



**NATIONAL
CONSERVATION
LANDS**

**Bureau of Land Management/ Friends of Black Rock-High
Rock/ Black Rock Desert NCA Artist-in-Residence
Program
2021 Application**

First name:

Last Name:

Email:

Address 1:

Address 2:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone #:

Art Medium:

**Important
Information:**

Deadline: April 30

Announcement of selected artists: May 15

Residency to be completed: June-September

Send Submission Packet to:

Friends of Black Rock-High Rock
Attn: AiR Program Manager
P.O. Box 224
Gerlach NV 89412

Application requirements

Applicants should submit applicant information page from this application (page 1), resume detailing experience and accomplishments, sample of artwork following guidelines detailed below, and a statement of purpose explaining interest in program, potential for personal growth during residency, and how work will contribute to interpretation/ appreciation of the Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area (NCA).

Mediums accepted

All mediums will be considered. Traditional mediums submitted have included printmaking, painting, sketching (pastels, charcoal, pencil), photography, written word, videography, installation, sculpture and music submissions.

Sample Artwork Guidelines

Please send artwork on CD/DVD and/or USB drive. An URL to view online content may also be included if desired but will not be considered as substitute for hard copies. (Unplayable discs or corrupt USB drives will prevent applications from being considered.)

Artwork samples must showcase at least 6 individual pieces or performances dated within the past five years. For each piece, please include an identification sheet with relevant information (title, medium, date, etc..)

- For still visual art mediums, please include 6-10 images (in JPG or TIF formats). Up to two videos with combined run times of no more than 4 minutes (as MP4 or AVI) may also be submitted if desired.
- For video mediums, please submit 2-3 videos with a combined run time of no longer than 10 minutes in MP4 or AVI formats.
- For audio mediums, please submit 2-3 soundbites with a combined run time of no longer than 10 minutes in MP3 or WAV formats.
- For literary submissions, please submit 2-5 samples in standard 12pt font, double spaced, not to exceed 10 pages.

If you feel these stipulations might prevent your artwork from being communicated effectively and would like to request another submission format for consideration, send a description of limitations and suggested solution to Stacey Wittek at stacey@blackrockdesert.org.

FAQ's

The Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails NCA landscape is remote and desolate. It is surrounded by ten Wilderness Areas; each has its own unique landscape characteristics. This National Conservation Area is steeped in cultural history of both indigenous people and settlers and is home to dramatic unpopulated desert landscapes. We are excited to see how artists will interpret this ancient place through their work!

What if an artist is unable to stay the full two weeks?

We ask that you, the artist, be transparent about the time you can commit. We will remain flexible on your and our behalf.

How are artists selected for the Residency Program?

There is a 5-person jury to curate selections from the applicant pool. Selections will be based solely on work submitted. Jurors will have access to resumes, names and locales. Each year new jurors are selected.

Are collaborative teams accepted?

Yes. Collaborative teams applying should submit work that represents the collaboration, not individual work.

Are students allowed to participate in the residency program?

Yes, students over 18 may participate. In fact, all artists submitting work must be over 18 to be accepted.

Are spouses/partners/family/pets allowed with the artist during the residency?

Spouses, partners, family are allowed to participate and stay with the artist. No pets are allowed in the provided lodging other than special needs animals. Any artist wanting to bring a pet would be required to provide their own lodging.

Does the program offer grants for travel to and from residency housing?

This particular program does not cover expenses for travel or shipping. However, a small stipend of \$700 is given to the artist to use how the artist chooses.

What are the living/workspaces like?

The artist workspace is the entire NCA and surrounding area. Artists will have access to the Friends of Black Rock-High Rock Visitor Center during normal business hours. The BLM visitor contact station, Black Rock Field Station, will be open five days a week as well. The artist residence home is located in Gerlach, Nevada. Bed linens are provided. Laundry facilities are available only at the local laundry mat. There will be ample parking.

What is the community of Gerlach like?

Gerlach is a one-of-a-kind western community in the true sense of the word. The restaurant and library are within walking distance, as well as the Visitor Center operated by Friends of Black Rock-High Rock. This modest town is known for its simplicity and remoteness. Hardware and supply stores are nonexistent. Errands can be arranged with the staff at the Visitor Center.

What is the weather like?

This northwestern corridor of Nevada is filled with micro-climates which change at a moment's notice. Wind can gust up to 70 miles an hour. Dust storms, rain, sleet and snow can appear in any season. Clothes must be diverse to prepare for any and all conditions. Driving on the desert surface, or playa, is not recommended within 72 hours of a rainstorm. Other areas of the NCA are accessible in wet weather. These micro-climates enhance the wilderness areas and wildlife ecosystems which will assist in telling the story through artistic interpretations.

Are there specific sites to be considered for artistic work?

