

CALL FOR ARTISTS

2022 Guandu International Nature Art Festival (Taipei, TAIWAN)

Healing, A Methodology

Guandu Nature Park calls for three artists with a focus on the human-nature relationship to participate in the 2022 Guandu International Nature Art Festival entitled “**Healing, A Methodology.**” Submission deadline is July 30th, 2022. Selected artists will spend around four weeks as artists-in-residence in Guandu Nature Park and use natural or environmentally friendly materials to create artworks onsite that can convey environmental messages and raise awareness.

- Number of Artists | 3
 - Deadline for Entries | July 30, 2022
 - Result Announcement | August 18, 2022
 - Residency Date | August 31- September 2, 2022 (Field Study); October 11- November 06, 2022 (Resident create artworks, Public Presentation & Opening Workshops)
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Eligibility requirements update due to COVID-19

In response to COVID-19 and to comply with entry management and pandemic prevention measures, we have additional information and regulation updates on the Open Call eligibility requirements. **The Open Call this year will only accept Local Artists (with ROC Nationality) and Foreign Artists who reside in Taiwan (with Alien Resident Certificate or Alien Permanent Resident Certificate).**

About The Festival

Guandu International Outdoor Sculpture Festival, dating back to 2006, was Taiwan's first large-scale natural art festival held in a conservation park. Each year, multiple international artists are invited to use natural materials to create site-specific outdoor installations that can show beautiful aesthetics and communicate environmental messages. The creative process values public engagement and incorporates local culture through dialogue and cooperation. The event is rooted in Guandu Wetland with deep ecological conservation value and rich estuary culture. It creates a space for dialogue between man, art and nature and discusses the important topic of "human-nature relationship" in the hope of finding a balance point for the imbalance between modern society and nature.

For the past ten years, the Festival has painted a blueprint for Guandu Nature Park on the coexistence of estuary culture, wetland conservation and environmental art. Resetting its title into "Guandu International Nature Art Festival" in 2016, the Festival, with over ten years of experience and inspiration, further puts into action to deepen the understanding and care of the place in the hope that everyone participating in the Festival will be more active in rebuilding the relationship between themselves and the environment and more inspired by nature to jointly find the direction for the sustainable future of life.

- Website <http://www.guandu-natureart.tw/>
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GuanduNatureArtFest/>
- Youtube <https://goo.gl/K5S3uE>
- Online Catalog <https://goo.gl/H4yqcj>

Theme

Healing, A Methodology

-Post Pandemic Era Ecological Creative Works

Exhibition Structure



Keywords: healing, post-pandemic era, anthropocene, ecological art, ecological psychology

Post-pandemic Era and Anthropocene

In late 2019, the world was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with the extreme weather events due to global warming, we have seen frequent occurrences of changes in international political and economic situations, natural disasters, disease outbreaks, ecological imbalances and other conditions. Therefore, rethinking and redefining the various aspects of the human-nature relationship and the imbalance between the mind and the body have become the most important topics in the post-pandemic era. Reportedly, the new coronavirus was transmitted to humans through an intermediate animal host – bats. The viruses that originally existed in the natural environment were spread globally through human activities. “Anthropocene” is a geological concept

proposed in 2000 by Paul J. Crutzen, a Dutch atmospheric chemist who won the Nobel Prize in 1995. He believes that human activity's impact on the planet is significant enough to form a new geologic epoch. It is a perfect term that sums up the numerous environmental predicaments we face today: global warming, extreme weather, air pollution, decline of ecological and biological diversity and so on. And the global pandemic brought by the new coronavirus (COVID-19) is only a small example of the result of those changes. It further makes prominent the fact that "nature" is the only foundation of all human activities and the importance of various interactive relationships.

Environmental Art and Healing

Finding ways to face the changing situation and use art to present the issue and reconnect and balance our relationship with nature is the focus of many environmental art practices. In the post-pandemic era, people in all fields are encouraged to 'go to nature' as a 'healing' measure. On the one hand, one can reconnect with nature and be relieved from the impact of interpersonal isolation due to the pandemic. This kind of contact with natural ecology and its effect on human psychology has led to many studies and attempts in ecological psychology. On the other, in addition to responding to the critical perspective of contemporary social and environmental changes, environmental art can also act as a medium for interacting with nature. Because art is not only the production of various forms and sensibilities of aesthetic feelings, from the perspective of the viewer, it is also an experimental and interactive experience. Hence, what we need is a concept that is closely integrated with ecology from the viewpoints of 'going to nature' and 'healing.' It is also to think about how human beings connect with sensibility through the environment, and to reflect on the possibility of 'healing' through artistic expressions and establishing a connection with nature. For this reason, utilizing art's sensitive means to connect human with natural ecology and in this way reexperience the healing nature of natural environments through art is the main direction of this exhibition.

