CALL FOR ENTRIES
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum
and the Alliance for the Arts

H2O Exhibition
February 09 – April 30, 2021

Call to Artists:

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum and the Alliance for the Arts are partnering to create an exhibition focused on water.

Water is the source of all life and has been an inspiration for artists, writers and philosophers around the world for thousands of years. This exhibit will bring together scientists, artists of many different media, as well as historians and authors for an extended conversation regarding humans’ relationship and dependence upon water in all its forms.

Water is critical to life on earth. It’s the ocean, rain, rivers, lakes, waterfalls, snow, dew, fog, mist and ice. It’s around us all the time in the air we breathe. Most of the life on earth lives, not on land, but in water. Florida’s bordered by water on three sides and consumed by water-related issues: the fresh water aquifers; rising sea levels; red tide, blue-green algae, the Apalachicola River, the Caloosahatchee River, Lake Okeechobee, the Everglades and more. Water is also a place to play, a source of continual inspiration, critical to many people’s livelihoods, as well as Florida’s major tourism attraction.

Water is both a calming release and a destructive force. Tides connect us to the moon and the universe beyond. Water is featured in literature and song around the world and through the ages. It’s impossible to overemphasize water’s importance, and each one of us has a different (and often changing) relationship to water. This exhibition hopes to bring many interpretations and responses to our infinite individual and communal connections to water.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM:
The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is a Natural History Museum, and the only museum in the United States devoted solely to shells and mollusks. Our mission is to connect people to the natural world through their love of shells and the marvelous animals that create them. We use our collections, programs, and expertise to inspire learning, support scientific research, tell the story of mollusks and the ocean that they inhabit. There are more mollusks in the oceans than all marine mammals and fish species combined, and mollusks are becoming extinct faster than we can name them due to climate change, ocean acidification, and pollution.

ABOUT THE EXHIBIT SPACE:
Artworks will be installed at the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum located on Sanibel Island, FL, a top tourist destination. Sanibel receives 3.3 million visitors each year. The Museum expects 75,000 visitors in 2021. The exhibit space is a multi-use exhibition space with moderate security. There are also indoor and outdoor alternative installation spaces available for proposal. (See images below) Artists should fully conceptualize and articulate their installation requirements if proposing any of these locations.

Transforming lives and improving our community through the arts.
ABOUT ALLIANCE FOR THE ARTS:
The Alliance for the Arts is a vibrant and welcoming nonprofit visual and performing arts center located in the heart of southwest Florida. Since the 1970s, we’ve been transforming lives and improving community through the arts. Our year-round schedule of events has become a staple for our community to connect with each other and to the arts during engaging gallery exhibitions, inspiring art classes and stimulating theatre productions. The Alliance is creative space that spurs and supports self-expression, imagination and equity.

ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY FEE:
This call is open to all artists residing in Florida. All mediums will be considered including sculpture, jewelry, painting (including oil, acrylic, collage, watercolor and mixed media), drawing, printmaking, photography, digital media, video and installation. Only original artwork will be accepted. No giclées or reproductions.

An entry consists of 1 to 3 artworks. Non-refundable Entry Fee is $20.00 for one entry and $35.00 for 2 or 3 entries for Alliance for the Arts or Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum members - $25.00 for one entry and $45.00 for 2 or 3 entries for nonmembers. Alliance for the Arts memberships are $55.00 and are good for one year. Shell Museum memberships begin at $100 and include reciprocity with hundreds of Museums around the United States.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY:
All entries must be submitted online no later than Friday, November 6, 2020. Upload digital images of artwork in JPG or PNG format. File size limit is 5MB. Files must be titled as follows- ARTIST- NAME-TITLE-MEDIUM-DIMENSIONS.JPG

AWARDS- $1000 for Best in Show, 2nd Place- $250, 3rd Place-$100, Jurors Choice Award- $50

JURY PROCESS
The Alliance for the Arts and the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum will select a jury comprised of regional artists and art professionals, as well as staff members of the Alliance and the Shell Museum.

SPECIFICATIONS:
All 2D artwork must be wired and ready to hang and not exceed six feet in any direction. All 3D artwork must not exceed six feet in any direction or 150 lbs. Installation proposals will be an exception to this criteria and are dependent on artists fully conceptualizing and articulating their installation requirements. All artwork must have been completed in the last two years and not previously shown at the Alliance.

LIABILITY
If artwork is juried in, artists are responsible for all shipping costs. Every effort will be made to handle with care, including protection from loss. Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum and Alliance for the Arts will not be liable for loss or damage caused or occurring while work is exhibited or during shipping. Submission of any artwork constitutes an agreement to all conditions of this entry form, including schedule and permission to photograph for publicity purposes. Signature on the entry form is an agreement to these conditions.

SALES
All submitted works selected for inclusion and display during this exhibition must be offered for sale to the public at a labeled price set by the artist. Entries submitted not for sale will be rejected. A 40% commission will be retained by Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum and Alliance for the Arts on all work sold during the exhibition.

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EXHIBITION CALENDAR:

Exhibit Dates: February 09 – April 30, 2021
Deadline for Entries: Friday, November 6, 2020
Email Notification of Acceptance or Decline: November 20
Drop off or Delivery Deadline for Accepted Work: December 18 from 9AM-5PM
Deliver or Ship Accepted Artwork to: 3075 Sanibel Captiva Rd, Sanibel, FL 33957
Opening Reception: February 09, 2021 5:30 – 7:30PM
Closing Reception: Friday, April 30, 2021, 5:30-7:30PM

*Additional Gallery Events, Artist Demos and Activities to be announced.*

Follow this link to submit online now.
You may become a member in order to receive the member price.

Alliance for the Arts Membership: www.ArtInLee.org/Join
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum Membership: https://www.shellmuseum.org/membership
To Submit: www.artinlee.org/H20exhibit
ALTERNATIVE INSTALLATION AREAS:

Opposite Staircase (from second floor)

Inside Atrium Staircase

Side of Building Outdoor Seating Area

Front Entryway
ALTERNATIVE INSTALLATION AREA DIMENSIONS

Opposite Staircase: Approximately 4’ 10” x 18’

Inside Atrium Staircase: Approximately 6’ x 11’

Side of Building Outdoor Seating Area: Approximately 22’ x 6’

Front Entryway: Approximately 12’ x 5’ 6”