

Call for Artists/Request for Qualifications Storm Drain Educational Art Installation, Vail, Colorado

Call summary:

The Town of Vail's Environmental Sustainability Team invites artists to submit their qualifications and images of previous art work (painting, pastel, and drawing) for consideration in the town-wide program to educate the public about storm drains and promote the health of Gore Creek. The selected artists will be commissioned to create an original and specific work depicting one of five Colorado wildlife species that live in or near Gore Creek, such as Cutthroat Trout, Boreal Toad, Bald Eagle, American Dipper, Stoneflies, American Beaver or other species at artist's suggestion. The images will be digitally transferred to a slip resistant decal which will be adhered in proximity to selected storm drains throughout the town of Vail. Selected artists will receive a \$500 stipend.

The enhancement of public places by integrating the creative work of artists improves the pedestrian experience and promotes vibrancy, creativity and livelihood in the community. The presence of and access to public art enlivens the public areas of buildings and their grounds and makes them more welcoming. It creates a deeper interaction with the places where we live, work, and visit. Public art illuminates the diversity and history of a community, and points to its aspirations for the future.

Restore the Gore background:

Gore Creek looks pristine, but it has failed to meet state standards for aquatic life since 2012, due in part to stormwater pollution.

In the past, cooking grease, window cleaner, cement, carpet cleaner and 120 hot dogs were dumped down storm drains in Vail. Unlike sanitary sewers, storm drains flow directly into the creek unfiltered. Dumping waste down a storm drain is no different from dumping directly into Gore Creek. The purpose of this art installation will be to highlight the direct connection between storm drains and Gore Creek.

Site description:

Various storm drain sites in highly trafficked areas in Vail Village, Lionshead, Golden Peak and surrounding public parks and playgrounds.

Artist Qualifications

- Letter of interest indicating your vision and approach for the project (limit one page).
- Visual support materials of previous work (10 images max) – cds, prints, website, jpegs (not to exceed 8 MB)
- Annotated image list to accompany any submitted images.

Artwork Criteria & Requirements for Selected Artists:

- The work should enhance the beauty of the Vail's streetscape design and the Vail community. The works will be in highly visible locations for residents and guests to enjoy. The selected artist will work closely with the town's Art in Public Places Board and town staff to ensure the highest quality of art is represented.
- As a public space, the art should be engaging and pleasing for all ages and audiences.
- The town will have the right to remove the artwork if it is offensive in any manner or does not adhere to Town of Vail standards.

Budget:

- \$500 stipend per selected artist upon approval of art work.

Anticipated Timeline:

- Deadline for entry: April 1, 2022.
- Proposed selection notification: April 15, 2022.
- Commissioned art deadline: May 15, 2022.
- Installation completed by June 1, 2022.

The Town of Vail's Environmental Sustainability Team will review previous work submitted by artists and their criteria for qualifications. Artists whose work would be of further interest will be contacted.

Contact:

Materials may be emailed to: pwadden@vailgov.com

The subject must read **Storm Drains**.

Direct questions to: pwadden@vailgov.com

Materials may be mailed to:

Pete Wadden
Town of Vail
75 South Frontage Rd. West
Vail, CO 81657

Informational links:

For more information about the initiative to restore Gore Creek visit lovevail.org/gorecreek