



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Watershed Artist in Residence Questions & Answers

The following questions about the Watershed Artist in Residence (AiR) were submitted during the Open House on September 26, 2024, and via email. Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) answered each question. Please refer to the [Watershed Artist in Residence Request for Qualifications](#) for information.

Key

Q = Question

A = Answer

- 1. Q: Some residencies want artists to create their work on site, others wish that natural materials from the site are used, others are more interested in the concept of the art to be created. Can you give me a brief synopsis of what approach the CRWD will be taking for this project?**

A: The artist should recommend the approach they think works best for the project, program, or community workshop they are planning. Through this position, the artist will collaborate with staff to ensure plans meet organizational goals and understand site or safety limitations as well as work with other local artists.

- 2. Q: Is there a specific time frame in which you want all the art to be created under this residency?**

A: This residency and the work associated with it will occur year-round. The position includes two major areas of work. First, the AiR will help shape our projects and programs by offering creative perspectives as part of an interdisciplinary team. This may include incorporating your artistic practice into a component of a program or project or identifying another artist to participate in the project and helping guide their work to align with CRWD goals. Second, the AiR will facilitate Art + Water community workshops using their artistic medium and, in some cases, inviting other local artists to collaborate.

- 3. Q: Is there an approximate number of workday hours a month that are expected?**

A: Once hired, the AiR will develop a detailed scope of work and budget for 2025.

Monthly meetings, occasional project meetings, and onboarding will occur between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday – Friday. Community workshops will be held at times that work best for the intended audience.

- 4. Q: Do you want the resume, portfolio, and statement of interest which would include the other items in the bulleted list above?**

A: Everything on the list of requirements should be included with your statement of qualifications in whatever format makes the most sense to you. Once hired, the AiR will develop a detailed scope of work and budget for 2025.

5. Q: What format do you want the portfolio? And how extensive/far back in time should it be?

A: The portfolio should be submitted in a PDF format and include recent relevant experience. It should include a variety of relevant examples to help the committee understand the depth of your work and experience.

6. Q: How detailed do you want the budgets to be for the portfolio and how do you want these included?

A: The total budget amount by project is sufficient and should be included along with each project description as part of your portfolio.

7. Q: What is the timeline for reviewing applications and selection/start?

A: The committee will review applications from October 21-November 4, 2024. Interviews will take place between November 5-15, 2024. An offer will be made shortly after. The position will begin in early January 2025.

8. Q: It is expensive as an artist to get insurance, as well as very confusing. Should artist applicants have workman's comp for themselves? Any details you can provide on that piece would be great because insurance can be a significant portion of living expenses.

A: The general liability and auto liability insurance requirements outlined in the Consultant Services Agreement can be considered an overhead expense and accounted for as part of your hourly rate, if hired for the position.

Artists should consult with their insurance advisor to determine whether worker's compensation insurance is required according to MN state statute.

Professional liability insurance is not required for the Artist-in-Residence.

9. Q: Is the insurance that the artists provide for themselves and for their art and transportation, or - what is it for?

A: The general liability and auto liability insurance is for the artist working in this capacity.

10. Q: The fees and the hourly versus the \$20k – how does that all break down, because \$20k can go very fast in an art project.

A: The anticipated level of funding for the artist's time is \$20,000/annually. Additional funding has been set aside for the Art + Water community workshops and program/project related work.

11. Q: Was Christine the only previous artist in residence?

A: Yes, and she connected us with many other artists as part of her role as Watershed Artist in Residence.

12. Q: Is there a green/community space beside the pocket park?

A: CRWD's Watershed Learning Center has several native plantings and rain gardens on site in addition to the pocket park.

13. Q: As we're thinking about this and looking at past examples of projects, should we be saying 'this has already been done so we should steer away from that and move into something that hasn't already happened?'

A: Artists can put a new spin on something we've done before or propose new projects entirely. CRWD hopes to engage residents in new and exciting ways through the Artist-in-Residence position.

14. Q: If we have experience in community organizing and engagement that wasn't artistic but related to water and environment, can we include it in our application?

A: Yes, you are welcome to include experience in those areas in addition to meeting the requirements outlined in the statement of qualifications.

15. Q: Looking at the qualifications, it lists things like managing budgets, for example, as part of past projects. What is the consideration for artists who haven't had those opportunities yet but are very passionate and interested?

A: We would still welcome your application. Please consider incorporating experience that may be transferable, even if it was not gained as part of an arts-related project.