Open Call: Healing, A Methodology

Guandu Nature Park was officially founded in 2001. The motivation and reason behind its establishment can be seen as a healing mechanism for man and ecology. The organization of "Guandu International Nature Art Festival" starting 2006 also serves as an appeal for ecological equilibrium. Given the multiple challenges and changes due to the pandemic since 2019, we have set **"healing"** as this year's main theme for the Guandu International Nature Art Festival. Entering into its 17th year, the subject of **"healing"** is in itself a functional appeal. The art creation is like an invitation from nature. Through the open call and invitations for artists, the Festival will think about in Anthropocene and post-pandemic era, how we lead the audience to go to nature through the combination of art and natural ecology, and experience the possibility of healing between art and nature. Let us undertake a walk to the "wilderness" and find the "healing."

Creative Goal

The creative form is not limited. It can be cross-disciplinary contemporary art, visual art, installation art and so on. The use of natural materials is given priority to the media. The creative process must comply with the principle of being environmentally friendly. The creative works should be able to convey the values of habitat construction and bio diversity, ecology around Guandu, interactive connection between birds and humans, thereby raising awareness of ecological conservation.

Venue

Guandu Nature Park

Guandu Nature Park started to hold the Guandu International Outdoor Sculpture Festival in 2006. Every year, several artworks are installed in the main facility area of the park. The diverse environment provides artists with creativity and imagination. The artworks are created in different types of landscapes, including forest, wetland, grassland, pond and mudflat and so on.



Guandu Nature Park : <https://gd-park.org.tw/> (3 Artworks)



Located at the junction of Tamsui River and Jilong River, Guandu Nature Park is a nature park of wetland preservation with landscape consisting of an integrated wetland environment of swamp and pond. It is an important pass-by stop for migratory birds in their annual migration route. Hence, it has

been recognized by Birdlife International as an “Important Bird Area” (IBA). The Park, authorized by Taipei City Government, is currently administered under the Wild Bird Society of Taipei (WBST) and devotes care to wetland and wild birds’ conservation.

We will select **3 artists** to create his/her artwork in the Main Area of Guandu Nature Park. Main Area is the region of the Park which opens for the public with admission hours and fees. It includes the Nature Center, bird watching cabins, ponds, trails, and other educational facilities.

Other areas of the Park are preserved for birds and other wildlife which are restricted to public access. Visitors can observe wildlife via telescope or attend the guided tour arranged by the Park in order to visit the restricted areas. In addition, the Park has designed many environmental education programs that give opportunities to people to interact with nature and acknowledge the importance of environmental preservation.

Possible locations for artwork:



Timetable

Field Study Period	Aug. 31	Venue tour
	Sep. 01	Field study
	Sep. 02	Art Proposal Discussion
Residence Period	Oct. 10	Artists Hotel check-in
	Oct. 11-Nov. 04	Period of installation
	Nov. 05 · Nov. 6	Opening Art Festival
	Nov. 07	Artists depart
Exhibition Period	Nov. 05-Dec. 31	End of the artwork exhibition

★ Off days (Mondays): Oct.17 · Oct.24 · Oct.31

★ Any change to the current timetable will be made in accordance with notifications from the organizer, and will be announced on the official

website of Guandu Nature Park and Guandu International Nature Art Festival.

Qualifications

1. **Only accept Local Artists (with ROC Nationality) and Foreign Artists who reside in Taiwan (with Alien Resident Certificate or Alien Permanent Resident Certificate).**
2. Artists should be interested in the relationship between nature, human, and environment and committed not to harm the environment during artwork creation.
3. Artists should have experiences in working with volunteers, local residents, or students. While working on their artworks, they should be able to spark interest of general public to participate in the process of such artistic creation.
4. For the foreign applicants, it is required to have basic English conversation skills to communicate with the staff of Guandu Nature Park and the ability to mingle with other artists, local residents, and students.
5. Group application is allowed. However, the organizer will offer only one funding (see below) for the group. Artists should agree to share all the funding & support without disputes.

