed and arranged.

In Exchange for:

- One creative project to be presented to the local community (workshop, demonstration, lecture, etc.) proposed by the artist and approved by the BLM to be executed during the residency period.
- One or two scheduled field outings, depending on length of residency, at highly visited areas to greet the local community and visitors during the residency period.
- Resident works a minimum of 32 hours per week. Selectee will log hours and locations for the volunteer program. Selectee is encouraged to notify Program Coordinator of their itinerary when traveling in remote or backcountry areas.
- A digital copy of completed work for the Field Office hosting the residency. Artist retains copyright of all images but agrees to the production and publication of work to promote the AiR program and the BLM mission. Artist has up to 4 months to complete the donated work.

Artist must agree to:

- Be an official BLM volunteer for the duration of the residency and must agree to sign and abide by the official BLM Volunteer Agreement, Licensing Agreement, and Release for Photographs & Videos, and any other applicable lodging waivers or agreements during residency.
- To abide by all local, state, and federal laws, including all BLM rules and regulations during the residency. CCYD managers, the AiR program coordinator, and/or the national BLM AiR 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 to be photographed/used by the BLM for publicity and records. News media will also be permitted to photograph and interview the artist.
- Any artwork must **not** identify or communicate the location of archaeological sites or sensitive areas not otherwise publicly identified for visitors.
- To consider the display of the AiR car magnet(s) (provided) during the Residency, as a sign of identification to help ensure safety and provide ambassador opportunities to the public.

- Adhere to the expectations and guidelines outlined herein.

RESIDENCY PERIOD:

Residency is 2-4 weeks between Sept 10th and Oct 21st, 2023. Artist must include the length and proposed dates of residency on their application. The purpose of the time span is to provide artists flexibility to meet their goals and cater to the availability of prospective artists in residence.

HOUSING, LODGING, and ACCOMODATIONS:

The BLM will provide housing for the 2023 artist in a tiny home at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station situated at 6,500' on Cedar Mesa within Bear Ears National Monument. Artists requiring accessibility options may choose to reside in shared space at a bunkhouse. Space and electrical hookups for an RV may be available as well, but there are no water or sewer hookups at the site.

Kane Gulch Ranger Station is in an isolated area, surrounded by pinyon and juniper forest. It has a very small population of rangers and volunteers with the nearest neighbors ten miles away at Natural Bridges National Monument. The ranger station is accessed by two-wheel drive vehicles off the paved State Route 261. Dirt roads nearby may require high-clearance and/or 4WD.

Internet access at the ranger station is limited. Cell service is spotty at best and may be unavailable onsite. The tiny home is furnished with a microwave, small refrigerator, range top, and oven (by request). The tiny home is powered with solar electricity and heated with propane. It is plumbed with running water until the second week of October. Artists choosing a time period after the first week in October may experience glamping at the ranger station as the water may be shut off to prevent pipes from freezing. Should this occur, drinking water will be provided in 5-gallon containers. Community shower and clothes washing machine are available onsite during business hours through October.

The ranger station is 36 miles from the nearest town of Blanding, Utah which has a population of under 4,000 people. Amenities in Blanding include a small grocery store, shops, a post office, library, hospital, gas stations, and restaurants.

Artists who choose to live at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station will be required to sign a housing agreement and must leave the premises clean and in good repair upon vacating.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

The artist is encouraged to spend some of their time engaging with the public, at areas of high visitation, to promote the BLM's Artist-in-Residence program mission and to share their artistic vision. The artist will agree to scheduling one or two sessions that will be advertised to locals and visitors.

The selected artist will conduct at least one public event during the residency. The public event could be in the form of a workshop, demonstration, tour, presentation, capstone, or other creative activity. The BLM will facilitate the bookings, reservations, and announcement of the public event.

STIPEND

Canyon Country District has partnered with Canyonlands Natural History Association (CNHA) to offer the Artist in Residence a stipend for their participation in the program. The Artist is eligible for a \$125 per week stipend, not to exceed \$500, received after the final artwork is complete, paid by CNHA.

