

***Creative Arts Fellowship Applications for 2023***

**General Information**

1. **Purpose:**

The *Creative Arts Fellowship* purpose is to nurture the creative development of promising student artists and writers interested in producing work inspired and influenced by the natural world. The Institute believes the opportunity to combine field experiences, with reflection and immersion in a creative community, through a focused project will result in meaningful and possibly life-changing learning experiences for emerging student artists and writers. Writing projects can include fiction, essays, non-fiction, poetry, drama, or hybrid forms. Art projects can include painting (oils or watercolors), photography and video, drawing, printmaking, and other projects. The Institute will award approximately eight fellowships for 2023.

Fellows will work in their preferred medium(s) on a set of works inspired and informed by their time and experience at the Institute. Connections between art and research projects are encouraged. Research themes at the Institute include:

* + - Conservation of threatened and endangered species
		- Forest dynamics and emerging threats
		- Watershed water quality monitoring and management
		- Invasive species monitoring and management
		- Social science of environmental best management practices implementation
		- Environmental issues impacting human health
		- Carbon cycling in natural areas

Projects may be individual or collaborative with other students or faculty. The Institute believes diverse perspectives and backgrounds can help the entire community grow and develop.

Fellows are expected to be a part of a creative community in residence from June 26 through July 28, 2023. During this time, they will participate in educational and discussion sessions, meet with a mentor artist/writer, and work on their craft.

The Institute is planning to support and carry out this program safely and may adjust the timing of the program and availability of housing and workspace due to unforeseen circumstances.

1. **Eligibility:**

The *Creative Arts Fellowship* program is available to college students attending one of the member colleges or universities of the Pierce Cedar Creek Consortium (see list at <https://cedarcreekinstitute.org/research.html>). Students must be over 18 by the start of the project. Applicants who are not citizens of the United States may be able to participate, but should contact the Institute prior to applying.

1. **Fellowship Award:**

Fellows will be part of a multi-disciplinary cohort of artists and writers in residence at Pierce Cedar Creek Institute from Monday, June 26, 2023, through Friday, July 28, 2023. Additionally, all fellows will share their work at the end of the Summer Report Meeting on August 3, 2023. Fellows will receive a $2000 stipend. Fellowship stipends will be paid in two installments, the first at the beginning of the program and the second after the final project report is submitted.

Living onsite is not required but strongly encouraged Mondays through Fridays. Housing is available at the Institute throughout the fellowship, along with breakfast and lunch Monday through Friday. Grantees will need to provide for their dinners. The housing includes access to a shared kitchen.

The announcement of the fellows will be made by March 15, 2023.

1. **Responsibilities and Reporting:**

Fellowship awardees must sign a participation agreement and return it to the Institute by April 30, 2023. The agreement signifies the fellow’s commitment to participate in the program and follow all of the Institute’s guidelines and conditions.

The following are required for all fellows:

1. Participate in a virtual orientation meeting on the evening of May 17, 2023.
2. Participate in all aspects of the summer program, including regular meetings and activities and service experiences (land management workdays, public events).
3. Share some of their work at a final report program on August 3, 2023.
4. Submit a summary of their work and experience by August 4, 2023. All documents and reports submitted to Pierce Cedar Creek Institute will become the property of the Institute to use and duplicate at the Institute’s discretion.
5. Complete an online evaluation of the program.

Pierce Cedar Creek Institute will be given rights to use the works completed in relation to the *Creative Arts Fellowship* program for promotional purposes. In addition to presentations at the Institute, fellows are strongly encouraged to present their work elsewhere.

**Application and Guidelines**

1. **Application:**

Applicants must email their materials as a .docx or .pdf file to Matthew Dykstra (mdykstra@cedarcreekinstitute.org) by March 2, 2023. The application should have 1-inch margins and be in 11- or 12-point font. Up-to-date versions of the application are available at: <https://cedarcreekinstitute.org/research.html>.

Applications must include:

* 1. A completed **cover sheet** (see below).
	2. Maximum two-page **description of why you want to participate in the program**. Guiding questions include: What is your relationship to the natural world? What do you hope to gain out of the experience? How will this experience at this place further your creative endeavors? What unique perspectives and ideas do you bring to the creative community? Include information on your preferred creative writing or art form and what you hope to accomplish during the fellowship.
	3. **Resume**
	4. **Unofficial transcript** reflecting courses completed and grades received.
	5. **Recommendation letter** from a faculty member.
	6. Representative **work samples**. Maximum of 10 pages for writing applications and 10 pieces for art applications. Must represent work completed by the applicant within the last three years. If possible, please share previous work in the medium that you would like to explore while at the Institute.

Any questions regarding the grants can be directed to Matthew Dykstra - Field Station Manager, mdykstra@cedarcreekinstitute.org or 269-721-4473

1. **Award Evaluation Criteria**

Fellowship award decisions for the *Creative Arts Fellowship* program will be based on understanding the applicant’s ties to nature and experience, the quality of their completed work, how the fellowship experience will enhance the applicant’s work, and how the applicant can contribute to the creative community.

 ***Creative Arts Fellowships Application***

#####  Application - Cover Sheet

***Deadline for Application****: March 2, 2023*

**College or University**:

# **Student**

# Name:

Local/Campus Address:

Permanent Address:

Phone:       E-mail:

Major:       Emphasis (if applicable):

Anticipated graduation date:       Current GPA:

Driver’s License State and Number (for background check)

Are you a US Citizen?

**Faculty Reference**

Name:       Department:

Address:

Phone:       E-mail:

**Faculty Reference**

Name:       Department:

Address:

Phone:       E-mail:

**Signatures -** By signing below, applicants confirm that all information provided is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. If awarded, fellows will follow the requirements of the program guidelines and commit sufficient time and effort to ensure the completion of the proposed work.

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Signature Date



701 W. Cloverdale Road, Hastings, MI 49058 | 269-721-4190 | [www.cedarcreekinstitute.org](http://www.cedarcreekinstitute.org)