# Nature Foundation Artist Residency Program 2024

## About Nature Foundation

Nature Foundation is an apolitical not-for-profit foundation that invests in conserving, restoring and protecting South Australian landscapes, flora and fauna to ensure their survival. We aim to lead the way in sustainable nature conservation. We currently manage seven nature reserves for conservation with our two largest being Witchelina Nature Reserve in the far north of the state, and Hiltaba Nature Reserve in the far west. Both offer opportunities to enjoy beautiful and diverse landscapes, flora, fauna, geology, and other natural features to inspire artists working in a variety of media.

## Artist Residency Program

Nature Foundation’s Artist Residency Program was launched in 2019. The program offers artists an opportunity to work on Witchelina or Hiltaba Nature Reserves, at times to be negotiated during the 7-month period in which they are open to visitors from 1 April to 31 October. Both nature reserves are approximately 630kms (9-10 hours drive), from Adelaide.

The program aims to:

* reflect Nature Foundation’s conservation vision by encouraging artists to become immersed in the natural environment, and to respond to it in their creative work;
* support the work of participating artists with an interest in remote natural environments, by providing them with opportunities for substantial visits to Witchelina, Hiltaba, or both.

In pursuit of these aims, the Residency Program seeks to attract professional artists, producing high-quality work inspired by nature.

***Nature Foundation gratefully acknowledges sponsorship of this program by the Helen James Endowment Fund.***

## What is offered?

The Residency program invites up to three artists each year to spend up to two weeks on either Witchelina, Hiltaba, or a week on each. These large nature reserves offer extensive opportunities to create work inspired by rich biodiversity and rarely-visited landscapes.

Nature Foundation provide participating artists with accommodation and general support, including orientation to, and guidance on the nature reserves. Accommodation options include a choice of:

* Camping (participating artist needs to provide all sleeping and cooking equipment)
* Shearers’ Quarters (single or double rooms, with access to showers, toilets, and shared kitchen facilities)
* Self-contained cottage or house accommodation.

Transport to and from the chosen reserve(s) will be the responsibility of participating artists. A living away from home allowance commensurate with the length of a Residency will be offered to participating artists. However, participants will need to provide their own food and all consumables for the duration of the Residency, as well as a vehicle and equipment (including safety equipment) suitable for travel and work in remote areas.

The Residency Program offers participating artists the opportunity to discover new markets for their work, particularly collectors who are specifically interested in artwork inspired by nature.

Following the conclusion of the Residency, Nature Foundation will promote and sell works generated through artists’ visits via its media and exhibition opportunities including its website, *Nature Matters* newsletter, email, social media and member events. An appropriate commission will be negotiated with participating artists, prior to the commencement of their Residency.

***Please note: successful applicants will be solely responsible for costs and arrangements associated with transport of their work, and their own travel, to and from the exhibition in an Adelaide venue.***

Managing nature reserves generates operational requirements that may take priority over other activities. Nature Foundation reserves the right to postpone or cancel Residencies, or to restrict access to all or part of the properties with regard to these requirements.

## Who can apply?

Nature Foundation wishes to encourage professional artists. Suitable artists may be art school trained and may be regularly selling work and exhibiting in a commercial gallery, but these will not be preconditions for a Residency.

Aboriginal artists are strongly encouraged to apply.

## How do I apply for a Residency?

An application form is attached to this Prospectus. Completed applications should be forwarded to: **Nature Foundation** [info@naturefoundation.org.au](mailto:info@naturefoundation.org.au)   
***and***  
**Lange Powell, Co-ordinator, Artist Residency Program** [powellan@internode.on.net](mailto:powellan@internode.on.net)

Applications must be received by **Thursday 14 March 2024**

## Assessment Process and Assessment Criteria

A panel of three members of Nature Foundation will assess and short-list applications. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview by the panel.

Applications will be assessed on the basis of:

* Artistic merit as revealed in the images supplied;
* Professional record as an artist;
* Compatibility of an applicant’s aims with those of the Residency program;
* Experience of, or preparedness for, living and working in remote outback environments.

**Nature Foundation reserves the right to seek professional or personal references if required.**

Further information about visiting Witchelina and Hiltaba Nature Reserves can be found at:

* <https://www.naturefoundation.org.au/what-we-do/nature-based-tourism/visit-witchelina>
* <https://www.naturefoundation.org.au/what-we-do/nature-based-tourism/visit-hiltaba>

Further information about Nature Foundation’s Artist Residency Program is available from:

* Lange Powell: [powellan@internode.on.net](mailto:powellan@internode.on.net) Mobile: 0417 867 299
* Geoff Gibbons: [gibbart@bigpond.com](mailto:gibbart@bigpond.com) Mobile: 0421 924 937

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## Application Form

1. **Personal details**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **Residency dates**

The Residency program invites up to 3 artists each year to spend up to two weeks on either Witchelina, Hiltaba, or a week on each. Both Reserves are open to visitors between 1 April and 31 October. If you are offered a Residency, please specify:

* Preferred nature reserve(s) for Residency (please tick)

🞏 Witchelina  
🞏 Hiltaba  
🞏 Both  
🞏 Don’t know yet

* Preferred dates for residency (***please note****: preferred dates cannot be guaranteed*)  
    
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1. **Objectives of Residency**

Please provide a brief statement (1-2 paragraphs), outlining what you would like to achieve during your Residency e.g. your general aims and how these relate to Nature Foundation’s conservation vision; or if you have a more specific project in mind.

1. **Recent work**

Please provide a link to your website, or a selection of six digital images of your recent work, including details of sizes, medium and date. Images should be of at least 300dpi and compressed for sending as an e-mail attachment.

1. **Gallery commitments**

Please provide details of any exclusive or other contractual arrangements you may have with a commercial gallery.

1. **Artist’s CV**

Please provide an artist’s CV of up to one page; to include a selection of recent exhibitions with the name of the gallery or galleries.

1. **Experience**

Much of Witchelina and Hiltaba Nature Reserves is remote country. Please provide details of any experience you have had of visiting or working in country or outback environments.

1. **Further information**

For more information about the Artist Residency Program or this application form, please contact:

* **Geoff Gibbons:** [gibbart@bigpond.com](mailto:gibbart@bigpond.com) Mobile: 0421 924 937
* **Lange Powell:** [powellan@internode.on.net](mailto:powellan@internode.on.net) Mobile: 0417 867 299