As a BLM volunteer the resident artist is also eligible for a mileage reimbursement at the rate of \$.14 per mile, subject to Management discretion and approval. Mileage calculated for public presentations, education/outreach events, orientation, and other outings related to the goals of the program will be considered for reimbursement.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

Canyon Country District is a rugged landscape. Temperatures can range from 20-100°F, and the area has scarce and scattered water sources. During the time of residency, monsoonal rains and thunderstorms are possible. There are many front country areas accessible by paved roads, however cell service can be unreliable. There are many opportunities for accessing remote backcountry areas by dirt roads. This area requires self-reliance, the ability to make informed planning decisions, to navigate on foot or by vehicle in the backcountry and to self-rescue.

COVID-19

Canyon Country District is committed to the health and safety of their employees, volunteers, and the public. Artist-in-Residence is expected to adhere to the Department of Interior and CDC guidelines for safety protocols during their residency. The public engagement requirements of this residency may be changed or revised at the time of residency due to COVID-19 protocols.

TRANSPORTATION:

Artist is responsible for all transportation costs, including arrival and departure to Canyon Country District, Moab or Monticello Field Offices, as well as transportation during residency. Though not required, an all-wheel drive vehicle with high clearance will allow the artist access to more of the surrounding area. Vehicle must adhere to all state and/or federal safety and registration requirements.

Volunteer will not be operating a government vehicle but may accompany AiR Coordinator or other BLM personnel in government vehicles as a passenger. Defensive driving training will not be required for Artist.

EQUIPMENT USE

Volunteer assumes any liability for all personal equipment and supplies that volunteer provides at their own expense. Volunteer assumes responsibility for the expense of regular maintenance and any damages that may occur during use of personal equipment. The government is not responsible to compensate volunteer for expenses incurred, or to replace or repair said equipment

PERSONAL EXPENSES:

Artist is responsible for all personal expenses including, but not limited to: travel, cell phone, laundry, supplies, meals etc.

TRAINING:

BLM will provide pre-project orientation, safety briefings, and on the job training necessary for volunteer to adequately perform duties. Orientation will include but not limited to: Residency expectations, BLM policy and regulations, recreation information, safety and risk assessments, BLM staff contact lists, Department of Interior sexual harassment policy, volunteer agreement, emergency contact and medical facility locations, and surrounding amenities. The AiR Coordinator will monitor volunteers' progress and give guidance as necessary. Training will be documented and included in program files.

PROFESSIONAL IMAGE:

The Artist in Residence is a volunteer and a representative of the BLM. Thus, volunteers are expected to present a professional image of the BLM.

UNIFORMS:

Volunteer uniforms are required when the artist is in the field. The individual will be issued a BLM t-shirt, vest, hat, and nametag to wear. Easily identifiable clothing promotes ambassador role of residency and volunteer safety.

COPYRIGHT & PUBLICATION:

The artist will retain copyright of artwork(s)/image(s) produced during residency, but program may use digital images of artwork in promotional, interpretive, and educational print or digital materials. When the artist uses any images of artwork produced during the residency for his/her own purposes, publication information will provide credit stating that the images were produced during the 2023 Canyon Country District Artist in Residence, BLM

Artists are required to provide the BLM at least one high-resolution, reproduction-quality image in digital format (18 x 24 inches at 300 dpi) of an original artwork created during the residency or as a result of it.

***Donated piece must be completed and received no later than 4 months after the close of residency period.**

The artwork must not identify archaeological or sensitive sites and names of such, that are not otherwise publicized by BLM.

BLM 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 insurance appropriate to the BLM Volunteer Agreement (DOI Form 1114-4). The Artist in Residence is acting as an **ambassador for Canyon County District BLM** and needs to conduct themselves accordingly. As a BLM Volunteer the artist agrees to represent the BLM and its mission and interact with the public in a courteous and professional manner. The selected artist will be an official BLM volunteer and is encouraged to promote appropriate site etiquette, Leave-No-Trace principles, stewardship, 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. Volunteer agrees to record and report hours of service to the AiR Coordinator, who will forward the hours to the appropriate personnel at the end of the residency. District and Field Office 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.

ON-SITE CONTACT

The contact person for the BLM Artist-in-Residence program will be the local Artist-in-Residence Program Coordinator at the BLM site. This person will be responsible for onsite coordination and scheduling of Artist-in-Residence program participants. The local program contact will provide a brief orientation to the guest artist of the BLM site and facilitate their use of on-site accommodations, security, and other site facilities. The local program contact will also schedule any on-site public presentations by the guest artist, local publicity, and assist with any special equipment needs. The on-site program Coordinator will provide training and orientation to selectee.

SECURITY:

Volunteer will not be accessing government facilities or utilizing government computers, equipment, vehicles, and supplies without an AiR Coordinator/BLM escort. A security clearance is not required.

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.

For the 2023 program, residency is open to visual artists and writers only. In subsequent years, residency may be open to and include performance artists. Program will consider any medium suitable for digital reproduction including two-dimensional visual still media (such as painting, photography, printmaking), sculpture, video, etc.

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.

APPLICANTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Every effort will be made to accommodate participants with disabilities. 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.

APPLICATION PACKET:

Application must include:

- **Application Form**
- **Sample of Artwork:** Five (5) different visual images, on labeled 35mm slides or digital storage media (if emailed). Digital images must be in JPED file format at 300 dpi, not to exceed 5 MB each in file size. If mailing, printed images must not exceed 8x10 in size. Use your last name and image number in the file name Use your last name and image number in the file name. (Example: FirstLast_Image01.jpg).
- **Image list:** Provide a one-page list with title, artistic medium, date, and other relevant information that will assist in the evaluation of your work. (printed, or PDF/MS word document format).
- **Sample of Writing:** A single PDF/MS Word file with no more than 2,500 words of text (about 10 pages, typed, double-spaced, with 11-point typeface).
- **Resume:** Please provide a professional resume, including exhibition record, publications (for writers), fellowships, and residencies, and other honors – length not to exceed two pages in 11-point typeface (printed, PDF/ MS word document format).
- **Project Proposal:** No more than one page in length, 11-point typeface (printed, PDF/MS word document format). Proposal should address:
 - Why you are interested in the AiR residency with the Bureau of Land Management, Canyon Country District?
 - Potential for the development of your professional growth/interests.
 - Proposal for one public presentation during your residency.
- **Additional Questions:**
 - What specific experience do you have as an artist working with the public?

- Are you interested in field trips or meetings with BLM resource staff? What type of experience(s) could the BLM facilitate for you to enhance your understanding of the area during the residency?
- What kind of experience do you have with living/working outdoors in a remote setting? How do you feel about living in an area that has limited cell and internet service?
- Running water is not always available at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station. It may be turned off at any time in October when freezing becomes a concern. Would you feel comfortable “glamping” in a tiny home with drinking water supplied in 5-gallon jugs?

ART SAMPLE GUIDELINES:

-Visual Artists (photographers, painters, printmakers, ect): Five (5) different visual images, on labeled 35mm slides or digital storage media (if emailed). Digital images must be in JPEG file format, at 300 dpi, not to exceed 5MB each in file size. If mailing, printed images must not exceed 8x10 in size. Use your last name and image number in the file name.

· Videographers: Submit two productions, or segments thereof, not to exceed 5 minutes total, on CD/DVD in MPEG file format.

· Writers: Submit up to 10 pages of written samples, double-spaced, printed or in PDF/Word (.doc) format, with 11-point typeface.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Final selections are based on the merit and professionalism of the artist and the proposal. Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- ART: Artistic merit of sample work submitted
- PROPOSAL: Originality, quality, feasibility. Proposal should address program goals and natural or cultural resources within Canyon Country Districts hosting Field Office.
- INTEREST: Interest in Canyon Country District and how residency addresses professional goals and interest.
- EXPERIENCE: Applicant's background and previous accomplishments

SELECTION PROCESS:

BLM employees from each Field Office will participate in the selection process. A panel of staff and/or partners will review applications, and choose one artist, with one alternative selected. Selection is based on artistic portfolio, experience, response to application questions, and the statement of purpose/project and how the artist’s work can communicate Canyon Country District’s significance and its relevance to visitors.

APPLICATION PERIOD:

Applications will be accepted **April 4, 2023 through May 27, 2023**. Applications must be complete and sent by postal mail or email to the address below. Selection will be made, and applicant notified in **July 2023**.

Mail: Bureau of Land Management
365 North Main
Monticello, UT 84535
Attn: Artist-In Residence Program

Email: Rachel Wootton, AiR Coordinator - rwootton@blm.gov