How To Apply

We sincerely welcome artists to take part in this annual event. Deadline for proposal submission is July 30, 2022. The proposals can be written in either English or Chinese. Please make sure that you have the following documents ready, and submit via email at this address: festival@gd-park.org.tw

Required Documents :

We will only be accepting DOC or PDF files for document files and JPG and JPEG files for your image files. The size of each image file should be between 500KB-1MB.

A. Details of Proposal should include:

1. **Your motivations.** Explain why you want to apply for our event and the specific environment issues that you care about. (max. 1 page).
2. **An artwork proposal.** Include a brief description and a simple sketch or computer graphics. Drafts of your work including estimated size of the creation and materials needed. Artists can refine or modify their proposal to fit the space after the field study and site observation.
3. **Public interactivity.** Artists should design a public interactivity (workshop, performance, or any type of activity) to be implemented during the opening weekend.

B. Self-Introduction should include:

1. **Personal CV.** Include your background and experience, awards, and past exhibitions. Be sure to include your full name, current mailing address, phone number, and nationality.
2. **A portfolio of your previous artworks.** Please introduce 6 of your previous related works with details of title, date of completion, the material used, and venue where they were exhibited.

* Proposal completeness will be taken into serious consideration during the judging process.

* Submission will not be returned.

* The design should be new or original, not previously published or used in any country before the date of application for registration. Artists that enter with work that is not their original creation will be disqualified.

Funding

1. **Artist's fee NTD\$ 80,000.** According to the income tax law in Taiwan, the organizer will deduct tax from the payment based on the applicable rate (e.g. 20% for non-resident) stipulated in the law. Therefore the actual amount the artists receive will be less than NTD\$ 80,000. The organizer will pay this fee in New Taiwan Dollars in cash.
2. **Transportation.** Provide transportation fees (Domestic Flight, Taiwan High-Speed Rail, Taiwan railway, Bus, Metro, etc., the receipts must be retained) for domestic and foreign artists from artist's residency place to Hotel. The reimbursement does

not include the costs associated with passport & visa expenses. Artist will have to book the ticket and pay the fee in advance by him/herself. The organizer will pay the reimbursement by New Taiwan Dollars in cash after artist's arrival in Guandu.

3. **Pick-up/drop-off service** will be provided. However, artists who plan to have personal trips in Taiwan after the residency will have to take care of the transportation by themselves.
4. **Accommodation.** From October 10, 2022 (check-in) to November 07, 2022 (check-out). Each artist will receive accommodation in a single room with individual bathroom. For anyone accompany the artist, an additional bed will be charged by the hotel accordingly.
5. **Materials support.** The organizer will assist to collect on-site natural materials (e.g. reed, wood, stone, bamboo, leaf etc.) or recycled objects. The organizer has a shared budget for all artists for purchasing materials like hemp ropes, eco-paints, bamboo etc. Artists who need to purchase materials must consult with the curator first.
6. **Meals.** Lunch will be provided by Guandu Nature Park every working day. Breakfast and dinners will not be provided. The average cost for a meal in Taiwan is around NTD 80- 300.
7. **Local transport.** Artists can use the public transport system such as metro, bus, or public bike to shuttle between the hotel and the Park to travel around Taipei. The organizer will provide artists EasyCard with pre-stored value.

Guidelines & Requirements

1. Use only environmentally friendly materials.
2. Use local materials first.
3. Stability and safety: Safety is our first priority. The artwork should be made to last at least 3 months or longer. It should also be designed to weather gracefully over time and reveal the different stages as it decays. For safety concerns, the Park reserves the right to dispose or dismantle the artwork.
4. Community involvement: Artists will work with volunteers and local residents to create their artworks. Public participation is one of the key elements of this event.

5. Artist should prepare a public presentation to share their experiences and previous artworks with local residents during the residency.
6. Artists should be involved in any related events such as press conferences and opening ceremony.

Contact

1. Email festival@gd-park.org.tw
2. Phone +886-2-28587417 ext. 230 (Ms. Evonne Yeh)