

AAN Environmental Artist Residency

- Applications due February 1, 2026
- Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision by February 12. 2026
- EAIR Residency takes place April 6-25, 2026.

Funded AAN Environmental Artists Residency

Hosted by: Artists Association of Nantucket (AAN)

Supported by: GHYC Foundation

Residency Overview

The Artists Association of Nantucket (AAN) invites applications for a **Funded Environmental Artist Residency**, a three-week immersive program designed for artists whose practice engages with the subject of the environment, climate issues, and the natural world. This residency supports creative inquiry into the unique ecological landscape of Nantucket—a coastal island facing rapid environmental change including erosion, rising seas, and shifting habitats.

Selected artists will live and work on Nantucket for three weeks, create new work informed by the island's environment, engage with the community, and contribute to public dialogue around climate and environmental stewardship.

Eligibility

- Open to emerging and established artists.
- Artists in all mediums are welcome (visual art, installation, mixed-media, performance, interdisciplinary, environmental art, etc.).
- Applicants must be 18 or older.
- Artists must be available for EAIR dates: 4/6-25th, 2026

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Artistic excellence and clarity of vision
- Strength of environmental focus or place-based engagement
- Suitability of proposed project for Nantucket's context

- Willingness to engage with community audiences
- Feasibility of proposed activities

Residency Support

The selected artist will receive:

- Three weeks of housing in the spacious Kaaren and Charles Hale Apartment for Artists in Residence at AAN's Visual Arts Center on Amelia Drive.
- A private studio space at AAN's VAC
- Artist stipend of \$3000
- Travel expenses of \$500
- Exhibition in AAN's Champion Gallery at the VAC

Residency Expectations

The selected artist will work with AAN's Education Department Director to design curriculum and public engagement opportunities.

During the residency, the artist will:

- 1. **Create new work** informed by Nantucket's environment and ecological issues.
- 2. **Present an Artist Talk** discussing their practice, research, and residency experience.
- 3. **Develop a community creative experience** (workshop, installation, collaborative artwork, participatory event, etc.).
- 4. **Exhibit work** at AAN's Champion Gallery (existing work, work created during residency, or a combination).
- 5. **Implement public engagement opportunities**, which will include community workshops, artist talk, collaboration with local environmental organizations, and engaging with local youth via school or alternative forum.
- 6. **Optional:** Collaborate with organizations such as the Linda Loring Nature Foundation, Nantucket Conservation Foundation, or Maria Mitchell Association on a walk-and-talk or site-based project.

Application Form

1. Personal Information

Name: Address: Email: Phone:

Website / Portfolio Link(s):

Social Media:

2. Artistic Background

Primary medium(s): Brief artist biography (150–200 words):

3. Artist Statement

Please provide a statement describing your artistic practice, including your interest in environmental themes and/or place-based work. (300–500 words)

4. Work Samples

Please submit 8-12 images or links to video/audio work.

For each work sample, include:

- Title
- Year
- Medium
- Brief description (1–2 sentences)

5. Resume or CV

Upload a current resume or CV (PDF).

6. Residency Proposal

Please address the following:

- What would you like to explore during this residency on Nantucket?
- How does your work engage with environmental issues, ecology, climate change, or the natural world?
- What makes Nantucket's environment a meaningful context for your project or research?
- What potential community engagement activity or collaborative project might you envision? (500–750 words)

7. Community Engagement Concept

Please describe one or more ideas for a public workshop, collaborative artwork, installation, youth engagement, or other interactive experience you might offer the community. (200–400 words)

8. Exhibition Overview

Briefly describe the work you would propose to exhibit at AAN's Champion Gallery. This may include:

- Work created during the residency
- Existing work
- A proposed project or installation (150–300 words)

9. Youth or School Engagement

Please describe how you might work with Nantucket youth, such as through a school visit, hands-on activity, or conversation about climate, art, or process. (100–200 words)

10. Collaboration With Local Environmental Organizations

Please describe how you might create a collaboration with one of Nantucket's environmental groups (e.g., guided walk, field sketching, data-inspired work, environmental observation). (100–200 words)

11. Additional Information

Is there anything else you would like the selection committee to know?

Submission Instructions

Please send your full application in a PDF to lizb@nantucketarts.org Deadline: February 1st, 2026