

Homestead National Monument Of America



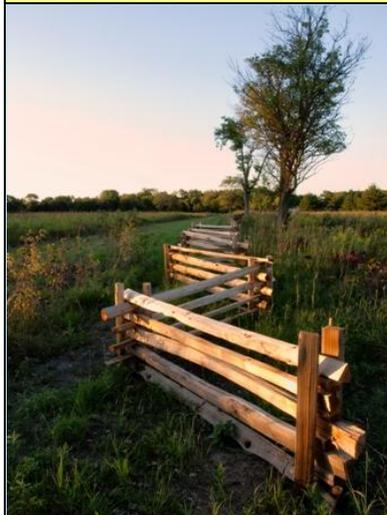
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Artist-in-Residence Program

Artists have been intimately tied to national parks since the 19th century, when painters such as Thomas Moran documented the majestic landscapes of the American West. These artists played a crucial role in stimulating the establishment, visitation, and appreciation of these national parks. Today, artists still find inspiration in national parks and continue to help us make meaningful connections to our Nation's special places.

The Artist-in-Residence program at Homestead National Monument of America invites professional artists (fine art painters, sculptors, fine art photographers, performers, writers, video/filmmakers, composers, etc.) to spend a period of time working on their artwork and living in park housing. These artists channel their individual talent into one-of-a-kind pieces inspired by the homestead story and park environment. The opportunity to live and work at Homestead National Monument of America benefits the selected artist as well as those who will experience their artwork today and in the future.



The year 2014 is the sixth year of Homestead's Artist-in-Residence program. This year we are seeking artists who want to partner with us to explore the theme, "House and Home – Yesterday and Today," among our many other historical and environmental inspirations. We welcome artists of any medium, such as visual and performing artists, composers, and writers. Residency periods are about 2 weeks long, and take place during the months of April through October. Proposed dates are to be identified as part of the submitted application package.

** 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.

Resident artists shall each present one public program during their 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 artist is requested to donate an original work representative of his or her medium which embodies Homestead's interpretive themes (described on next page).

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.

Housing: park housing or RV pad with full hookups is available

Artists shall permit park staff to photograph artwork created 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.



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



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 by allowing disenfranchised groups (women, African Americans, immigrant groups) to establish homesteads and own land.

The Natural World



The prairie, woodland, and creek environments provide beauty, solitude, and ecological importance.

Settlement and cultivation of the West precipitated by the Homestead Act greatly developed the nation, yet drastically altered and eliminated existing ecosystems. The restoration of the tallgrass prairie provides the opportunity to visualize and interact with a historic landscape.

Application Details

Please submit:

- 1) A completed Volunteer Application for Natural Resource Agencies, available at nps.gov/home/supportyourpark/artist-in-residence-program.htm
- 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 theme of "House and Home – Yesterday and Today" into your work. 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 artists who want to be visible and interact with visitors. Please also include your vision of sharing your art with the public in at least one public program. (no more than one page)
- 3) A list of desired dates for your approximately 2 week residency
- 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
Email: Molly_Watters@nps.gov
Phone: 402-223-3514 Fax: 402-228-4231

Application Deadline

Entries will be accepted by **March 31, 2014** via email or mail with postmarks dated on or before that date. Selected artists will be notified no later than **April 15, 2014**.

Applications postmarked, emailed, or faxed after March 31, 2014 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. Artists will be selected by a panel of National Park Service representatives.

For additional questions about the Artist-in-Residence Program, contact Park Guide Molly Watters

Email: Molly_Watters@nps.gov Phone: 402-223-3514

Photo Credits: Mel Mann, Homestead Artist-in-Residence 2010, unless otherwise indicated



Gene Roncka

