

# Artist

At Pine Needles



## ENHANCING SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING THROUGH ART

A residency program sponsored by the St. Croix Watershed Research Station,  
a department of the Science Museum of Minnesota.



SAINT CROIX  
WATERSHED RESEARCH  
**STATION**



**Science  
Museum**  
of Minnesota®

Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota

**SUMMER 2024**



## THE PROGRAM

With the vision to enhance scientific understanding through art, each summer the St. Croix Watershed Research Station welcomes three to four creative individuals to our historic Pine Needles cabin as our Artists in Residence. Since 2001, the Artist at Pine Needles program has hosted over 60 artists and writers who seek to further deepen the recognizable connection between the arts and sciences and pass that understanding on to the community. In this unique program, each resident is invited to interact with the scientific staff of the Research Station and the Science Museum during their stay to further expand their intersection of art and science.

*"[W]hat sets the Pine Needles Fellowship apart from other artist residency programs is the access to everyone at the Research Station. Conversations with scientists and lab technicians were the starting point for new poems." - Kim Roberts, 2016*

## THE ARTISTS

Applications are accepted from writers and artists of any discipline who focus on environmental or natural history topics. We seek those who strive to connect the complex world between art, the natural world, and the sciences. In addition to accepting applications from established artists, the Pine Needles Residency includes an emerging artist category to encourage and support upcoming artists with this same calling. Emerging artists show some evidence of achievement but, to date, do not have a substantial record of accomplishment and are not yet recognized as established artists by other artists, curators, critics, and arts administrators. Emerging artists will be considered in a separate pool and must be of age 21 or older. Three to four artists are selected each year. *(Current employees of the Science Museum of Minnesota are not eligible to apply.)*

Artists applying for the 2024 program must design and agree to hold a community outreach project. These may include a school visit, demonstration, outdoor workshop, virtual exhibit/presentation, evening lecture, reading, or informal discussion. Venues for these programs have included the Marine on St. Croix village hall, library, and elementary school. Arrangements are made individually with each artist.

Applicants also agree to donate an original artwork, developed from their experience, to the Research Station within one year of their residency. This contribution should consist of artwork suitable for exhibition and/or publication, or writings appropriate for possible inclusion in Research Station publications.



## STIPEND

*"I would repeat this residency in a heartbeat!" - Jeanne Kosfeld, 2010*

The 2024 Artist at Pine Needles Program is funded by the Minnesota Legacy Amendment—Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Artist will receive \$650/week of residency and up to \$400 in travel support, as needed.

## THE SELECTION PROCESS

Artists are selected by a committee of Research Station and Science Museum of Minnesota staff, community members, and local artists. Selection is based upon applicant's relation to the program mission, quality of work submitted, and value of proposed community program via the rubric method. The committee's decisions are final.





## THE SETTING

The Pine Needles cabin is located on a 26-acre site north of Marine on St. Croix, MN along the St. Croix River, a nationally designated Wild and Scenic River. The secluded site is heavily wooded, with spring-fed streams, native wildflowers and local wildlife. The main cabin was built before World War I and was the family retreat of James Taylor Dunn, a well-known local historian. The residency cabin is located approximately three miles north of the Research Station's main campus.

The rustic, comfortable cabin includes a three-season porch, full bath, bed/sitting room, and kitchen. The generous enclosed porch, overlooking the river, is suitable for writing, sketching, reflection, and more. During their residency, each artist will have the sole use of this unique lodging.

*"It was wonderful to experience relative isolation in a live-work space with amenities nearby. This allowed for solitude, slow contemplation, and efficient working time...all things that were particularly beneficial for my time consuming detail-oriented techniques. The environment was both peaceful and engaging, and offered much in the way of inspiration."*  
- Robin Smith, 2009



## THE COMMUNITY

The village of Marine on St. Croix, nestled along the scenic banks of the St. Croix River, is home to nearly 700 residents. The entire central village area is a designated historic district; the Village Hall, Community Library, Stone House Museum, Mill Site, and Fire Hall being sources of pride for the tight-knit community. The Artist at Pine Needles program provides an opportunity to link the village, the Research Station, and the artists in a unique collaborative experience.

*"I canoed to the tavern in town for a pint of local Stillwater-brewed ale; biked the state park to the north and every other day to the eagle nest in Marine; and used Line Two (my feet) to access everything else."* - William Powers, 2011

## THE RESEARCH STATION

The St. Croix Watershed Research Station is the environmental research department of the Science Museum of Minnesota that seeks to better understand humanity's relationship with our most precious resource: fresh water. We study how land use, climate change, atmospheric deposition and other factors affect watersheds, thus informing policy and management, and contributing to the scientific understanding of our priceless aquatic systems around the world. The facilities include a research library, microscopy and wet-chemistry laboratories, conference room, and gathering area. Artists have access to these spaces along with the biological and archeological collections at the Science Museum of Minnesota's St. Paul location. Learn more about the St. Croix Watershed Research Station at [www.smm.org/scwrs](http://www.smm.org/scwrs).

