

Artist Boat Annual Report

September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018



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.



Artist Boat

Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences.



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 135,760 participants in our programs from 2003-2018, connecting people to Gulf Coast environments through mind-opening experiences. This year from September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018 16,406 participants were served.**

- 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



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.



"By combining art and science it challenges my students to see connections between other subjects and to question the boundaries of both art and science."

– Amanda Escamilla, Bondy Intermediate

Eco-Art Workshops

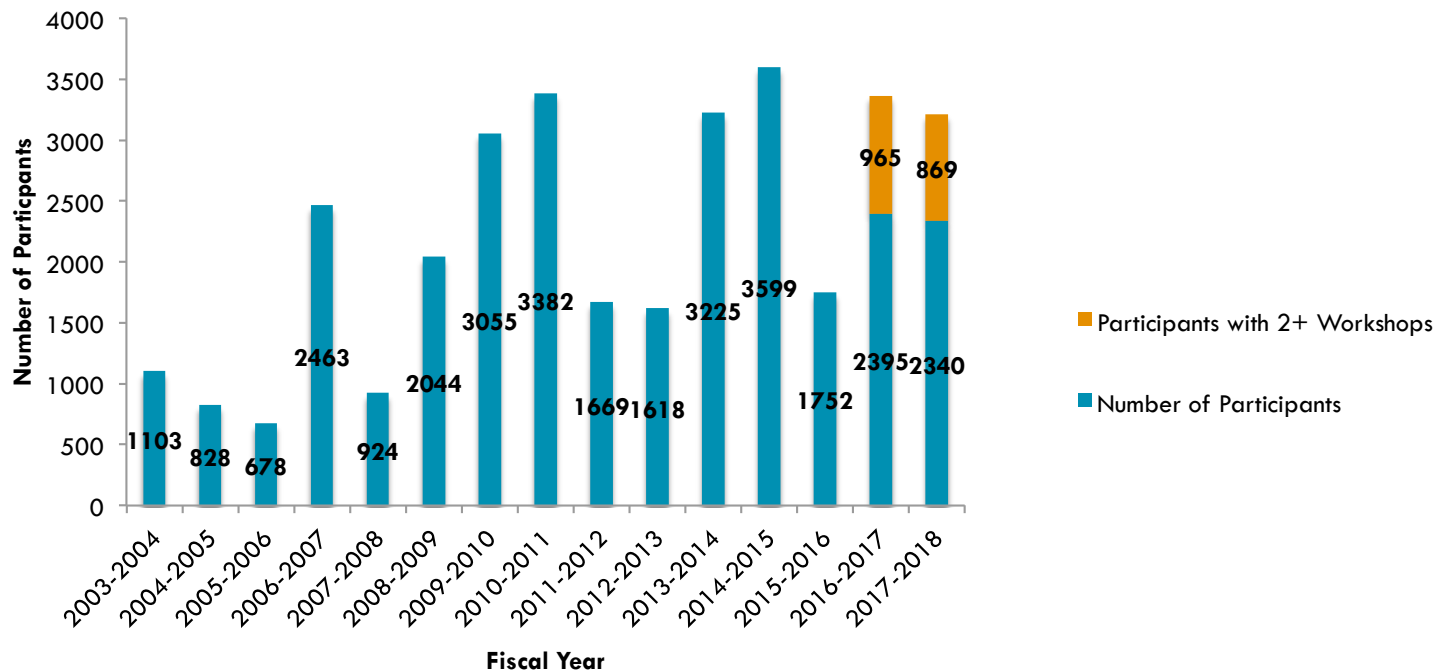
Using eco-art as tool to engage K-Gray learners in understand coastal protection issues



artist **BOAT**

Artist Boat served **2,340 participants in 2017-18 with Eco-Art Workshops. Since 2003, we have reached 31,075 students** and teachers through our two-hour long Eco-Art Workshops. For the second year workshops included the additional Blue Carbon and GLOBE workshops of the STEAM Powered 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



Eco-Art Adventures



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

"[Our students get] memories, exposure and a true connection between science and real world careers. They look forward to this trip every year."

