Georgia Sea Grant’s Artists, Writers and Scholars (AWS) Program

Program Goal: Georgia Sea Grant seeks to leverage arts and humanities to advance its mission. By recognizing and awarding financial support to artists, writers, and scholars, Georgia Sea Grant will strengthen artistic voices, and enhance Georgia’s profile as a place where artists, writers and scholars can live and thrive while offering fresh perspectives on our coastal resources.

Georgia Sea Grant’s Artists, Writers and Scholars (AWS) program will support artists, writers, and scholars in the humanities to produce professional-quality art and literature that increases awareness of Georgia’s coastal, ocean and marine environments, improves understanding of Georgia’s coastal communities, and/or helps document history, culture, or heritage of Georgia’s coast. Creative projects that could be supported by this program include paintings, graphic art, sculpture, musical compositions, photography, poetry, science fiction, film, and digital media.

Funding Information: 3-5 grants that range from $1,000 (minimum) to $5,000 (maximum) will be awarded directly to artists and writers.

Award Period: Award start and end dates will be August 1, 2021 to July 31, 2022.

Eligibility: Artists, writers or scholars who live in Georgia and whose work is related to Georgia’s coastal, ocean and marine environments will be eligible for funding consideration.

Georgia Sea Grant encourages applications from individuals from historically marginalized groups, including Black or African-American, American Indian, Hispanic or Latino, female, first-generation college students, veterans, LGBTQ+ and individuals with disabilities.

Application: Applications will be submitted using Georgia Sea Grant’s electronic proposal management system, eseagrant (eseagrant.uga.edu) and will include the following components.

- 2-page proposal outlining the objectives of the project, relevance of the project to Georgia’s coastal, ocean and marine environments, specific plan for performing or exhibiting the work, and plans to reach the broader public.
- Itemized budget and corresponding justification.
- 2-page resume summarizing professional credentials.
- A portfolio of work samples that showcases previous projects containing images/videos/text/audio files.

Application Deadline: Submissions will be accepted at any time up until the deadline for the 2021 funding year which is May 31, 2021.

Evaluation Criteria: Applications will be evaluated on the basis of intellectual merit which includes likelihood of advancing public knowledge, understanding or appreciation of Georgia’s coastal, ocean and marine environments, and broader impact which includes ways in which the project will reach broader audiences through exhibits, musical performances, shows at galleries, displays in museums, sculptures in accessible places, or publications in books or magazines). Artistic accomplishments and budget justification will also be considered during evaluation.
Notification of the Award: Verbatim copies of reviews not including the identity of the reviewer, will be provided to the applicant.

Terms of Award: The following conditions will apply to all AWS awards.

- Awards will be made in the form of two checks – one issued at the beginning and another at the conclusion of the project. Award recipients will need to enroll as a vendor in University of Georgia’s vendor system and submit a signed non-employee payment form or an invoice to receive their award payment.
- Georgia Sea Grant must be acknowledged in all products resulting from the project. This includes any promotional or printed matter associated with the development of artistic or scholarly products.
- Award recipients should work with Georgia Sea Grant’s communication department for promotion and communication related to exhibits or shows that result from Sea Grant funded projects.
- Awardees will also be asked to give permission to Georgia Sea Grant to use images representing the work in promoting the program’s accomplishments.
- A written report of the results of creative activities supported by Sea Grant, including visual documentation of the artistic pieces and other outcomes, is required at the conclusion of the project.