



Artist in Residence

Access to natural spaces is critical to ensuring that creative people of our time and those in the future remain connected to the environment. The Artist in Residence program of Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast makes that connection possible. It is open to visual, literary and performing artists whose work is inspired by the environment and includes the gift of time and space to create. Artists selected for the program are given extraordinary access to our bays, beaches and barrier islands. Our hope is that their work will enhance appreciation for our coastal environment and broaden interest in the arts and conservation.

The Artist in Residence program is located in a restored 1931 carriage house at Bay Preserve at Osprey, a center for the environment, arts, education and recreation. Nestled on the sandy shore of Little Sarasota Bay, the 4.34 acre Preserve is open to the public and is one of many properties protected in perpetuity by Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast. Bay Preserve is adjacent to nearly 250 additional acres of marine preserve and conservation lands including a rookery, a barrier island beach on the Gulf of Mexico and several historic sites.

Program

The Artist in Residence program offers extraordinary access to unspoiled natural places. Working visual, literary and performing artists are eligible. The program is open to working adult artists from anywhere in the world whose creative product is inspired by the environment. The residency is intended for artists to develop new work. Applicants must be enthusiastic about interacting with the public. Artists may use the artist quarters, performance pavilion, grand lawn, reception area and spaces of the Outdoor Education Center as working studio space. Artists are encouraged but not required to interact with visitors they encounter on the Preserve.

The 850-square foot residence is located in a restored 1931 carriage house at Bay Preserve at Osprey. It features two small bedrooms, a new kitchen, ADA bathroom and elevator. The program is open to:

- an individual artist
- two collaborators (each must apply separately)
- an artist couple working on individual projects

Each resident is provided living accommodations and workspace for the length of their stay and is asked to also serve the community by giving a talk, reading, performance, exhibit or school activity. Staff of the Conservation Foundation will work with each artist to determine the best fit for this requirement.