ROLES OF THE ARTIST

Artists are asked, with advance notice, to allow park visitors to observe them at work in their cabin studio or in a plein aire setting. These visitors will include participants in several outreach and educational programs for school children, higher education students, and adults the Catoctin Forest Alliance sponsors in collaboration wth the State and Federal parks on the mountain.

END OF SEASON EXHIBIT

The Catoctin Forest Alliance will conduct a well-publicized and juried gala art exhibit during the month of October of works done by residency artists. The exhibit may also contain works by students and adults particpating in the fine arts education programs coordinated by the CFA.

DONATION OF A WORK BY RESIDENT ARTISTS

As a condition of residency under most circumstances, the artist is asked to donate a work created on the mountain to the Catoctin Forest Alliance, a (501(c)(3) non-profit organization as a tax-deductable gift. The CFA will employ and display these gifts to promote conservation, history and the arts with tourists and the local community organizations.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

At the present time, amateur and professional two-and three-dimensional artists as well as photographers, videographers, writers and poets are encouraged to apply to the program. In the future we expect to open it to musicians, composers and those in the performing arts.

APPLICATION AND SCHEDULE

The project will accept applications from December 1 through January 31 for the spring season (May 1 – May 31). Application may be made for one- or two- week periods. Applications for the fall period (September 1 through September 30) will be accepted from June 1 through July 31. Appointment confirmations will be sent out on February 28 and August 31.

The on-line application can be found at the Catoctinair website at: www.catoctinair.org or from the AIR link at the Catoctin Forest Alliance website:

sites.google.com/site/catoctinforestalliance/

In addition to your background and contact information, the application will ask for four examples of your recently completed work.

If you prefer to complete an application off line or to receive a hard copy of the application, please write to us in care of:

Artist-in-Residence Project
Catoctin Forest Alliance
6602 Foxville Rd.
Thurmont, MD 21788
www.nps.gov/cato

A disc containing examples of your work should accompany your application.

Catoctin Forest Artist-In-Residence

PROJECT

In 2009, The Catoctin Forest Alliance, a conservancy dedicated to preserving and promoting the health of the Catoctin Mountain Forest, developed an artist-in-residence project on the mountain at the request of the Catoctin Mountain Park.

Now, in 2010, we are launching this project with artists first taking residency in September of 2010 and applications being accepted after June 1st.

ARTIST-FRIENDLY

Every effort has been made to give the artists comfortable accommodations and information to help get the most out of their residency. Upon arrival Sunday afternoon at the Misty Mount Recreation Area, you will be met by a forest ranger "angel" who will help unload your baggage and give you a map of hiking trails, the best fishing spots and the most beautiful and historical sites throughout the mountain as well as information on flora and fauna and local conservation efforts. Many well-marked and maintained hiking trails can be found in the park.

Camp Misty Mount, where the artists will stay, is a wooded area with 29 WPA log cabins built in the 1930s and listed today on the National Registry of Historic Places. Cabin #16, the designated AIR cabin, has two bedrooms and a studio, two toilets, one with shower, a small kitchen with microwave, a small stove, a refrigerator, and a sink with hot and cold running water.

SUBJECT MATTER

The area has many compelling subjects for artists. Within the Catoctin Alliance conservation area of interest, which extends from the Pennsylvania border to Route 70 and about two miles out from the base of the mountain, you will find many historic sites, farms, quaint villages, rivers and streams, waterfalls, lakes, and other scenic views.

While development threatens the watershed of the mountain, much of it, although in private hands, is a second growth forest. Among the historic sites in the area is the Catoctin Furnace, where a foundry was in operation as far back as the Revolutionary War, when it provided ammunition for the Continental Army.

NATIVE SPECIES – SOME RECOVERING, OTHERS FACE EXTIRPATION

Catoctin Mountain Park is home to more than 280 native animal species and 750 native plant species. Resident and migratory bird species that can be seen range from petite dark-eyed juncos to an occasional bald eagle. Frogs, toads, lizards, snakes, and turtles may be spotted by the careful observer, while white-tailed deer, squirrels, and chipmunks are regularly seen. Catoctin is not known to contain any federally listed threatened or endangered species, but is home to 11 plant and one animal species classified by the state of Maryland as endangered, threatened, or a species of concern.

As a result of restocking efforts that began in the 1960s, wild turkeys are now common throughout the park. Although their numbers are increasing, the turkeys still face several threats, including loss of habitat from deer overpopulation, poachers, and bad weather that compromises nesting success.

Joining the wild turkeys with an unexpected reappearance are black bears, once extirpated from this part of the state because of timbering and wetland destruction. Since the 1980's, a ban on bear hunting and improved forestry practices have allowed them to be reestablished in Maryland, though park visitors rarely see them.