



2012 BLUE SKY PROJECT SUMMER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

SEEKING PROPOSALS FROM ARTISTS, ARTIST/ACTIVISTS AND CREATIVE PROFESSIONALS: VISUAL ARTISTS, FILMMAKERS, TECH-ARTISTS, DANCERS, MUSICIANS, WRITERS, PERFORMANCE ARTISTS AND PEOPLE WORKING IN OTHER CREATIVE MEDIA SHOULD APPLY.

ABOUT

Blue Sky Project, a program of Involvement Advocacy, is an innovative summer arts experience in Dayton, Ohio. Relocated in 2009 to Dayton after four years in McHenry County, Illinois, we are committed to producing ambitious works of contemporary art by linking young people aged 14 – 18 from throughout the local community with professional artists from around the world to pursue projects proposed by the artists. The perspectives and insights of young people have a tremendous amount to offer artists and we are interested in seeing what happens when they collaborate.

Blue Sky's objectives are threefold:

- Provide an environment for the Resident Artists to extend their own artistic exploration and studio practice in a unique collaborative setting with youth;
- Develop the leadership, self-awareness, critical-thinking, communication and collaborative skills of the Youth Participants through Blue Sky's unique contemporary art making process;
- Enhance the vibrancy of the community through increased engagement and creative energy.

ARTWORK EXHIBITION & OWNERSHIP

Blue Sky Project culminates each summer in a final presentation/exhibition of the collaborative works. We encourage artists to include some opportunity for the Youth Participants to create individual work during the development of the project, which the youth can keep.

Blue Sky Project is largely funded through private and public grants. We also generate revenue by the sale of works produced during Blue Sky. Participating artists retain the creative rights to the work they produce individually or collaboratively with the youth.

During and after Blue Sky, we exhibit current and retrospective work in gallery spaces and on our website. For this purpose, we encourage extended loans of works produced during Blue Sky, ownership of a "set" of works when works are reproducible and/or ownership of some quantity of the total number of works produced. When objects are produced by Blue Sky collaboration, Blue Sky will negotiate terms of sales and ownership individually with each artist based on the specifics of the project.



PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Your current creative practice and new ideas should provide the foundation for your proposal. Our program is not art education. It is essential that participating artists understand the unique opportunity presented and think about ways they can use their collaborative time with youth and the other resident artists, to their own maximum artistic benefit.

Possible lines of thinking about projects include: (for thinking only--answers not to be included in application)

- Blue Sky as a laboratory in which you investigate an idea relevant to your practice.
- In what ways might you want to open up your practice and how can you use your time with Blue Sky to experiment, produce a prototype or test a new idea?
- What can you make or do that you can't on your own or in your own region?
- Are teens or issues around adolescence the subject of a work you haven't yet made?
- What can you gain by seeing how a group of people use the same materials and ideas you have been using for years?
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to visit the University of Dayton website (www.udayton.edu) for ideas about projects, resources and possible areas of further collaboration. Many departments and faculty members are interested in collaborating with Blue Sky Project artists.

Your project must be achievable in eight-weeks. Each project has a \$1,000 budget (not including final presentation expenses.) Artists may supplement with personal funds or other grants. Previous projects have included: sculptural sound installation, video installation, performance, musical composition, dance installation, 2D visual-art and photography, self-published magazines, and site-specific interventions. To see examples of previous projects, please visit www.blueskydayton.org.

To apply to be one of five Blue Sky Project Artists-in-Residence for 2012 please send:

- Application Cover Form
- Answers to questions 1- 6 below
- Current resume
- Work samples: in appropriate number (2-12 works) and form:
 - For visual artists, 1 CD with all images in PowerPoint presentation
 - For video artists (and all video submissions), 1 CD with videos in QuickTime, .MOV or MP4 formats. Will review up to 10 minutes of video. (Please avoid sending DVDs if at all possible.)
 - For sound artists, 1 CD in MP3 format.
 - For writers, electronic or hardcopy excerpts, not to exceed five pages each.

Note: Blue Sky Project does not return work samples.