-Eunique Sharman,
Odyssey Academy



Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences

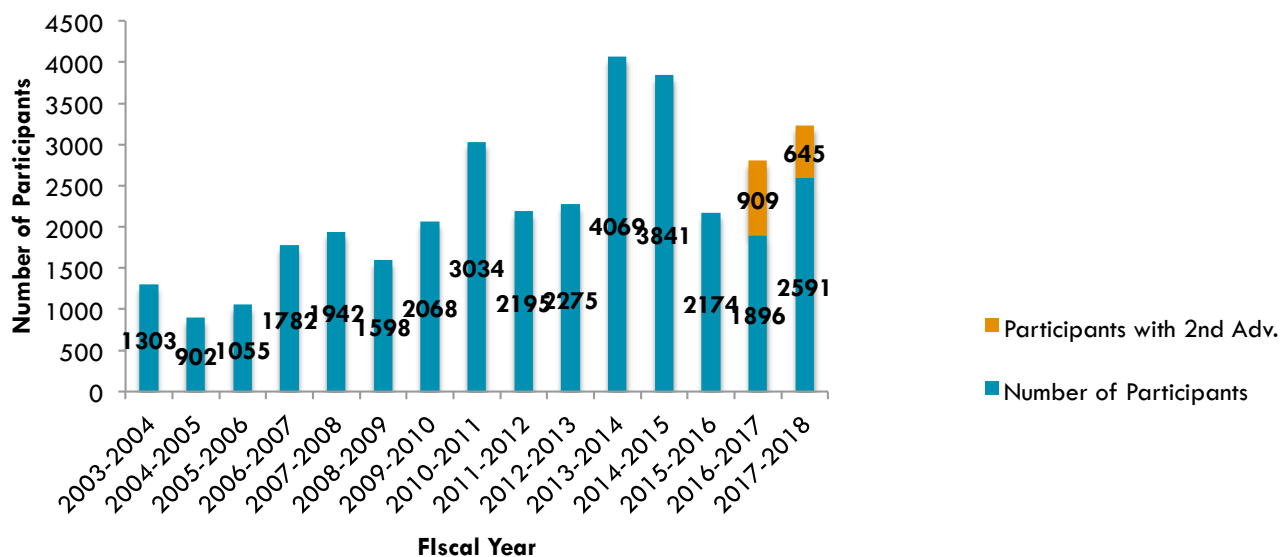
Eco-Art Adventures

A national model for outdoor educational experiences for small groups led by scientists and artists



Artist Boat served **2,591 participants with Eco-Art Adventures via kayak, foot, or vessel in 2017-18. Since 2003, we reached 32,725 students and teachers** through our four-hour long Eco-Art Adventures. In addition to the second adventure provided by to some students through the STEAM Powered program, FY2018 also saw an increase from last year in private adventures booked by schools.

Eco-Art Adventures



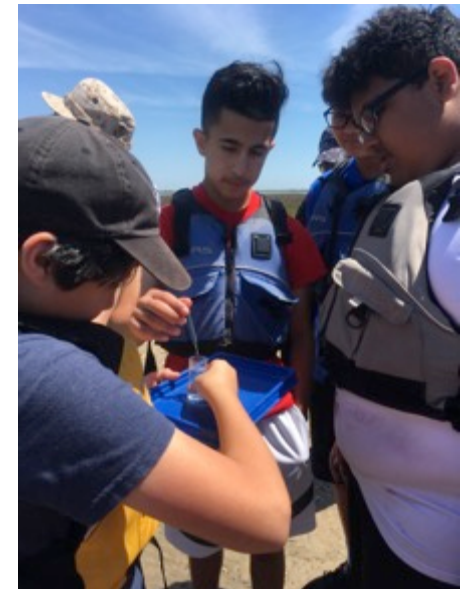
STEAM Powered: Blue Carbon Art IQ

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 for the second year. 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 math (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 Port Houston.



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STEAM Powered

Program Components

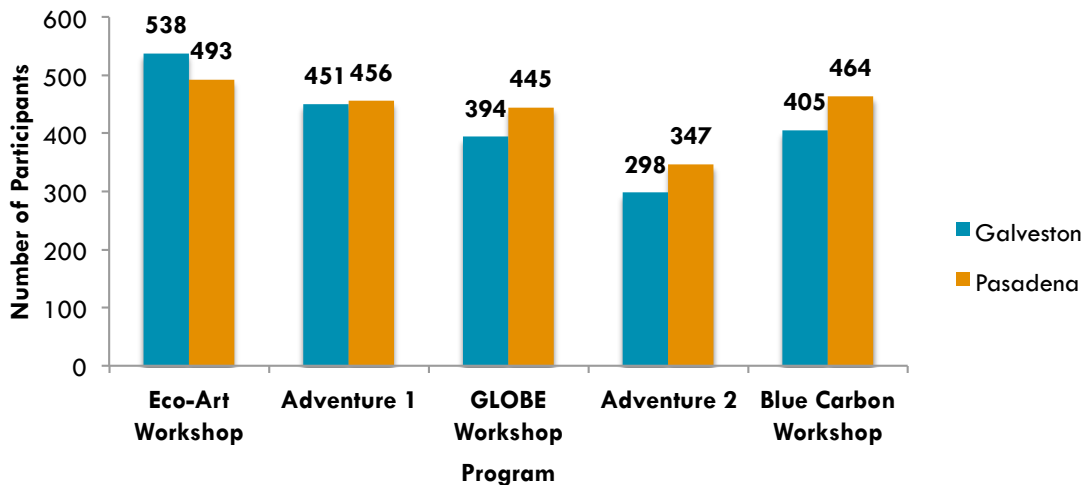


The STEAM Powered Blue Carbon Art IQ Program expanded workshop and adventure experiences to 7th graders in Pasadena and Galveston Independent School Districts. Students participated in:

- 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)



STEAM Powered: Program Elements



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

We Back the Bay

Coming 2018-2019!



In FY 2018 Artist Boat edited curriculum and provided professional development to teachers in preparation for the new **"We Back the Bay"** program that will be delivered at 5 schools during the 2018-2019 school year.

Artist Boat's **"We Back the Bay"** program allows students and teachers in the counties surrounding Galveston Bay to create learning legacies on their school campus that will improve the water quality of Galveston Bay. The program will build awareness of the causes and consequences of poor water quality in Galveston Bay, develop critical thinking skills necessary to mitigate pollution of the Bay, and create action to increase water conservation and reduce storm runoff from school campuses. The program consists of the following components:

- 3-day Professional Development workshop for chosen teachers
- 5 Eco-Art Workshops for chosen schools
- 5 Eco-Art Adventures for chosen schools
- Mini-Grant for the planning and development of a **WaterSmart Landscape** on school campuses

"We Back the Bay" is funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and was developed in partnership with the Galveston Bay Estuary Program, the Houston-Galveston Area Council, the Environmental Institute of Houston, and Asakura Robinson.



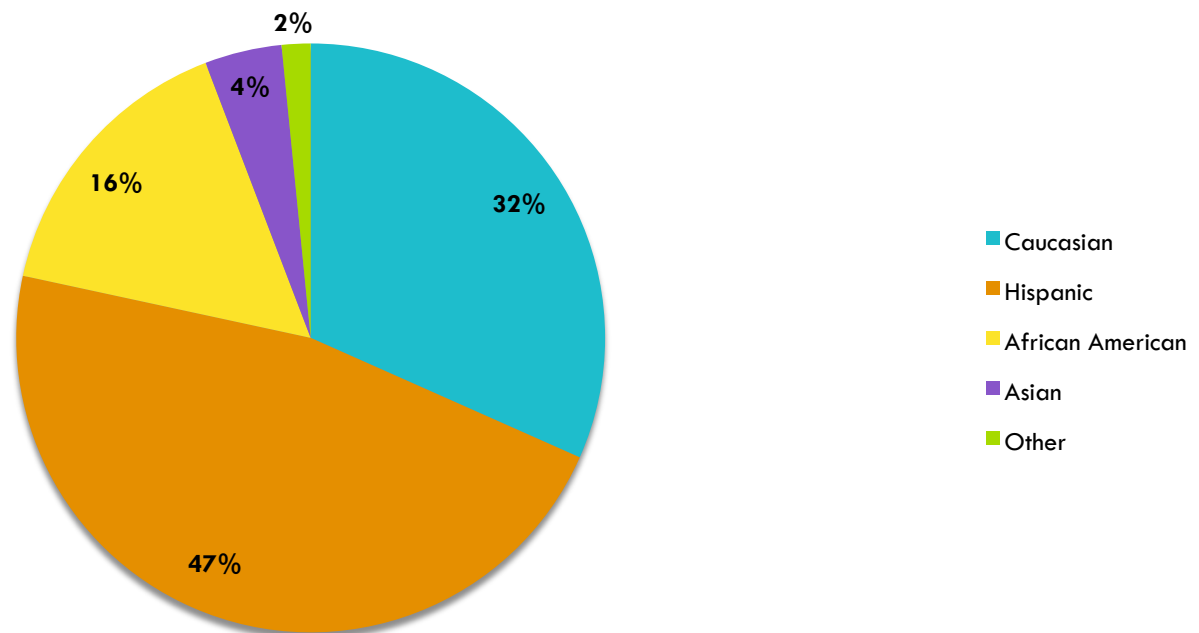
Eco-Art Workshop and Adventure

Demographics



Annually, we strive to serve diverse audiences and underserved communities of students and adults. 2017-2018 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



Professional Development

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



During Summer 2018 Artist Boat hosted two Professional Development Workshops.

In June, Artist Boat partnered with NOAA Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary and NOAA Planet Stewards Education Project to offer a 4-day workshop for middle and high school science teachers. The workshop, “**Environmental Impacts to the Gulf Coast: What do we know, What can we do?**” helped educators better understand the effects of Climate Change on the Gulf of Mexico and provided resources to help them convey that information to their students.

In July, Artist Boat hosted a 3-day workshop for teachers chosen to participate in the new “**We Back the Bay**” Program funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The workshop engaged teachers on topics including stormwater runoff, watersmart landscapes, and non-point sources of pollution.

Photo credit: Savannah Mehrkens





Professional Development

Artist Boat provided professional development to **61 teachers in 2017-18**. This year professional development was provided through ACA Instructor Courses and Teacher Development workshops with the NOAA Planet Stewards and the EPA-funded We Back the Bay program. **Since 2003, we have reached 1,636 teachers.**



Eco-Art Residency

YES Prep East End, Fall 2017



Students at YES Prep East End learned about the zones of the ocean and created a mural that was installed permanently on the campus.



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Eco-Art Residency

HCDE: CASE, Bissonnet Elementary, Spring 2018



Students at Bissonnet Elementary participated in the "I Smell Something Fishy" curriculum over the spring of 2018. Students learned about fish body morphology through hands on dissection, contour line drawing, creating clay fish, exquisite corpse exercises, and gyotaku - fish printing.



Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences

Eco-Art Residency

HCDE: CASE, Clear Creek Intermediate, Spring 2018



Students at Clear Creek Intermediate participated in a school beautification project that educated them on the different forms, functions, and life cycles of plankton. Students painted tiles that represented the life cycle of plankton which were installed on a bench outside Clear Creek Intermediate.



Eco-Art Residency

Clear Creek Intermediate, Summer 2018



Clear Creek Intermediate requested that Artist Boat provide residencies during their summer sessions to paint murals for 3 more of their campus benches. Students at Clear Creek Intermediate painted tiles for bench murals which depicted topics of coastal bird migration, positive and negative effects of recreational boating and the Ocean Star Oil Platform. One more bench will be completed during a residency in the Fall depicting a Port Houston theme.

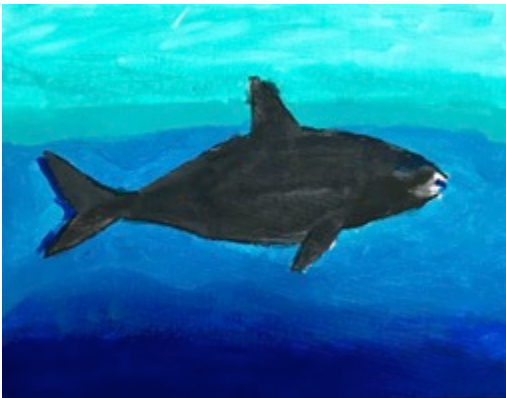


Eco-Art Residency

HCDE: CASE, Francis Elementary & Null Middle School, Summer 2018



Students from Francis Elementary and Null Middle School participated in the “Shark Mania” curriculum over the summer of 2018. Students learned about shark body morphology through hands on dissection, contour line drawing, creating shark masks and a shark painting.



Eco-Art Camps



During FY 2018 Artist Boat offered Eco-Art Camps during Winter Break, Spring Break, and Summer Break. With the themes Shark Mania, Fish Frenzy, A Whale of a Time, and Sea of Change, campers explored many ocean-related topics through hands-on science and art.

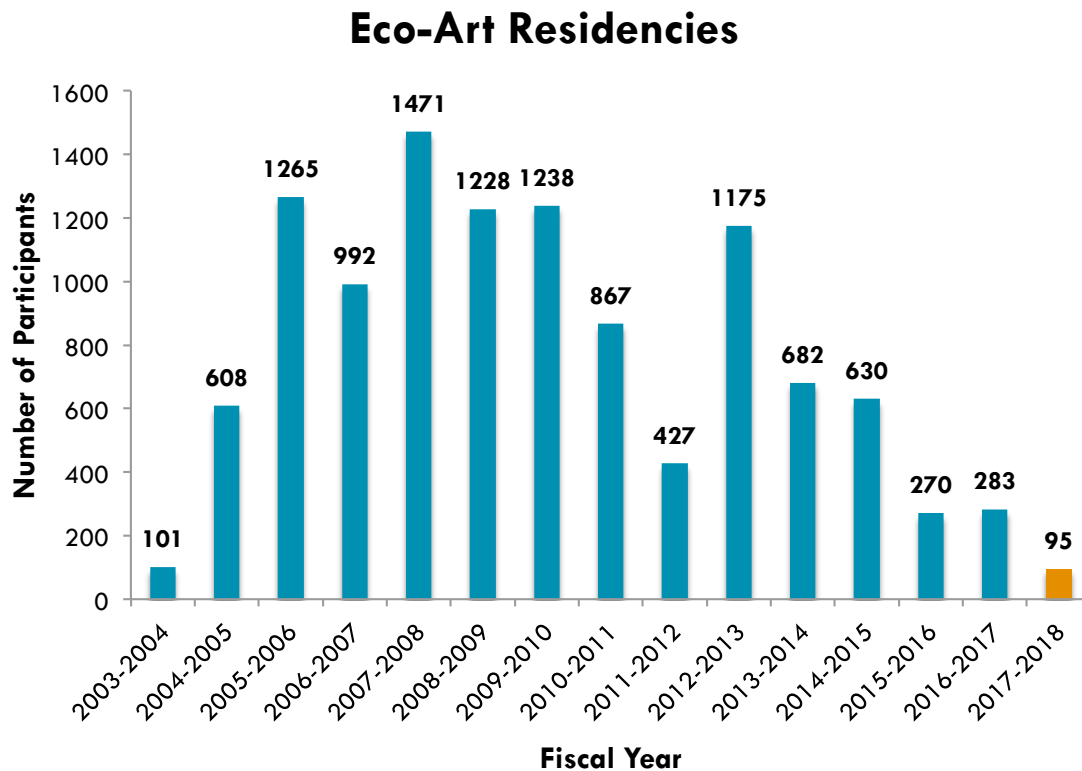


Eco-Art Residencies

Uses eco-art as a tool to engage K-gray learners in understanding coastal protection issues



Artist Boat served **95 participants in 2017-18** with Residencies. Since 2003, **we have reached 11,332 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.



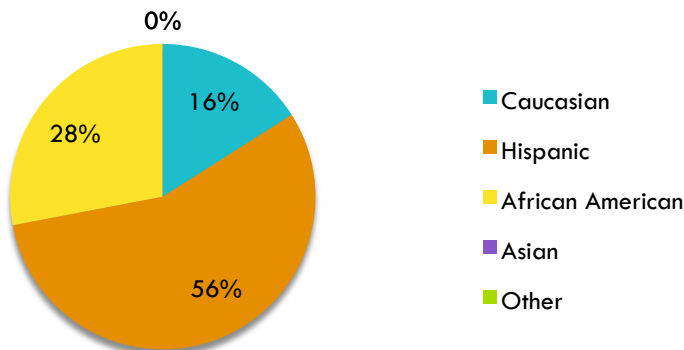
Eco-Art Residencies

Demographics

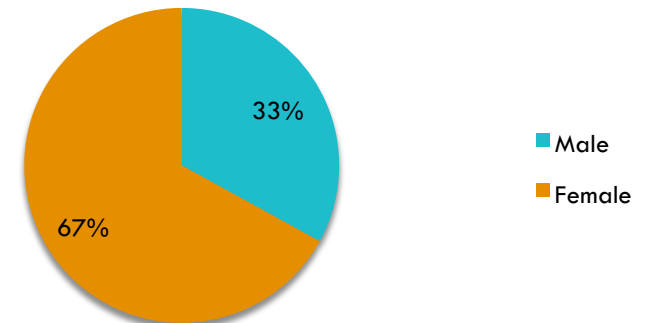


Artist Boat residencies in 2017-18 have been well divided between grant-funded programs and purchased programming. HCDE CASE residencies took place in Harris County, in schools that are mostly Hispanic or African American and economically disadvantaged. Residencies this past year have been mostly in Middle Schools and Elementary Schools.

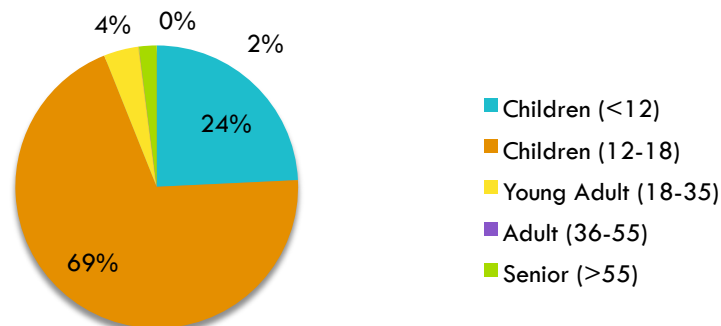
Race



Gender



Age



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.

Photo Credit: Taylor Greenwalt & Emma Armer

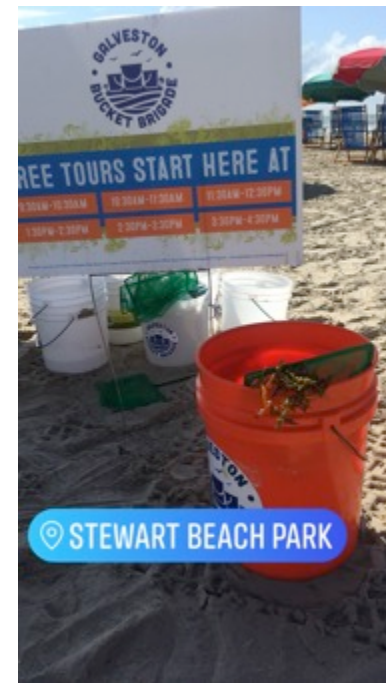


Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences

The Bucket Brigade



During Summer 2018, the Galveston Park Board of Trustees provided funding to continue the Bucket Brigade Interpretive Beach Tours at Stewart Beach in Galveston. Tours address negative misperceptions of Galveston beaches such as “dirty” water. The Bucket Brigade program engages visitors in topics including Sargassum, water quality, marine debris, and Galveston beach creatures and features.



