CALL FOR ARTISTS

CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE - CENTER FOR COASTAL STUDIES - NOAA MARINE DEBRIS PROGRAM

PUBLIC MARINE DEBRIS ART DISPLAY - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

INTRODUCTION

The Center for Coastal Studies, in partnership with the National Park Service/Cape Cod National Seashore and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Marine Debris Program, is seeking proposals from Cape Cod artists or collaboratives to design and execute a juried public marine debris exhibit(s) to be installed in the National Seashore. The goal of the exhibit is to raise awareness of regional marine debris issues and encourage personal behaviors that can reduce and prevent marine debris. This opportunity is open to established or emerging artists or collaboratives who have a connection with Cape Cod and have a working knowledge of the issue.

BACKGROUND

The Center for Coastal Studies is a non-profit organization dedicated to understanding, preserving and protecting marine ecosystems and the coastal environment through applied research, education and public policy initiatives. The Center collaborates with local, national and international organizations and works with government agencies to promote environmental stewardship and develop policies and management strategies drawn from solid scientific research.

The Center has worked with Cape Cod National Seashore both informally and formally on several resource management projects since the park's inception, and has organized annual shoreline cleanups in the park over the past decade. Data from those cleanup efforts will contribute to this collaboration on marine debris art and may assist the grant recipient in the development of an effective and reflective work. The display/exhibit resulting from this opportunity will support marine debris prevention, outreach, and education undertaken by both the Center for Coastal Studies and the park by reaching new audiences (park visitors and residents), educating about debris sources in the region, raising awareness and encouraging behavior changes to reduce or prevent marine debris.

SCOPE OF WORK

The display(s) will be installed outdoors at high visitation National Seashore location(s) for maximum message exposure to Outer Cape residents and visitors. Because this installation will be on public National Park Service land, it must appeal to, be acceptable to, and be understood by a broad segment of the public from around the region and the nation. The piece must be apolitical and non-partisan in nature and its message may not target a specific industry or manufacturer. The display will be year-round and must be fabricated of durable materials that can withstand salt spray, intense sun, freezing temperatures, high winds, and sand abrasion. According to the Center's data, marine debris generated by the fishing industry (lobstering, aquaculture, angling) and general public activities (dining, smoking, beachgoing, celebrations, construction) are the most common types found in this region and should be reflected in the exhibit. Debris collected on shoreline cleanups in the region will be made available for use in the work but may not be the sole source of material for the artist.

Proposed display materials must withstand extreme weather elements and require only minimal maintenance during the life of the installation, which is anticipated to be 3-4 years. Should maintenance or repairs be necessary, the artist may be consulted for guidance before repairs are made. Installation
setting may be on concrete/asphalt or on/in sand; installation hardware and materials are the responsibility of the artist, and park maintenance staff will assist with final installation. Materials and construction/installation methods must consider structural safety for visitor interaction and meet accessibility requirements; the NPS will provide accessibility specifications at the time of award. Once the piece is submitted and installed, the park will maintain the display onsite, and it becomes the property of the National Park Service/Cape Cod National Seashore.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES
Upon the award of a contract by Center for Coastal Studies, the artist(s) shall fabricate and deliver the display/exhibit within the timeline specified and in accordance with the design and materials approved by all partnering parties.

Artists are encouraged to use marine debris data and/or actual debris from the Cape Cod National Seashore in the development of the final product. The Center for Coastal Studies can provide the data and some of this debris if desired.

To encompass the scope of the marine debris issue in the park, to maximize exposure, and to encourage creativity of design, siting for the installation/s has been recommended by the park to be at Coast Guard Beach (Eastham) and/or Herring Cove Beach (Provincetown). Artist/s will confer with park staff to determine and confirm exact location/s.

