

CURATOR/MENTOR APPLICATION

Beneath the Surface 2022

Residency and Touring Exhibition

Craft NB and Fundy National Park (FNP) are pleased to host *Beneath the Surface*, a week-long artist residency in the park resulting in a professionally curated touring exhibition. The exhibition will feature installation based works installed outdoors in the hosting Parks. These works will be developed by the participating residency artists based on their time in Fundy National Park. The curator/mentor will not only select the works for inclusion, but will be instrumental in guiding and mentoring artists as they produce their pieces for consideration. The exhibition will open in the spring of 2023 and tour throughout the year.

Beneath the Surface is a residency program which takes place in Fundy National Park. In early October, 15-20 artists will explore FNP with the guidance of park interpreters and scientists and take part in creative workshops throughout the week led by visiting artists. The 5-day residency will promote the cross-pollination of ideas as artists spend time with each other, while learning hands on from scientists and interpreters. The result is a unique connection with the land, a powerful creative stimulus, and meaningful artistic growth.

The group, along with the curator, will meet again three times over the winter months' post-residency to talk about the works in progress and create artist statements, with the final pieces being delivered to Craft NB by April.

This is the third iteration of *Beneath the Surface*, which has become a recurring biannual program for Craft NB. Each *Beneath the Surface* has focused on different ways to push participants to think and work in new ways. This year's program will be an even greater challenge for the new cohort of participants, asking them to create outdoor installations as well as consider the environmental impact of their material choices. The overarching goal of the residency is to provide artists with a framework to support their artistic research and professional development, while facilitating an expansion in their practice. There are very few artists in New Brunswick working in outdoor installation and environmental based art. Selected participants are largely production and/or gallery focused artists with very little experience in this realm. This year's *Beneath the Surface* Residency program, along with the selected curator/mentor will enable and encourage participants to experiment and develop new sustainable ways of producing and showcasing contemporary craft. For many, this will mean working with new materials, conceptualizing new ideas, and producing work on a new scale.

Pending funding the entire Fundy residency, as well as the installations, will be documented by a professional film company. This film, alongside selected work, will become a part of the hybrid touring exhibition across North America. We are currently in talks with Grasslands National Park, Gulf Islands National park and Redwood National Park, California who are all interested in hosting this project.

We are seeking a passionate and driven individual who has past curatorial experience as well as, significant knowledge of installation based work and sustainable materials. Preference will be given to a local curator, though we welcome applications from passionate and knowledgeable individuals from across Canada.

The curator will receive a fee of \$3000

Application Due Date: Aug 1st by midnight.

To apply for this position Please send the following documents to events@craftnb.ca

1. **Resume**
2. **Artist/ Curator statement or Bio-profile**
3. **Brief statement on why you're interested in mentoring artists in this residency and curating an exhibition in National Parks**
4. **A paragraph on your experience working with outdoor installation based work and sustainable materials**

The curator's responsibilities include:

- Attend the residency (Oct 3-7 2022, Craft NB will cover the travel and accommodation costs)
- Check in, mentor, and work with artists after the residency, during the winter 2022
- Attend and help lead winter group meetings (there will be 3, ideally held in person)
- Compile and edit artist statements
- Aid in photography selection
- Be available for media interviews
- Design exhibition layout for each venue (3-4)
- Aid in the logistics of installation and transportation of work to and from each National Park (Craft NB will also hire an installation team for this)
- Provide an opening speech at each opening
- Assist with tear-down and transport of pieces from one location to the next if necessary
- Provide information for the written report
- Write a curatorial essay to introduce the exhibition