

Artists, Writers, and Scholars Program

Request for Proposals

Program Goal

Georgia Sea Grant's *Artists, Writers, and Scholars (AWS)* program advances public understanding and engagement with Georgia's coastal ecosystems by supporting innovative projects that produce professional-quality art and literature that reaches broad, cross-cultural audiences. Creative projects that could be supported by this program include paintings, murals, graphic art, sculpture, indoor or outdoor installations, musical compositions, photography, poetry, science fiction, film, and digital media.

We encourage applicants to connect with Sea Grant funded researchers or our staff for potential collaborations. Sea Grant funded projects are listed on the following webpage: <https://gacoast.uga.edu/research/funding/current-projects/> A complete list of our staff is available on the following webpage: <https://gacoast.uga.edu/about/about-us/staff-list/>

Funding Information

Georgia Sea Grant anticipates making 4-6 awards that range from \$1,000 (minimum) to \$5,000 (maximum). Funds can be used to cover time, cost of resources to complete new work (e.g., professional art supplies or equipment), space rental, audio-video documentation, websites, portfolios, exhibits and/or travel.

Award Period

Award start and end dates are August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024.

Eligibility

Artists, writers or scholars who live in Georgia, and whose work is related to Georgia's coastal and marine environments are eligible to apply for funding.

Individuals from groups that have generally experienced low levels of access to Sea Grant opportunities, including Black or African-American, American Indian, Hispanic or Latino, women, first-generation college students, veterans, LGBTQ+ and individuals with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Application

Applications must be submitted via email to Mona Behl (mbehl@uga.edu). Please include the following application materials in one PDF file:

- 2-page proposal outlining the following
 - Goals of the project
 - Alignment with Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant's 2024-2027 Strategic Plan (<https://gacoast.uga.edu/about/about-us/overview/>).
 - Specific plan for creating or performing the project
 - Connection to any previously funded Sea Grant projects, and
 - Outreach plans to reach the broader public including but not limited to exhibitions

- 1-page 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

Timeline

March 15	RFP Released
April 30	Applications Due
Mid-June	Notification of Decisions

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 or professional 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.

Program Contacts

- For questions about Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant or program priorities, please contact director Mark Risse at mrisse@uga.edu
- For questions about eligibility or submission requirements, please contact associate director Mona Behl at mbehl@uga.edu