



A Partner in Education
2415 Avenue K
Galveston, TX 77550
(409) 770-0722
www.artistboat.org

November 15, 2010

Thank you for your interest in this Coastal Waters Institute Scholarship!

Artist Boat is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to promoting awareness and preservation of the coastal margins and the marine environment through the disciplines of the sciences and arts. For six years Artist Boat has been providing hands-on educational experiences combining the disciplines of art and science to explore coastal habitats through the Eco-Art Workshop and Adventure via Kayak and/or Vessel Program. We are excited to announce we have been awarded a grant from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Gulf of Mexico Bay Watershed and Education Training (NOAA B-WET) to provide 7th and 8th grade teachers of the Galveston Bay area with our Environmental Program. With this increase we hope to expand our Environmental Program to reach more students of the upper Texas coast. Our Environmental Program will provide your students with a memorable experience that will not only increase TAKS scores but also foster higher-level thinking skills and an appreciation of our natural environment.

Artist Boat has much to offer teachers and students with the Environmental Program. We will provide professional developments (up to 40 CPE hours), the Coastal Waters Institute (CWI) for art, science, social studies, English and math. The content of the professional development will be based on the 17 Priorities of Galveston Bay and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Ocean Literacy Principles. Teachers will also learn how to deliver Artist Boat's professionally developed, hands-on Environmental Curriculum (each CWI teacher will receive a copy). Curricula are aligned with TEKS and designed to be both fun and enlightening.

Artist Boat's staff will deliver two-hour Eco-Art Workshops in the classroom as well as four-hour Eco-Art Adventures via kayak! The workshops emphasize science using hands-on activities introducing the Gulf of Mexico and the local coastal ecosystem, as well as a watercolor painting lesson to prepare students for their field experience. Adventures include first-hand encounters of wetland ecosystems with professional science interpretation and a naturalist art activity. These trips provide a unique outdoor learning experience in a teamwork-driven environment.

The cost of Artist Boat's delivery of the CWI, Workshops, and Adventures is absorbed fully by our funding partner, so it is only necessary for schools to cover the cost of bus transportation to all scheduled Adventures. Our programs provide students with memories they will carry for a lifetime. We look forward to a lasting partnership with you and your school!

Sincerely,

Rani Henderson
Director of Education



“This was the best day of my life... I learned more today than I did all year...I wish my parents could see the Bay by kayaking... I didn't think learning could be so much fun and the marsh is so peaceful.”

- Student quotes 2003 - 2007



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Coastal Waters Institute for Art, Science, and Math Acknowledgement Form

Part of participation in Artist Boat's Environmental Program is to recognize and acknowledge all expectations and duties entailed in the program. It is important that all expectations are understood and achieved in order to assure that optimal learning takes place. Below is a detailed list of all expectations (as seen in your cover letter of this application packet).

With the Environmental Program Artist Boat will:

- Provide professional development, the Coastal Waters Institute, for art, science, English, social studies, and math teachers, which will focus on giving background knowledge of Galveston Bay and demonstrating to teachers how to deliver Artist Boat's Environmental Curriculum.
- Provide two-hour Eco-Art Workshops in the classroom for participating teachers that will introduce students to the field experience. Each workshop includes one hour of science using hands-on activities to examine the historical uses, natural resources, and Galveston Bay System. Also included as part of the workshop is one hour of art instruction demonstrating watercolor materials and techniques used to create artwork inspired by nature and students production of a fine art piece.
- Provide four-hour Eco-Art Adventures via kayak and/or vessel for students. Kayak trips take place at Galveston Island State Park, East End Lagoon, Christmas Bay (Galveston, TX), or Trinity River (Anahuac, TX). These site-based adventures include science interpretation and art using watercolors.
- Provide Environmental Curricula with 30 lessons for 7th and 8th grade levels integrating science into each core subject (including art, science, math, social studies, and English).
- Ensure that entire curricula are aligned with TEKS, therefore improving performance on TAKS.
- Address real-life situations presented in estuarine habitats.
- Strengthen students' problem solving and teamwork skills.
- Provide an environmental literacy practicum for all students to be taken after the entire program has been completed.
- Provide questionnaires to evaluate the depth of knowledge of Galveston Bay prior to and after the Eco-Art Workshop and Adventure.

