



## **Working Lands, Working Artists: Leveraging Art and Design to Support Sustainable Agriculture Planning in Mariposa County**

### **Phase 2**

#### About the Project

The [Mariposa County Planning Department](#) and the [Mariposa County Arts Council](#) has been awarded an [Our Town grant](#) from the [National Endowment for the Arts](#) to work with artists as part of the County/Arts Council's **Working Lands, Working Artists initiative (WLWA)**, which supports the development and installation of creative placemaking projects and artistic interventions that support the County's, currently in development, [Agriculture and Working Lands Conservation Plan](#) (AWLCP).

Specifically, in WLWA Phase 2, the Arts Council and the Planning Department would like to work with regional social practice artist<sup>1</sup> to develop 1-2 public-facing creative placemaking projects that respond to and interpret specific recommendations in the AWLCP draft connected to timber and forest land (see [Exhibit A](#) at the end of this document). Additionally, in alignment with the Mariposa County Creative Placemaking Strategy (CPS), WLWA Phase 2 projects will be located at Midpines County Park (see [Exhibit B](#) at the end of this document). Proposed projects' total budget may range from \$5,000-\$25,000.

The Planning Department and the Arts Council are asking interested regional social practice artists, culture bearers and designers to submit a letter of intent (LOI) that succinctly outlines a proposed project. These LOIs will be reviewed by Mariposa County and Arts Council staff. Artists submitting viable

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this project, we are using a loose definition of the term *social practice artists*. Ideally, artists submitting an LOI for this project will have experience or understanding of embedding meaningful community engagement work into their practice and/or feel comfortable expressing community goals, priorities and needs in their work.



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LOIs will be invited to submit a full proposal that will be adjudicated by a panel of Mariposa County staff, artists, and local community members who will make the final artists selections.

Please note, successfully adjudicated projects will undergo a public stakeholder engagement process supported by the Arts Council to refine the project. Depending on the proposed project, it may also need to be reviewed and approved by Mariposa County Public Works Parks Commission, Mariposa County Planning Departments Creative Placemaking Strategy Advisory Committee and the Midpines Planning Commission. All projects must be approved by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors.

## Who Can Apply

California based artists working the fields of visual, media, traditional, music, theatre, literature, and interdisciplinary arts, 18 years or older.

## Eligible Request Amounts

Artists may request between \$5,000 - \$25,000 for a project.

## Timeline

- November 9-26, 2023 - Artist submit LOI via portal on [Arts Council website](#) by 11:59 pm on November 26, 2023.
- November 27-December 1, 2023 - Mariposa County Planning and Arts Council staff review LOIs
- December 4 - 15, 2023 – Arts Council invites artists who submitted viable LOIs to submit full proposals. Full proposals will include stakeholder engagement plan and all documentation and project details that may be necessary for County approval processes. The Arts Council will work with all artists submitting full proposals to develop these materials.
- December 18, 2023 - Full proposals due



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- January 2-5, 2024 - Panel adjudicates full proposals and announces successful project
- January 15-February 15, 2024 - Online stakeholder engagement, Public Works Parks Commission and Creative Placemaking Strategy Advisory Committee, Midpines Planning Advisory Committee review and approval
- February 20, 2024 - Approval by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors
- February 21 - May 3, 2024 – Projects creation/fabrication and installation
- May 13-18 - Presentation of project to the public

## Funding Restrictions

Artists may only submit one LOI.

## This Project Does Not Fund

- Arts Education Projects/Programs
- General Publication of Books
- Social activities such as receptions, parties, galas, community dinners, and potlucks/picnics.
- Commercial (for-profit) enterprises or activities, including concessions, food, T-shirts, artwork, or other items for resale. This includes online or virtual sales/shops.
- Lobbying, including activities intended to influence the outcome of elections or influence government officials regarding pending legislation, either directly or through specific lobbying appeals to the public.
- Voter registration drives and related activities.
- Construction, purchase, or renovation of facilities.
- Rental costs for home office workspace owned by individuals.

*Please note: As will be detailed in the final contract, selected artists retain all copyright and commercial rights to their work. However, documentation of all successful projects will be used to promote and support the Agriculture and Working Lands Conservation Plan and will be used in communication materials by all AWLCP partners related to the plan.*



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## Submission Checklist

This list of questions and requested documents is provided to help you get ready to complete the online letter of intent (LOI) submission form.

### Applicant Information

- Name
- Contact Email (all communication for this project will be done over email)
- Business Address/Mailing Address
- Website (if applicable)
- Social media handles
- Artist Biography

### Proposed project information

- What artistic media / fields does your project use?
- Project Description. Provide a detailed description (750 words or fewer) of your proposed project. Please make sure you [visit the site](#) so you can effectively contextualize your project within the location.
- Thematic Statement. How does your proposed project make an explicit connection to both the specific recommendations in the [AWLCP](#) and [CPS](#) found in the attached exhibits.
- Please provide a budget for your project, including all installation costs.
- Are you working in partnership with any other members of the local community on your project? If so, please share the details of that partnership.
- Is this project scalable? If so, please provide details.



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## Requested documents.

You can upload these in the form, or include a shareable link to documents stored online.

- CV, Resume and / or Exhibition List
- 1-3 relevant work samples
- A professional rendering of the project situated in the context of the specific identified location (If the proposed project is a physical, site-specific piece). This should include dimensions, material description, installment/disassembly process and requirement, and any other relevant design or logistical information.

Please submit LOI via portal on the [Mariposa Arts Council website](#) by 11:59 pm on November 26, 2023.

## Questions?

Ava Burns - [burns@mariposaartscouncil.org](mailto:burns@mariposaartscouncil.org)

Cara Goger - [goger@mariposaartscouncil.org](mailto:goger@mariposaartscouncil.org)

Exhibit A: [AWLCP Strategies](#)

Exhibit B: [Mariposa County Creative Placemaking Strategy Summary](#)