

Artists, Writers, and Scholars Program

Request for Proposals

Program Goal

Marine Extension and 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 research projects are listed on the following webpage: <https://gacoast.uga.edu/current-projects/>. A complete list of our staff is available on the following webpage: <https://gacoast.uga.edu/staff-list/>

Funding Information

Marine Extension and 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 July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

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.

Application

Applications must be submitted using Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant's electronic proposal management system, eseagrnt (eseagrnt.uga.edu), and include the following components:

1. 2-page proposal outlining the following
 - Goals of the project
 - Alignment with 2024-2027 [strategic plan](#)
 - Specific plan for creating or performing the project
 - Connection to any Sea Grant funded research projects, and
 - Plans to reach the broader public including but not limited to exhibitions
2. 1-page itemized budget and corresponding justification
3. 2-page resume summarizing professional credentials
4. A brief portfolio (5 pages maximum) of work samples that showcases previous projects

containing images/videos/text/audio files

Timeline

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|----------|--------------------|
| March 12 | RFP released |
| April 21 | Applications due |
| June end | Decisions notified |

Submission Details

Applications can be submitted via email to Mona Behl at mbehl@uga.edu. Please make sure that the subject line reads: 2025 AWS Proposal - First and Last Name of the Applicant (e.g., 2025 AWS Proposal - Jane Doe)

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.
- Marine Extension and 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 Marine Extension and 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 Marine Extension and 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 mrise@uga.edu

- For questions about eligibility or submission requirements, please contact associate director Mona Behl at mbehl@uga.edu