BUDGET
Depending on the scale of the proposed exhibits, one or two artists or collaboratives will be selected. Stipend will be based on quality of exhibit and scope of proposal; budget should fall within the $5,000-$15,000 range.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
Proposals must include the following:

- One page (maximum) statement of interest including the artist’s philosophy and approach to public art, and connection to the project, if any.
- One page (maximum) vision statement of the artist’s approach to sharing awareness of regional marine debris issues, including specific concepts and ideas as to how the piece will motivate behavior change in park visitors.
- An artistic proposal with drawings, images, and/or renderings of the proposed piece including a draft of text (if any) to be displayed. Digital images should be in a readily accessible, commonly used format. *Images should be 300 dpi by 1000 pixels on the longest side.*
- A budget proposal highlighting the artist’s pricing scale, material costs, labor, installation, etc.
- A list of marine debris items to be used in the exhibit (if any).
- Résumé which includes documentation of all public and outdoor art or sculptures completed by the artist. Please include links to project or artist websites if applicable.
- Two (2) letters of professional references. References provided as part of this application may be contacted prior to award.
SUBMISSION PROCEDURE
Applicant artists shall submit two hard copies of all printed materials and/or all digital materials in a readily accessible, commonly used format (PDF, JPG, DOC), to the Center for Coastal Studies Marine Debris Program, 5 Holway Avenue, Provincetown, MA, 02657 or via email to LLUDWIG@COASTALSTUDIES.ORG. All submissions must be received by CCS no later than 5:00 PM on June 8, 2022. All materials submitted remain the property of CCS and NPS.

The Center for Coastal Studies and the National Park Service reserve the right to reject any or all proposals and to cancel this procurement at any time if it is seen to be in the best interest of the project. Prospective artists submitting a proposal in response to this Request for Proposals shall be solely responsible for all costs associated with the preparation of the proposal.

EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS
Proposals will be evaluated and assigned a rating of Highly Acceptable, Acceptable, or Not Acceptable, based on the following criteria:

1. The strength of past artwork, including artistic excellence and innovation; appropriateness of previous site-specific work regarding content, scale, form and materials; safety and durability relative to environment, theft, weather and vandalism; experience working in public settings.
2. The strength of the proposed artwork, including artistic excellence and innovation.
3. The ability of the proposed artwork to incorporate design elements - whether literal or metaphorical - that highlight the sources and impacts of marine debris on Outer Cape beaches.
4. The strength of the marine debris reduction/prevention and behavior change messaging – whether inherent to or engendered by the display.
5. The accessibility, structural safety and environmental sensitivity of the proposed exhibit.
6. The durability and level of maintenance of the proposed exhibit relative to the seashore's environment including extreme weather, corrosive aspects of wind, salt and sand.

Proposals will be reviewed by a panel of jurors which may include representatives from the Center for Coastal Studies Marine Debris & Plastics Program, the NOAA Marine Debris Program, the National Park Service and consulting artists.

The selection committee may conduct interviews of all artists who submit a proposal, based on an initial composite rating of Highly Acceptable, in order to gain a better understanding of their approach to the project and to gather additional information needed to conduct a thorough evaluation of the proposal. The screening committee may pose additional questions prior to selection.

TIMELINE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 22, 2022</td>
<td>RFP issued (Earth Day 2022)</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 8, 2022</td>
<td>Deadline for applications (World Ocean Day 2022)</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15, 2022</td>
<td>Announcement of successful applicant/s</td>
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<td>August 2022</td>
<td>Contract issued and review meeting w/ successful applicant to address logistics, materials, timeline, ground rules</td>
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Sept 2022- April 2023  Coordination with CCS and CCNS of all deliverables including public programming, research into the issue, debris and data collection, etc.

April 21, 2023  Final installation completed (Earth Day 2023)

June 8, 2023  Public unveiling event (World Ocean Day 2023) w/ attendance by artist

Questions may be sent to LLUDWIG@COASTALSTUDIES.ORG and ALEUTIA_SCOTT@NPS.GOV