



Boston Harbor Islands Artist In Residence

2018 Request for Proposals

THEME: ADAPTATION

Boston Harbor Now is excited to announce the call for residency proposals for the third year of our Boston Harbor Islands Artist in Residence (AIR) program. The largest recreational open space in Eastern Massachusetts, the Boston Harbor Islands are minutes from downtown Boston and surrounding communities, offering views of the city, remarkable history, and recreation opportunities. The park attracts over 1/2 million visitors annually and provides important wildlife habitat areas. We seek artists whose practice will engage with the theme of *adaptation* and connect with the natural environment, culture, and history of the Boston Harbor Islands and offer a new twist that reflects the mission of the Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park to engage and educate new audiences about the unique elements that comprise Boston Harbor. Projects will be selected by a juried process.

Other key points about the Residency:

- Artists will have free water transportation to Boston and other islands, and interisland transportation to Lovell's, Peddocks, Grape, or Bumpkin until Labor Day.
- Opportunities to camp midweek on Lovell's Peddocks, Grape or Bumpkin until Labor Day.
- Artists will share their work with the public on one open studio day, towards the end of their residency. Public engagement must be thoughtful and planned and communicated with park staff. During open studio day, volunteers (or park staff if available) will help with interpretation and setting the context for the work as appropriate.
- Outside of the workshops, artists are encouraged to consider public involvement as part of their process.

HONORARIUM: Selected applicants will receive an unrestricted \$1,500. A website featuring work of the awarded artists will be maintained in coordination with the artists.

HOW TO APPLY: Fill out application at <https://goo.gl/forms/dANCuPmVlg7Cp33i1>. Link can also be accessed on our website <http://www.bostonharbornow.org/recreation/>

WHO CAN APPLY: People who love parks and have an understanding and respect for park processes and public space are encouraged to apply. The residency is open to artists including writers, poets, photographers, new media artists, dancers, choreographers, filmmakers, 2D fine artists, architects, designers, musicians, and composers. Collaborative groups may apply for the residencies, although accommodations are generally not set up for large groups with more than two people. See details below.

Info Session: Thursday, January 11, 5:30-7:00 pm at the Boston Harbor Hotel Leventhal Room

Deadline: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at 11:59pm

For questions contact art@bostonharbornow.org



PROPOSAL DETAILS

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE (subject to change at the discretion of event organizers)

- November 30 RFP Release
- Thursday, January 11 from 5:30-7:30: Info session at the Boston Harbor Hotel Leventhal Room
- Tuesday, January 30, 2017 at 11:59pm: Artist's Project Applications due.
- Early February: Jury meets to select artists.
- Mid February: Stakeholders review selected artist proposals and follow up with artists regarding any questions.
- Late February: Artists are selected and notified
- May: AIR's and stakeholders meet on the island for a site visit
- August-September: Residencies
- Fall 2018: Exhibition of works/performance/screening/etc on the mainland after the residency to share what was created and explored during the residency.

As part of the application, artists will be required to sign an agreement which details the following rules of conduct per [Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation](#):

- No Digging on any state property.
- Alcohol is prohibited
- Carry-on carry-off is our policy—there are no trash cans on the islands. No littering.
- There are no open campfires allowed
- Charcoal or fuel cooking stoves are allowed at designated camp or picnic sites.
- Cutting, removing, defacing, or otherwise causing damage to any natural or man-made object is prohibited.
- Respect Wildlife. Watch animals from a distance and never feed or follow them.
- Bicycle riding, amplified music, bonfires, firearms, fireworks, any explosive devices are prohibited.
- Service dogs are permitted on all islands, pets are restricted to ensure resource protection and visitor safety.
- Boat captains have discretion to deny passage for any violation of rules and regulations.

General rules during art making activities

- Artists may not use any materials or processes that are detrimental to the environment or unsafe for the public.
- Artists are required to supply their own food for the duration of the artist activities. Note - there are snack bars on Spectacle and George's Islands but no stores
- The islands are carry on/carry off: all trash must be brought off island with you by the end of the residency.
- All work must be dismantled and removed from the island and the end of the residency.
- Artists must accept full responsibility of their art and members of their group.

Artist accommodations:

- Rustic live/work studio space is available in a yurt on Spectacle Island. The yurt has are 2 beds, and the artist may choose to commute daily or sleep there. Bathrooms are in the visitor center, about a 2 minute walk from the yurt. There is a cold water rinse station by the beach area about a 2 minute walk from the yurt. If requested, a camp stove and camp kitchen will be provided for cooking. There is electricity in the yurt.
- A private bedroom with access to a shared restroom and kitchen is available above the visitor's center on George's Island and may be available depending on the nature of the artist's proposal. Secure studio space on George's is not available at this time.



Logistical considerations for the AIR:

- Regular public access to Boston is available.
- There are concessions on both Spectacle and George's Islands that sell food, drinks, and snacks. In September, concessions are open on the weekends only.
- Artists must bring their own tools and equipment. Access to larger tools and equipment (wheelbarrow, ladder, etc) can be requested as part of the application process but this does not guarantee the use of these items.
- Opportunities to camp on Lovells, Peddocks, Grape, or Bumpkin midweek may be available (August only) with a DCR camping permit, which we can help with.
- Spectacle and George's Islands in August are very busy, with hundreds of visitors daily.
- Spectacle and George's Islands in September are less busy. Artists would have more of a peaceful experience and more opportunities to experience the island quietly.
- Most accommodations are ADA accessible - reasonable accommodations available upon request.

The deadline is Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at 11:59pm

REQUIRED APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS:

- ★ CV in either PDF or Word format.
- ★ No more than 10 sample works, submitted as a single pdf with multiple pages
- ★ Image list describing the sample works, submitted as a separate document in PDF or Word format
- ★ Time-based work samples such as audio or video that are 3 minutes or shorter.
- ★ Written work samples, limited to 3 page excerpts or less.
- ★ Video and/or written descriptions detailing your plans for the residency:
 - Concept:
 - **What do you plan to create** during the residency?
 - How does your residency proposal **relate to the resources and significance of Boston Harbor?** (i.e. why do you need to be on the harbor to do this work as opposed to being in the usual spaces you work in?)
 - How will your work respond to the **theme of *Adaptation***?
 - Process
 - Describe your **studio practice**.
 - Describe the **process** as you envision it unfolding to create the work you are proposing.
 - Describe how you see **public engagement** playing out and how it will influence the work.
 - Describe how you might structure an open studios experience. Would it be on the island somewhere? In the yurt? On a boat? Would it be a performance preview? Describe the **general audience/user group**.
 - Logistics:
 - What is the preferred duration for your residency?
 - August or September?
 - What are your preferred accommodations?
 - Spectacle, live/work
 - Spectacle, studio only and commute each day
 - Georges, live in, but no studio space.

BOSTON HARBOR
[RE]CREATION



2017 SELECTION COMMITTEE

Carolina Aragon, Public Artist and Assistant Professor in Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, UMass Amherst; Lucas Cowan, Public Art Curator; The Greenway; Ashleigh Gordon, Composer and Musician, Castle of Our Skins; Carolyn Lewenberg, Boston Harbor [Re]creation; Annis Sengupta, Arts and Culture Planner, Metropolitan Area Planning Council; Rebecca Smerling, Director of Programs and Special Projects, Boston Harbor Now; Charles Tracy, National Park Service, Denise Sarno-Bucca, Department of Conservation and Recreation.