*"I have been to a rather large number of artist residency programs and art colonies, so I have a good basis for comparison — and I can say without hesitation that this program is well organized, specific in its scope, and extremely well run. I plan to recommend it to others. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity."* - Kim Roberts, 2016

# 2024 APPLICATION FORM

**Submit/postmarked by March 13, 2024**

Notice to applicants by April 14, 2024

**Mail Application Packet to:**

Artist at Pine Needles  
St. Croix Watershed Research Station  
16910 152nd Street North  
Marine on St. Croix MN 55047  
Ph: 651-433-5953 ext. 12



*"Pine Needles is a glorious place. There could not be a more beautiful or peaceful place for creative pursuits. The richness of the Dunn legacy is evident, and helps artists connect with the local history...[and the] charm of the place." - Gary Noren & Marty Harding*

**Stipend:** \$650.00/week plus optional travel support

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Artists, 21 years or older, of all disciplines, are eligible to apply provided their submitted narratives show an established connection between their work and the environment or natural world.

Each applicant must complete all components of the application packet and have either postmarked or electronically submitted their application by 11:59 pm CST on March 13, 2024. Application packets can either be mailed to the address above or submitted electronically via Google Drive (see below).

By submitting your application, you agree to donate an original work if selected for the residency.

**NARRATIVE ATTACHMENTS:** (consolidated to a single document)

1. An **Artist Statement:** Describe your work as an artist. How does your work relate to the mission of the Artist at Pine Needles Program? (*Word Limit: 250 min/400 max*)
2. A **Program Statement:** How would this residency experience advance you as an artist? How would the residency location/opportunity to interact with scientists benefit the science—art connection in your work? What type of work would you create during the residency? (*Word Limit: 250 min/500 max*)
3. A **Community Engagement Proposal:** How do you propose to share your work with the local community during your residency? Include ideas on venue, location, and type of audience/participants. \*Required component upon acceptance of residency offer (*Word Limit: 150 min/300 max*)

**ARTISTIC WORK SAMPLES:**

4. Provide curated **examples of your work:** either 7 to 15 photos, 3 to 5 video/audio clips, or up to 4 pages of writing samples. Include an image/file list with information details for each piece.
  - Accepted file formats: JPEG, PNG, PDF, MP3, MP4
  - Audio tracks or video clips: Up to 5 minutes in total length
  - Writing samples: Can be multiple excerpts of different works but not to exceed 4 pages in total

**SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:** (Optional; recommended but not required)

You may also include gallery statements, CV/resume, exhibitions, awards, publication list, etc.

## HOW TO APPLY:

**By Mail:** Print out completed application form, narrative statements, and any supplemental materials. Include a USB drive containing your artwork examples. Mail packet to address above; must be postmarked by March 13, 2024. USB drives will be returned to applicant.

**Electronically:** Email [researchstation@smm.org](mailto:researchstation@smm.org) to request your personalized link to a Google Drive folder. Use the email subject title "PNAiR 2024 Electronic Submission Request". A staff member will respond back with a Google Drive folder link to upload your application materials to. Completed application form, all narrative statements, and any supplemental materials must be in PDF format. Application packets must be uploaded to the Google Drive folder by 11:59 pm CST on March 13, 2024.



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*"Creativity can really bloom when it has no interruption and you can get lost in your dorky little imagination"*  
- Joshua Cunningham, 2015

**Stipend:** \$650.00/week

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Alternate:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you learn about this program?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Indicate if you require travel support** (up to \$400): ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Are you applying as an emerging artist:** ☐ Yes ☐ No

**RESIDENCY DATES:** 1) Selecting only one session below, indicate your preferred residency date using the "Pref." column. 2) Select an alternate residency date using the "Alt." column (ideally a different session).

SESSION A	PREF.	ALT.	SESSION C	PREF.	ALT.
2-Weeks: May 16 - May 31	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2-Weeks: July 25 - Aug 9	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-Weeks: May 16 - June 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3-Weeks: July 25 - Aug 16	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4-Weeks: May 16 - June 14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4-Weeks: July 25 - Aug 23	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SESSION B	PREF.	ALT.	SESSION D	PREF.	ALT.
2-Weeks: June 20 - July 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2-Weeks: Aug 29 - Sept 13	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-Weeks: June 20 - July 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3-Weeks: Aug 29 - Sept 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4-Weeks: June 20 - July 19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4-Weeks: Aug 29 - Sept 27	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Chosen artists will be consulted before scheduling final residency dates*

**APPLICATION PACKET:** 1) Completed application form, 2) Artist Statement, 3) Program Statement, 4) Community Engagement Proposal, 5) Example works. See instruction page for submission rules. Failure to submit all required materials, within guidelines, will disqualify your application and it will be removed from consideration.

## AGREEMENT:

I understand that if I am chosen to participate in Artist at Pine Needles, I will receive housing and studio space at the Pine Needles cabin of the St. Croix Watershed Research Station for an agreed upon time period in exchange for an original piece of work within one year of my residency. (Credit will be given each time the artwork is showcased by the Science Museum of Minnesota/St. Croix Watershed Research Station.)

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_