Yes, several sites have been selected for the artist to consider. Some are remote and will require overnight camping, others are closer to Gerlach and can be day trips. Friends of Black Rock-High Rock can provide tents and sleeping bags if the artist does not own gear. If camping is desired, a set of criteria will be reviewed to ensure your trip is safe and monitored.

Additional information:

Travel to Host Community: The only way to travel to Gerlach, the gateway to the NCA, is by car.

Traveling to art sites: Traveling to art sites is more complex. Friends will be able to drive you to your selected site daily, and to ensure your safety. Camping at your site for a few days is possible. Friends of Black Rock-High Rock can provide camping gear to accommodate your stay in the field. Some locations may require camping on site due to the distances from the community of Gerlach.

Supplies: One art supply run can be made for artist, if needed. Due to the remoteness of the location, no art or hardware stores are readily available. The artist should plan to take all supplies with them to the community site.

Food: The Artist will be given a stipend of \$700 for the two-week duration of their stay. The resident site has a stocked kitchen with all utensils for cooking. There is one local restaurant, though it can be expensive – it is a treat and a cultural experience not to be missed. There is a small convenience store a short distance from Gerlach in Empire, Nevada.

Communication Resources: The local community of Gerlach has spotty internet connectivity and often there is no mobile phone service, especially in the field. A reliable Wi-Fi connection, phone, and desktop computer are available to use at the Visitor Center.

Outreach: The local school has less than fifteen students and limited teacher resources. Seniors meet at lunch regularly throughout the week. As part of their residency, we require that the artist participate in a Community Engagement Project in the local, or a nearby, community. The Black Rock Rendezvous event over Memorial Day weekend is a great opportunity to fulfill this requirement. Receptions will be planned in Reno, Winnemucca, and Gerlach post-residency.

Overview

Friends of Black Rock-High Rock and the BLM will provide:

- Access to locations from Gerlach, if requested
- Tours of potential artistic locations
- Information about the NCA and the local area
- Exhibitions and receptions at end of residency (including invitations, refreshments, installation assistance, etc.)
- Replication of artist's artwork (quantity and method dependent on artist's medium)
- Modest \$700 stipend to artist
- Recognition of achievement in press releases, advertising and promotional materials, on BLM and FBRHR websites.
- Lodging in Gerlach
- Costs of materials (up to \$300 for Community Engagement Project)

Expectations of artist:

- One completed artwork for BLM/FBRHR, created within the NCA
- Be prepared to show a selection of 5-7 other works alongside piece created as Artist in Residence (does not have to be work created in the field and at the time of residency)
- Work in field on art piece
- Greet and speak to groups at two events (Reception and Community Engagement Project). Travel support for Winnemucca/Gerlach/Reno receptions may be available upon request.
- Willingness to speak with media as BLM/FBRHR Artist in Residence
- Grant rights to print designated artwork for use in fundraising or exhibitions
- Participation in a public exhibit of works in at *least* one reception in Gerlach, Reno, and/or Winnemucca.

The artists will retain copyright over their works and agree to grant FBRHR and the BLM a royalty-free, nonexclusive use license allowing us to use images of the artwork for whatever purpose, in perpetuity. When the artist reproduces this artwork for his/her own purposes, publication information must include the language: "This artwork was produced under the Friends of Black Rock-High Rock/Bureau of Land Management Artist-in-Residence Program."

Artist Selection

Selection is based on artistic caliber. Submissions should reflect the artists ability to communicate the values and processes that will be used to interpret the Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area.

Donated Art

The artist may wish to donate a piece of artwork that will be auctioned off during the reception(s) or at the Wild and Scenic Film Festival. Proceeds will be used to offset program operational costs.

Public Presentations

Artists will present one Community Engagement Project during and/or after their residency. This interaction can be tailored to an artist's medium, interest, and experience. Programs can be demonstrations, talks or exploratory walks. Artists must provide their own supplies and equipment for these presentations (a stipend up to \$300 is available for materials). In addition, artists are requested to give public presentations in their own communities about their residency experiences. The Artist-in-Residence Program aspires to share with the public the scenic beauty and stories of the Black Rock Desert NCA through the world of art.

Selection Process

A panel of professionals from diverse artistic disciplines will choose two finalists, with one alternate. Selection is based on artistic merit and statement of purpose.

Program Management

The Black Rock NCA's Artist-in-Residence Program is managed by Friends of Black Rock – High Rock and both the Nevada State and Winnemucca District Offices of the BLM. The works completed under this program will contribute to the public understanding and appreciation of our national conservation areas, helping create a legacy preserved for present and future generations.

Application checklist:

- Application form (first page of this application)
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- Proposal for Community Engagement Project
- Statement of interest in Public Lands

If you have further questions please don't hesitate to contact Friends of Black Rock-High Rock's Executive Director Stacey Wittek at 775-530-6137 or email at stacey@blackrockdesert.org or Kathleen Cadigan at Winnemucca BLM District at 775-623-1589 or kcadigan@blm.gov