

Homestead National Monument Of America



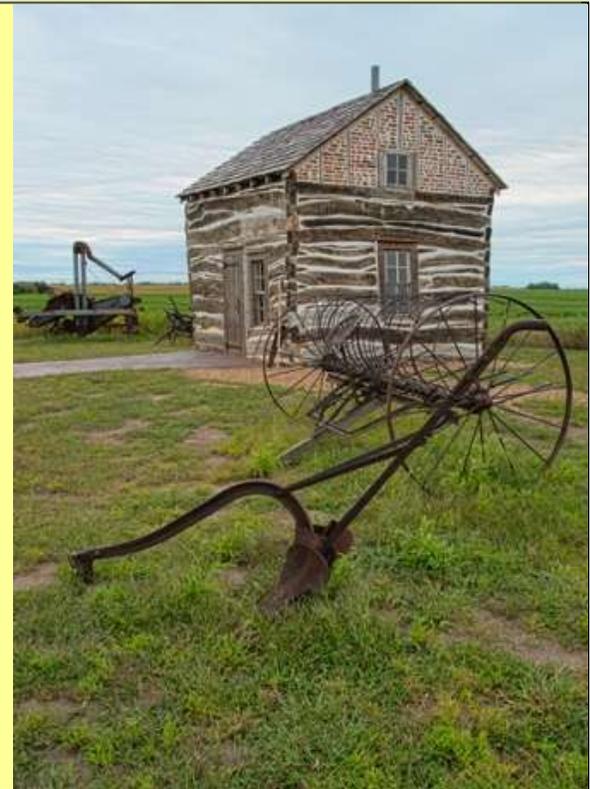
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Artist-in-Residence Program

19th century painters such as Thomas Moran stimulated the establishment of national parks by documenting the unbelievable landscapes of the American West. Through their work, today's artists help us make meaningful connections to our national parks. Visual and performing artists, writers, and composers are invited to live and work at Homestead National Monument of America.

2012 is the fourth year of Homestead's Artist-in-Residence program and a special year for the monument. This year we are seeking artists who want to partner with us during their residency to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Homestead Act. Residency periods can vary from 2 weeks to 3 months beginning in April through October 2012. Periods can be split. Proposed dates are to be identified as part of the submitted package.



The opportunity to live and work in Homestead National Monument of America benefits the selected professional artist, and those who will enjoy their artwork today and in the future. The Artist-in-Residence program at Homestead National Monument of America offers professional artists (fine art painters, sculptors, fine art photographers*, performers, writers, video/filmmakers, composers or other fine art media) the opportunity to spend a period of time working on their artwork and living in park housing.

** Fine art photography does not include basic documentary work or scenic postcard and calendar type images. Photographs submitted should express a unique creative vision, and be fine art in presentation and style.*



Outcomes of a Residency

Willingness to share your inspiration with others is a central tenet of the Artist-in-Residence Program.

The resident artist shall present a minimum of two public programs during the residency. These presentations shall be based on the artist's work, experiences, and interests, and may include art workshops in your medium, artist demonstrations, etc. All presentations should be developed in consultation with park staff, and should be appropriate for general park audiences.

Painters, potters, sculptors, and other artists, when appropriate, will be encouraged to work daily in view of park visitors.

The participating artist will donate an original work representative of his or her medium which embodies the values of Homestead's interpretive themes (see below).

Any donated artwork must be received within one year of the residency. All expenses for materials and for delivery of the artwork to the park shall be the responsibility of the artist.

Artists shall permit park staff to photograph artwork created during the residency, and programs given during the residency. The artist shall sign a photo release to the National Park Service for use of images of the artwork from the residency, and images of activities associated with the residency. Donated artwork and/or associated images will not be used for commercial purposes, but may be used for education or interpretation by the National Park Service or Eastern National, the monument's cooperating association.

Housing: RV pad is available with full hookups, or park housing may be available to the resident artist.



Interpretive Themes of Homestead

The Artist-in-Residence Program is designed to interpret the park's many cultural and natural resources through the unique creative vision of each artist chosen. The park's most important interpretive themes have been defined to help focus interpretive efforts:

Westward Expansion & Immigration



The Homestead Act:

- was successful in its intent to encourage settlement of the American West.
- was presented as an opportunity to obtain the "American Dream" of owning your own land and determining your own future.
- encouraged European immigration to the United States and its results are still evident in the communities of the Great Plains.

Industry & Agricultural Revolution



Human needs and circumstances of the land led to accelerated technological development in the areas of agriculture, transportation, and communication.

Social Change & Community



Solomon Butcher

The Homestead Act hastened the relocation and dissipation of American Indians and permanently altered their way of life.

The Homestead Act changed the American social structure through its other disenfranchised individuals to establish homesteads and own land.

The Natural World



The restoration of the tallgrass prairie provides the opportunity for the visitor to visualize and interact with the historic landscape which rapidly vanished due to the settlement precipitated by the Homestead Act.

Cultivation of the West significantly enhanced the development of our nation, yet resulted in the alteration of existing ecosystems.

Application Details

Please submit:

- 1) A completed Volunteer Application for Natural Resource Agencies (Form #[OF301 06 07.pdf](#))
- 2) A Statement of Purpose: Please explain what you hope to accomplish during your residency at the monument and how you will incorporate this year's 150th commemoration of the Homestead Act. Also explain how you will: a) use at least one of the park's interpretive themes in your work; b) use the stay to contribute to your artistic development; and c) what you will contribute to benefit the park. In addition, we desire to host artists who want to be visible and interact with visitors. Please also include your vision of interacting and sharing your art with the public. (no more than one page)
- 3) A List of desired residency dates and length of time
- 4) A List of exhibitions and/or teaching experiences
- 5) Samples of works (do not send originals): Send prints or digital files (.jpg preferable) of 6 different images. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope, if you would like print samples returned to you. Submit the items and information via mail, email, and/or fax. Any application with incomplete materials will not be considered.
- 6) A List of three professional references with contact information

Mail: Homestead National Monument of America,
8523 West State Highway 4, Beatrice, NE 68310-6742
Email: Allison_Alley@nps.gov
Phone: 402-223-3514 Fax: 402-228-4231

Application Deadline

Entries will be accepted with postmarks dated on or before **February 29, 2012** (or accepted via email by that date). Selectees will be notified no later than **March 31, 2012**.

Applications postmarked (or received via email or fax) after this date will not be considered.

Selection Process

Selection is based on artistic merit as demonstrated by the examples submitted, the ideas expressed in the statement of purpose, the feasibility and potential public interest of proposed public programs, and the willingness to accept the conditions of the National Park residency opportunity. A panel of National Park Service representatives chooses the artists and alternates.



For additional questions about the Artist-in-Residence Program,
contact Park Guide Allison Alley

Email: Allison_Alley@nps.gov Phone: 402-223-1719