Artist-in-Residence Program 2012

Preserving and Perpetuating Southeast Alaska Native Arts

Arts in National Parks

Parks have always worked closely with artists in support of land advocacy. Thomas Moran's evocative and astounding paintings directly influenced the establishment of our first National Park (Yellowstone, 1872). This tradition continues today at Sitka National Historical Park with the inauguration of an Artist-in-Residence program– one of more than 50 throughout the National Park system.

Haida artist Charlie Skultka at work on a copper *tinaa* in Sitka National Historical Park.

Arts at Sitka National Historical Park

Southeast Alaska Native art has long played an essential role in the development of Sitka National Historical Park. Since 1906 when Alaska Governor John G. Brady and noted photographer E.W. Merrill first installed Haida and Tlingit totem poles "in an artistically pleasing manner" along Lover's Lane, the park has demonstrated a commitment to the preservation and perpetuation of Native arts.

Tlingit artist Tommy Joseph carves a traditional helmet.

When the park's visitor center opened in 1963, a wing of the building was dedicated to a Board of Indian Arts and Crafts Program. At first, this program featured Alaska Native arts from all across the state. In 1968, however, Sitka's Alaska Native Brotherhood Camp No.1 joined the National Park Service to assume management of the program and to refine its focus to traditional Native arts of Southeast Alaska. Over the years, the program's management has evolved, but its dedication to the preservation and perpetuation of Native Southeast Alaska arts and culture has remained firm.

Goals of Sitka's Artist-in-Residence (AIR) Program

The AIR program is designed to:

- Foster the preservation, perpetuation and interpretation of Southeast Alaska Native arts and culture.
- Offer park visitors and the Southeast Alaska community an opportunity to see our heritage through the eyes of contributing artists.

Dates of Residencies

Early Summer (May 14-July 13, 2012)
Late Summer (July 16 – September 14, 2012)

Who May Apply

Southeast Alaska Native artists preferred, but all artists skilled in **traditional Southeast Alaska Native arts** may apply. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age by time of residency.

Expectations of the Artist

Chosen artists will be required to:

- Work in the park's studio a minimum of **32 hours/week** during residency
- Present two 45-minute **public educational programs** within the park during residency and/or participate in other activities as agreed upon mutually with park staff.
- Provide **digital images of work** produced during their residency within one year and grant the right to use those digital images in **park publications, websites and presentations for education, outreach and marketing activities.**

Selection Criteria

Artists will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- **Artistic Merit**: Artistic quality, merit, and relevance of the work submitted.
- **Statement of Purpose**: The quality of the artist's statement including an explanation of how this residency will benefit both the artist and the park.

A committee of park staff, park partners, and community arts leaders will review application materials.

Accommodations

Housing is provided at no cost to selected artist.

Honorarium

A one-time, taxable honorarium/award of $750 will be offered to each artist.

Artist-in-Residence Program Application (2012)

I am applying for _____ Early Summer 2012 _____ Late Summer 2012
(Artists may participate in only one residence experience, however, to be considered for both residencies, please check both.)

Name_____
Address _____
Telephone (Day)_____(Evening)_____
Email:_____
Artistic Discipline: (Fiber arts or other traditional media)
_____

APPLICATION ENCLOSURE CHECKLIST

All applicants will submit TWO identical CDs that contain:

- ☐ Current resume or curriculum vitae in .doc or .docx format
- ☐ List of 3 references with current contact information including names, telephone, mail address, and email address in .doc or .docx format
- ☐ Statement of Purpose for Residency, one page in length in .doc or .docx format addressing:
  - Relevance of your art to Sitka National Historical Park
  - Potential for personal growth
  - Opportunities for public engagement/education
- ☐ Sample of Artistic Work. This should consist of 6 images of 6 different pieces of your work in jpg or tif format not to exceed 3MB in size.
- ☐ This filled out and signed application form.

I agree to the stated expectations, should I be selected as the Artist-in-Residence.

Applicant Signature_____ Date _____

Please note: Application materials including CDs will NOT be returned.

MAIL APPLICATION AND MATERIALS TO:

Becky Latanich, Chief of Interpretation and Education
Sitka National Historical Park
103 Monastery Street
Sitka, AK 99835

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 1, 2012.
For more information please contact:
Becky Latanich at becky_latanich@nps.gov or 907-747-0132.

Alaska Geographic

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE