Artist Boat Annual Report
September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017

We protect our Gulf Coast through conservation and fun, educational, inspiring adventures that spark creativity, awareness and action such as exploring nature and creating eco-art.
Since opening its doors in August of 2003, Artist Boat has expanded to offer eight Eco-Art and environmental education programs, established the Coastal Heritage Preserve conserving 660+ acres of coastal habitat, and is developing the Gulf Coast Environmental Center to deepen the organization’s ability to further engage K-Gray learners. **Artist Boat has served 118,634 participants in our programs from 2003-2017, connecting people to Gulf Coast environments through mind-opening experiences.**

- Youth Eco-Art Workshops
- Youth Eco-Art Adventures
- Professional Development
- Eco-Art Residencies
- Project S.I.T.
- Public & Private Eco-Art Adventures
- Coastal Heritage Preserve
- Habitat Restoration Adventures
- Outreach & Engagement
- 1% to Conserve Galveston Island
Artist Boat Re-Branding

Branding Plan

• An organizational Purpose and Brand Promise
  • We protect our Gulf Coast through land conservation and fun, educational, inspiring adventures that spark creativity, awareness and action such as exploring nature and creating eco-art.
• A Signature Statement
  • Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences.
• Key organizational messages for our programs
  • The coast is unique, beautiful, and alive. Artist Boat experiences inspire individuals to take action to protect our precious coast.
• A list of clearly defined organizational goals
  • To have participants engage in multiple programs
  • To reach a regional donor base with compelling brand messaging to increase Artist Boat’s development capacity
• A consistent look and feel for all of our communications
• Acknowledging all audiences and channels for communication and engagement

New Website

In conjunction with our new branding guidelines, Artist Boat also commissioned Galveston.com to help us build a new website

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Eco-Art Workshops

**Artist Boat educates and inspires people of all ages to action to preserve and protect coastal and marine habitats.** Our hands-on, in-class lessons to teach students how freshwater and saltwater create the cradle of life for our oceans in our estuaries. The two-hour workshops explore topics such as watersheds, wetlands, and water coloring.

“**The combination of art and science in the workshop moves students past facts to a personal investment in coastal issues.**”

- Carolyn Klein, Westside High School

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Eco-Art Workshops
Using eco-art as tool to engage K-Gray learners in understand coastal protection issues

Artist Boat served **2,395 participants in 2016-17 with Eco-Art Workshops. Since 2003, we have reached 28,735 students** and teachers through our two-hour long Eco-Art Workshops. This year workshops also included Habitat Restoration Workshops and the additional Blue Carbon and GLOBE workshops of the NOAA-BWET Program. Participation in workshops additional to the Eco-Art Workshop is indicated separately. For more information on additional workshops see the STEAM-Powered Program section.

Eco-Art Workshops

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Eco-Art Adventures

Artist Boat’s naturalists show youth how to protect our beautiful Gulf coast.

“A true outdoor experience in which they brought theory into practice!” - Michael Tee, Davis High School

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Eco-Art Adventures
A national model for outdoor educational experiences for small groups led by scientists and artists

Artist Boat served **1,896 participants with Eco-Art Adventures via kayak, foot, or vessel in 2016-17.** Since 2003, **we reached 30,134 students and teachers** through our four-hour long Eco-Art Adventures. The drop in individual participants this year is related to the addition of Habitat Restoration Adventures and the second adventure added by the NOAA-BWET program.

**Eco-Art Adventures**

![Graph showing the number of participants from 2003-2004 to 2016-2017.](image)

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences.
STEAM Powered: Blue Carbon Art IQ

Artist Boat is a national leader and designer of in outdoor educational experiences

Artist Boat offered an expanded Eco-Art Workshop and Adventure Program to Pasadena and Galveston 7th graders. The STEAM Powered: Blue Carbon Art IQ program offers two workshops and two adventures so students can better explore complex concepts like sea level rise, carbon sequestration, climate change and ecosystem services. The total lab and art studio and field time is 14+ hours of science, technology, engineering, art, and science (STEAM).

Students engaged in project based learning through their final pieces translating knowledge through conceptual art pieces to demonstrate concepts like thermal expansion, global average temperatures, and ocean acidification. The assembly of these workshops and adventures make the program state-of-the-art in science literacy and arts literacy. The students art work was displayed at the Galveston Art Center and Pasadena ISD Administrative Offices.
STEAM Powered
Program Components

The STEAM Powered Blue Carbon Art IQ Program expanded workshop and adventure experiences to 7th graders in Pasadena and Galveston Independent School Districts. Students participated in:

- Eco-Art Workshop
- Eco-Art Adventure 1 (focus on art)
- GLOBE Workshop (focus on water quality data and graphing)
- Eco-Art Adventure 2 (focus on water quality science)
- Blue Carbon Workshop (interpretive art)
- Art Mini Series Workshop (additional art instruction)

Our goal is educate and inspire people to action to preserve and protect coastal and marine habitats.

**STEAM Powered: Program Elements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Eco-Art Workshop</th>
<th>Adventure 1</th>
<th>GLOBE Workshop</th>
<th>Adventure 2</th>
<th>Blue Carbon Workshop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Participants</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>506</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 506 = 506 levels of the graph indicate the number of participants in Eco-Art Workshop.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences.
Annually, we strive to serve diverse audiences and underserved communities of students and adults. 2016-2017 demonstrated that this can be achieved annually and grants are paramount to maintain service to these audiences of students and teachers. Annually, approximately 60% of youth participants during this period were of Hispanic or African American descent. Historically, over 70% of participants are from underserved and minority populations of students.

Eco-Art Workshops and Adventures Race Demographics

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Professional Development

Teachers come with us to visit awe-inspiring places and experience nature in a creative new way.

“Brought about a new awareness to the complexity of managing coastal ecosystems”
- Janice Toler, Pasadena ISD, CWI 2014

Artist Boat is an expert at scaffolding teachers with emersion experiences in the estuary, the ocean, the arts, the sciences.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences.
Artist Boat provided professional development to **14 teachers in 2016-17**. This year professional development was provided through the Artist Boat Teacher Earth Day. **Since 2003, we have reached 1,575 teachers.**
In the Spring of 2017, three Dickinson High School Aquatics classes spent one week completing two 4’x8’ mural panels depicting a variety of native species of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary in the Gulf of Mexico. The mural panels are permanently installed on the Dickinson High School Campus.
Eco-Art Residency
Sea Camp, Summer 2017

Participants in Sea-Campus Kids learned about the lifecycle of shrimp and crabs through painting a 4’x8’ mural panel depicting the many stages of life. Our region has a substantial crab and shrimp fisheries. The mural will be permanently installed on the TAMUG campus.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Students attending Rosenberg Library’s 2017 summer drop in program learned about fish body morphology through the “I Smell Something Fishy” hands-on science and art curriculum.
Eco-Art Residency
HCDE: CASE Select Services, Summer 2017

Students from Albright M.S., Alpha Academy, Null M.S., Houston Hype Freedom School participated in the “I Smell Something Fishy” curriculum over the summer of 2017. Students learned about fish body morphology through hands on dissection, contour line drawing, creating clay fish, exquisite corpse exercises, and gyotaku - fish printing.
In the summer of 2017, students of the Clear Creek Intermediate School ACE Program participated in “How Do You Back the Bay?” curriculum that investigated watersheds in their natural state and after human impacts through hands on science workshops and a series of kayak adventures across the Lower Galveston Bay Watershed. The residencies culminated in two-4’x8’ mural panels depicting the Clear Creek Watershed that will be permanently installed in the campus library. This project was made possible through support from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation.

Artist Boat is a national leader in STEAM and experiential learning as witnessed by the national, state, and regional grants awarded to fuel our vision of providing experiences that assure everyone who experiences our Gulf Coast values and protects its natural beauty.
Eco-Art Summer Camps

Artist Boat offered its first Eco-Art Summer Camp sessions in the summer of 2017. Summer camp themes included “Feeding Frenzy”, “A Sea of Change”, and “A Whale of a Time.” Six Eco-Art Campers attended the “A Sea of Change” summer camp.
Beautification of a public place is the heart of Eco-Art where artists interpret coastal and marine processes, island heritage and history, and bring visitors to new levels of awareness and the ability to steward our resources. In FY 2017 Artist Boat completed Project S.I.T., resulting in the beautification of 70 Seawall benches.

Project S.I.T. Partners and Sponsors have included governmental agencies, businesses, an annual Chicken Shack Strut, and individuals. Artists have included individuals and groups, including school classes through our Eco-Art Residency Program.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Eco-Art Residencies
Uses eco-art as a tool to engage K-gray learners in understanding coastal protection issues

Artist Boat served **283 participants in 2016-17** with Residencies. Since 2003, **we have reached 11,237 students** with our after-school ancillary programs. Eco-Art Residencies create art for campus and community beautification that leaves a learning learning about our marine environment.

**Eco-Art Residencies**

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Eco-Art Residencies
Demographics

Artist Boat residencies in 2016-17 have been well divided between grant-funded programs and purchased programming. HCDE CASE residencies took place in Harris County, in schools that are mostly Hispanic or African American and economically disadvantaged. Residencies this past year have been mostly in Middle Schools and High Schools, but we also served younger children through programs like Sea Camp and the Rosenberg Library summer program.
Public & Private Eco-Art Adventures

Artist Boat is a leader in outdoor educational experiences for small groups led by scientists and artists. Participants visit awe-inspiring places and experience nature in a creative, new way by registering for a public adventure or booking a private adventure.

"These trips are a great way to enjoy birds and other wildlife!"

"It’s like school but fun!"

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
The Bucket Brigade

The CMP Cycle 20 grant continued to fund the Bucket Brigade Program in 2017. The Bucket Brigade provides free interpretive tours of Galveston beaches to allow the public to explore the creatures and features of coastal and marine ecosystems. Tours address negative misperceptions of Galveston beaches such as “dirty” water. This program is designed to teach people how our turbid water is a sign of a nutrient-rich environment providing food fueling the Gulf’s fisheries and more.
Public & Private Eco-Art Adventures

Teaching the public that our coast is unique, beautiful and alive and inspiring individuals to take action to protect our precious coast

Artist Boat served **7,278 participants from the general public in 2016-2017.** In addition to Public and Private Adventures, Artist Boat continued the Bucket Brigade programming on Galveston beaches. **Since 2003, we have reached 26,471 guests** on our public and private kayak tours and now the Bucket Brigade.

**Public and Private Eco-Art Adventures**

- **Bucket Brigade**
- **Kayak**

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
The Bucket Brigade added to the overall participants reached by Artist Boat’s Public Adventures. It also expanded Artist Boat’s audience by reaching a greater percentage of Hispanic and African American visitors and younger children.

Eco-Art Kayak Adventures

Race

- Caucasian: 78%
- Hispanic: 11%
- African American: 3%
- Asian: 5%
- Other: 3%

Age

- Children (<12): 34%
- Children (12-18): 14%
- Adult (18-35): 25%
- Adult (36-55): 8%
- Senior (>55): 11%

Bucket Brigade

Race

- Caucasian: 52%
- Hispanic: 31%
- African American: 11%
- Asian: 4%
- Other: 2%

Age

- Children (<12): 34%
- Children (12-18): 18%
- Adult (18-35): 25%
- Adult (36-55): 17%
- Senior (>55): 16%

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Coastal Heritage Preserve
A leader in land conservation and restoration efforts on Galveston Island with a goal to preserve 1,400 acres

During the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year, we made momentous strides toward saving coastal prairie habitat. Our Coastal Heritage Preserve now totals 604-acres of land that we are restoring and protecting. Volunteers of all ages are participated in habitat restoration and made a difference in their community at the Preserve. Many types of groups have volunteered at the Coastal Heritage Preserve this year; including a home-school group, corporate groups, teachers, forestry students, and students transitioning from Junior High to High School. The Artist Boat Sea Citizen program continues to grow and thrive. We are currently working in partnership with Texas Parks and Wildlife to acquire 65-acres of nearby land at Anchor Bay. With $9.5 million in grants and donations it is evident there is tremendous support for conservation on Galveston Island.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Coastal Heritage Preserve Map
Current Holdings

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Coastal Heritage Preserve
A beach to bay vision to conserve 1,400 acres on West Galveston Island

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Other Properties
Artist Boat has a growing presence on Teichman Road through mitigation lands from developers totaling over 20+ acres

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Coastal Heritage Preserve
Implementing habitat management, restoration, and stewardship engagement

- Conduct quarterly monitoring of 577 acres of the Preserve. Moore’s Island will be included at a later date.
- 57 new species have been added this calendar year
- Sea Citizen Leadership Program continues to grow
- Purchased a Kubota zero-turn mower and 60 gallon sprayer with NFWF funds to improve our removal of invasive species.

- Received two wonderful donations this year:
  - 2003 Nissan Frontier – Alice Anne O’Donnell
  - Phantom Advanced Drone – Megan Greenfield
- Cleared a section of corral area and added shading panels to create a permanent shaded volunteer area.
- Working in partnership with Texas Parks and Wildlife to purchase 64-acres of the Anchor Bay development.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
The Technical Advisory Council is responsible for assisting Artist Boat Habitat and Stewardship staff with long-term planning, problem-solving, and advising us on areas of their expertise.

This year the Advisory Council helped us edit the public education and access plan, acquire 47-acres of CIAP land, research equipment needed for the restoration of the prairie, assisted with identification of unknown plants during quarterly monitoring, advised us on fencing techniques, brainstormed ways in which mowing benefits the prairie, and gave us ideas for finding available resources.

We thank these dedicated individuals for taking time out of their busy schedules to meet with us on a monthly basis. Going forward we will meet every three months to maintain and build on the progress we have made.

Committee Members:
Scott Alford - USDA
Kristopher Benson - NOAA
Anna Deichmann - Galveston Bay Foundation
Phil Glass - Retired Fish and Wildlife Service
Lindsey Lippert - Galveston Bay Estuary Program and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Alice Anne O’Donnell - Avid Birder and Naturalist
Reuben Trevino - Galveston Park Board
Gregg Whittaker - Moody Gardens

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Public Education & Access
A vision to establish a nationally significant Artist Boat Gulf Coast Environmental Education Center.

Students from the University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture Gulf Coast DesignLab learned about our kayak program and Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve this spring. They took what they learned and created a design for the Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve Eco-Art Kayak Facility and Environmental Education Pavilion. From there, they built the structure themselves under the guidance of their professor, Coleman Coker.
## Habitat Restoration

**CITGO Caring for our Coast**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>Number of Volunteers</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Volunteer Events</th>
<th>Acres Restored</th>
<th>Grass Plugs Planted</th>
<th>Corral Shed Refurbish</th>
<th>Fence Line Cleared</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CITGO</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>1,431</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>6,030</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9,899 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences*
Habitat Restoration
Leading the way to a restored and stewarded Coastal Heritage Preserve

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>Invasives Treated</th>
<th>Grass Plugs Planted</th>
<th>Fence Line Cleared</th>
<th>Mowed Land</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NFWF</td>
<td>141 acres</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>3,460</td>
<td>275.5 acres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The DeepWater Horizon oil spill criminal act fines are put to good use.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Habitat Restoration Adventures
State-of-the-art learning in the field to restore coastal prairie

Artist Boat received a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) Grant to provide Habitat Restoration Workshops and Adventures to approximately 30 elementary school classes in Galveston.

Students were able to:
• Grow native coastal prairie grasses at their schools.
• Plant the grasses they grow at the Galveston Island State Park to restore habitat.
• Restore eight acres at the Galveston Island State Park, adding to the 18 acres Artist Boat has already restored at the park.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Habitat Restoration Adventures

Stewardship and restoration are the first actions in learning how to protect our Gulf Coast and Island.

Artist Boat served **717 participants in 2016-17. Since 2003, we have reached 7,743 students, teachers and members of the public.**

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**Habitat Restoration Adventures**

![Bar chart showing number of participants by fiscal year from 2003-2004 to 2016-2017.](chart.png)

**Fiscal Year**

- 2003-2004: 0
- 2004-2005: 420
- 2005-2006: 168
- 2006-2007: 63
- 2007-2008: 0
- 2008-2009: 1306
- 2009-2010: 1024
- 2010-2011: 609
- 2011-2012: 2298
- 2012-2013: 934
- 2013-2014: 0
- 2014-2015: 204
- 2015-2016: 0
- 2016-2017: 717

**Number of Participants**

- 0
- 204
- 609
- 1024
- 1306
- 420
- 168

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**Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences**
Outreach & Engagement

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
The World Oceans Day Festival was held for the second year on June 8th, 2017 at Stewart beach. Over 300 participants came out to experience the interactive activities provided by local, regional and state organizations, and to view the submissions in the Marine Debris Art Contest.

“Participating in a United Nations Holiday celebrated around the world is something to be proud of for our island and organization” says Artist Boat’s executive director Karla Klay

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
During Fiscal Year 2017 Artist Boat hosted two Beautify the Bucket Competitions. Competitions allow the public to claim a trash barrel destined for Galveston beaches and paint it to raise awareness about marine debris and encourage proper disposal of trash at the beach. The competitions coincide with the Fall and Spring Adopt-A-Beach cleanup days. The two competitions beautified 115 barrels!
During Fiscal Year 2017 Artist Boat continued hosting the Marine Debris Task Force as part of the CMP Cycle 20 Grant Program. The Marine Debris Task Force, made up of representatives of various groups interested in reducing aquatic trash, completed a Marine Debris Action Plan for Galveston and secured funding for 7 recycle stations on Galveston beaches.
Artist Boat served 627 participants in 2016-17 including visitors to the second World Oceans Day Festival. Since 2003, we have reached 12,685 members of the public. This does not include participants in the Beautify the Bucket Competitions.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
1% To Conserve
Galveston Island™

Hosted Nature Is Our Business event which was attended by 80 people in the tourism industry and municipal government.

Awarded a grant of $11,300 in leverage to purchase 65 acres of coastal habitat for the Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve. This will leverage a $1,000,000 grant in partnership with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Forty-two businesses participated in the program and over $15,000 was raised.
Float the Boat

Artist Boat’s annual fundraiser was held on November 12, 2016 at the Ashton Villa and was the most successful event to date. The 2016 Float the Boat event raised over $62,000.00 in unrestricted dollars to help support Artist Boat programming. The event also had 41 sponsors, the largest number of sponsors for any year.

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Board Members 2016 -2017

Current Members:
Betty Massey, President
Douglas Little, Vice President
Nancy Greenfield, Secretary
Michael McNeely, Treasurer
Mort Voller
J. Alton Alsup,
Scott Weaver
Seth Jones
Matthew Singer
Ben Hock, Jr.

Former Members:
Jene Adler
Kristopher Benson
Terry Conrad
Richard H. Cron
Caleb Crowe
Peter Davis
Debbie DeVore
Patty Edwards
John Frannea
Phil Glass
Cheryl Henry
Mary Lou Klay
Susan Knock
Bobby Markle
Shelia Maye
Tom Motley
Mary Orange
Susan Persons
Pam Rice
Charlie Rogers
CD Romero
Jay Rooker
John Smith
Martha Terrill
Brenda Weiser
Bernd Wursig
Robert Young

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Staff Members

Karla Klay, Executive Director
Jared Weaver, Executive Assistant
Micah Cypert, Accounting Manager
Amanda Rinehart, Education Program Manager
Mary Warwick, Habitat & Stewardship Program Manager
Kristin Simmons, Habitat & Stewardship Coordinator
Kendall Guidroz, Education Program Coordinator
Eepi Chaad, Residency Coordinator
Kaitlin Morgan, Lead Eco-Art Educator
Karissa Laffey, Eco-Art Educator
Aly Munger, Eco-Art Educator

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences
Vision
Everyone who experience our Gulf Coast values and protects its natural beauty

Goals (What we want to achieve?)
• Connect people to Gulf Coast environments through mind-opening experiences such as exploring nature and creating eco-art
• Expand engagement in existing programming to inform and inspire more people of all ages to appreciate and protect the Texas Gulf Coast
• Educate and inspire people to action to preserve and protect coastal and marine habitats
• Preserve and restore 1,400 contiguous acres from beach to bay with the Coastal Heritage Preserve on West Galveston Island
• Establish the first nationally significant environmental education center on the Gulf Coast. Programs to include kayaking and hiking adventures, science and art labs, overnight camping, service learning and high-level engagement

Messages (Who we want to be)
• Artist Boat is a leader in environmental education with a vision to establish a nationally significant Artist Boat Gulf Coast Environmental Education Center.
• Artist Boat is a leader in outdoor educational experiences for small groups led by scientists and artists.
• Artist Boat is a regional leader in public eco-art to inspire people to conserve our Gulf Coast. Eco-art is any form of art with an ecology theme that raises awareness about environmental issues and protection.
• Artist Boat uses eco-art as a tool to engage K-12 learners in understanding coastal protection issues.
• You can help protect our beautiful Gulf Coast - and Artist Boat’s naturalists can show you how.
• Come with us to visit awe-inspiring places and experience nature in a creative, new way.
• The coast is unique, beautiful and alive. Artist Boat experiences inspire individuals to take action to protect our precious coast.

Artist Boat is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to promote awareness and preservation of coastal margins and the marine environment through the disciplines of the sciences and the arts.