PROPOSAL QUESTIONS

1. What are the central ideas, questions, techniques and materials of your work? (200 word limit)
2. How would you use your Blue Sky collaboration to further your creative pursuits? (200 word limit)
3. Please describe your specific project idea. Please provide activity examples and anticipated final outcomes. (500 word limit)
4. Please describe your leadership style when working with youth. Which aspects of collaboration with youth do you think will come easily to you? What challenges can you foresee? (500 word limit)
5. What materials or resources including studio facilities, computer access, etc. might you need? Are there specific departments, campus resources or Dayton area resources that you might be interested in working with?
6. Please list and estimate costs for materials.

(We understand that projects are subject to change during the process of collaboration)



DETAILS

- Blue Sky Project pays a stipend of \$7,000 for 9 weeks: 8 program + .5 orientation + .5 conclusion
- Teen-aged Collaborators (Youth Participants) are on-site Monday - Thursday from 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM. Each project group will be given a room to use as their studio. Studios are housed at the University of Dayton. Resident Artists have 24-hour access to studios, seven days a week.
- University of Dayton has a wealth of arts and non-arts spaces and resources to offer Blue Sky Project. Facilities include, but are not limited to, ceramics studio, dance studio, photography lab, printmaking lab, computer lab, drawing and painting studios, recording studio, radio station, theater and gallery.
- Blue Sky Project is a community-based program. From time-to-time Artists-in-Residence may be asked to give some of their time/talent back to the community in support of Blue Sky. These requests are not mandatory, although we ask artists to keep in mind the community support that makes Blue Sky possible.
- Key Dates:
 - Artists Arrival: Tuesday, June 5
 - Artist Orientation: Wednesday - Friday, June 6 - 9
 - Youth & Parent Orientation and Artist Introductions: Sunday June 10, 1:00 – 3:30pm
 - Program: Monday – Thursday June 11 - August 2 (8 weeks), 10:00am - 3:30pm
 - Final Exhibition & Closing Reception: Thursday - Saturday, August 2 – 4
 - Exhibition Take-down: Sunday, August 7
 - Departure: Monday, August 8
- Housing: Artists-in-Residence live together (private bedrooms) in housing provided on the University of Dayton campus, located approximately 2 miles from downtown Dayton. Artists are responsible for their meals and house maintenance.
- Transportation: Artists pay for domestic travel to and from Blue Sky Project. Dayton, Cincinnati and Columbus airports are all in proximity. Blue Sky has one mini-van, which seats seven, for all artists to share. Artists are encouraged to bring a car when practical.

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

The University of Dayton — Catholic, Marianist, innovative, transformative — stands as a leader in higher education and one of the preeminent Catholic universities in the nation. It's the largest private university in Ohio. Founded by the Society of Mary (the Marianists) in 1850, the University of Dayton focuses on educating the whole person through a community of challenge and support. A University of Dayton education is transformative. Students are prepared for both life and work and learn skills in building community, leading through service to others.

DAYTON, OHIO

Dayton is located southwestern Ohio, in the heart of the Miami Valley. It is the county seat and largest city of Montgomery County. The population was 141,527 at the 2010 census. The Dayton Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Montgomery, Miami, Greene, and Preble counties, had a population of 841,502.

Historically, Dayton has been known as a city of innovation. Home of the Wright Brothers, and Wright-Patterson Air Force base, at one time Dayton claimed more patents per capita than any American city. Although the population has shrunk significantly from its manufacturing heyday, it still claims a vibrant cultural life, including the internationally-acclaimed Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, the Dayton Art Institute, Dayton Ballet, Dayton Philharmonic, Dayton Opera, Human Race Theatre Company and a vibrant contemporary arts community helping to resurrect the core downtown. The Five Rivers Metro Parks (<http://www.metro parks.org/>) system operates 19 locations throughout the region, making hiking, canoeing, camping just minutes away.



APPLICATION COVER SHEET

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTRY _____

E-MAIL _____

PHONE _____ CEL _____

PRIMARY FORMS
OF CREATIVE WORK _____

REFERENCES (2)

Name _____

Organization _____

Phone _____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT BLUE SKY? _____

SEND TO: Blue Sky Project • P.O. Box 10506 • Dayton, Ohio 45402-7506 • 937.732.5123

Postmark deadline, Monday, January 16, 2012