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

Program Goal: In addition to the sciences, Georgia Sea Grant leverages arts and humanities to advance its mission. By recognizing and awarding financial support to artists, writers, and scholars, the program strengthens artistic voices, and enhances Georgia’s profile as a place where artists, writers and scholars can live and thrive while offering fresh perspectives on our coastal and marine resources.

Georgia Sea Grant’s Artists, Writers and Scholars (AWS) program supports artists, writers, and scholars in the humanities to produce professional-quality art and literature that increases awareness of Georgia’s coastal and marine environments, improves understanding of coastal communities, and/or helps document history, culture, or heritage of our 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 AWS grant recipients.

Award Period: Projects begin on August 1, 2022 and must be completed by July 31, 2023.

Eligibility: Artists, writers or scholars who live in Georgia and whose proposed work is relevant or related to Georgia’s coastal and marine environments are eligible to apply.

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 must be submitted using Georgia Sea Grant’s electronic proposal management system, eseagrant (eseagrant.uga.edu). It should include the following components.

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

Application Deadline: Submissions will be accepted at any time up until the deadline for the 2022 funding year which is May 31, 2022.

Evaluation Criteria: Applications will be evaluated based on 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.
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.