Artist Boat and their funding partners expect (please initial next to each statement):

___ ***Schools and districts cover the expense of bus transportation to and from field experiences.***

___ Schools and participating teachers will ensure that a minimum of 15 students attend each adventure date.

___ Full participation by students and teachers in all components of the program.

___ Teachers will deliver and complete pre/post-activities of the Environmental Curriculum with students.

___ Student completion of unit quizzes, pre/post questionnaire, and attitude and behavior survey delivered to Artist Boat.

___ Teacher completion of all evaluations, including evaluation of the workshop, adventure, professional development, and environmental curricula (evaluation forms will be provided by Artist Boat).

___ Teachers of the Coastal Waters Institute of Art, Science, and Math will work in teams to develop a lesson in math or science that is based on the experiential learning cycle, relates to the coastal zone, and relates to the current global economy.

Each teacher chosen to participate in the Environmental Program will receive CPE hours (up to 48) for attending the professional development and developing a lesson in math or science (details of lesson will be provided during the professional development). Teachers will also receive kayak adventures to be filled by classes he/she chooses to benefit from this program and teacher packets with resources to help him/her expand their knowledge about Galveston Bay and Ocean Literacy. Artist Boat works hard and passionately to ensure that all participants gain an appreciation of our coastal margins and marine environment.

The value of our program is detailed below:

One four-hour kayak adventure equals \$750 for 25 participants to experience.

Professional development equals \$4150 per teacher (for five days).

The amount of learning and appreciation gained through the Environmental Program is generally great, but is difficult to calculate.

Measurements will be taken to provide the amount of stewardship and knowledge gained by the Environmental Program. Below is a list of measurements that the participating teacher and principal will need to agree upon with Artist Boat. This will allow Artist Boat to provide an actual value of the Environmental Program.

- Attitude and Behavior survey
- Grades of pre and post questionnaires of the Eco-Art Workshop and Adventure Program
- Grades of Unit Quizzes of the Environmental Curricula
- The ability to compare the program with student achievement on campus by comparing participating teachers' students to non-participating teachers' students on the same campus utilizing standardized test scores in 7th and 8th grade math and science (*as access is provided by the school's principal*)
- Evaluation of professional development, workshop, and adventure.

By signing below the teacher and principal is acknowledging and agreeing the above stated.

Teacher

Date

Principal

Date

Principal's email

Principal's Phone



Science + Action = Gulf Coast Literacy

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info@artistboat.org

Galveston Bay Area Coastal Waters Institute
Teacher Application
Must be submitted by June 3, 2011

Please fill out the information below by printing or typing in the spaces provided.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Subject _____ Grade _____

School _____ District _____

School Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Please mark with '1st' and '2nd' for the following dates of the Institute you would like to attend.

Session1: week of June 13, 2011 _____ Session2: week of July 11, 2011 _____

M-F; 8am-5pm M-F; 8am-5pm

Session3: week of August 1, 2011 _____

M-F; 8am-5pm

Please name, below, other teachers from your school that are applying for this program. Be sure to have the correct name that he/she will be applying with. If there is not enough space below please add a separate sheet to your application.

| | | | |
|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Name _____ | School _____ | subject _____ | grade _____ |
| Name _____ | School _____ | subject _____ | grade _____ |
| Name _____ | School _____ | subject _____ | grade _____ |
| Name _____ | School _____ | subject _____ | grade _____ |

Provide an attached 250-word essay as to why you as a teacher, your students, and school are most deserving of this program, how all will benefit, and how all will continue on with the knowledge an appreciation gained through out the program.

Return signed acknowledgement, completed application form, and essay to ...

Artist Boat, Attn: Rani Henderson
2415 Ave K
Galveston, TX 77550

Be sure to make copies of the sent documents for your records. Any questions contact Rani Henderson by phone 409-770-0722 or email rhenderson@artistboat.org. All applicants will be notified of acceptance no later than June 7, 2011.