

"DING" DARLING WILDLIFE SOCIETY'S ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Artists have forever been inspired by the outdoors. Our national lands provide that opportunity to individuals from around the world. One of 568 refuges across the country, the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is one of the most visited. It attracts artists of all mediums to visit and become inspired by the wildlife surrounding them.

In the spirit of our namesake, Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling – artist and Pulitzer Prize-winning political cartoonist – the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society (DDWS), in collaboration with the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, established our first Artist-in-Residence (AIR) program in Summer 2019, as a way to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR. As a way to continue "Ding's" legacy and encourage the use of art to bring awareness to conservation, we plan to continue this program. DDWS's AIR program provides a platform for artists of all backgrounds, experiences, and disciplines to grow their portfolio, increase visibility with an audience base with nearly one million annual visitors to the Refuge, and help spread the message of conservation through art. Currently, the Artist-in-Residence program is by invitation only.

Location: J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge; Sanibel, FL

Dates: To be determined by DDWS and artist.

Residency Type: Artists of all mediums are welcome. A studio is not provided, so artists will have to work in their lodging or plein air. A pop-up tent is available.

Funding: Housing is provided. A \$1,000 stipend is available. Artist is responsible for travel, supplies, and food costs.

Housing: A two-bedroom, one-bath house is located in the center of Sanibel Island within walking distance to grocery store and shops. A vehicle is recommended for traveling through the Refuge and on the island. DDWS will also provide a bicycle.

Artist Events/Workshops required: As the official Artist in Residence, the artist will be expected to participate and present various programs, workshops, and events planned in collaboration with DDWS.

Art Exhibit: The Artist in Residence will have an opportunity to exhibit the work accomplished during the residence program, plus other pieces in the artists' collection, and must meet the guidelines for exhibiting at the J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR. The location of the exhibit will be within the Refuge Visitor & Education Center Auditorium. All sales must be negotiated and handled through the Nature Store.