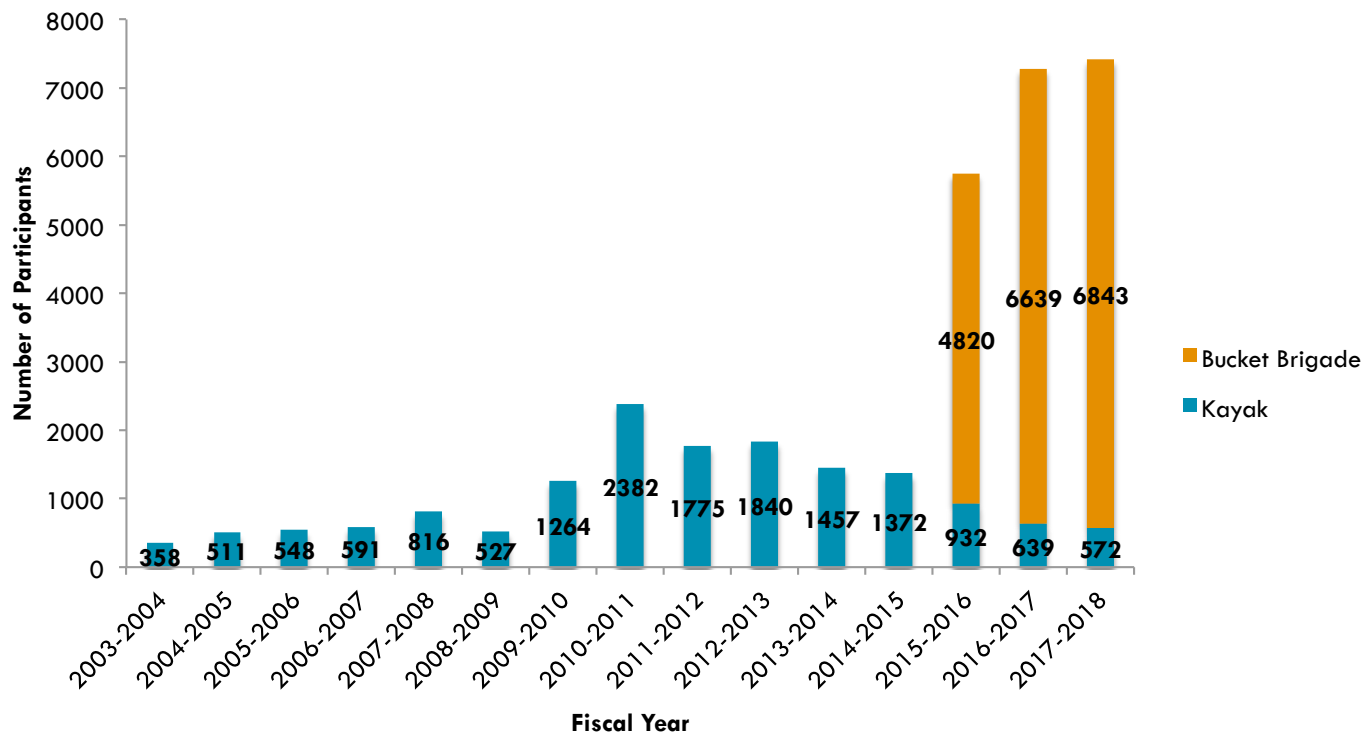
Public & Private Eco-Art Adventures

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 **7,415 participants from the general public in 2017-2018**. In addition to Public and Private Adventures, Artist Boat continued the Bucket Brigade programming on Galveston beaches. **Since 2003, we have reached 33,886 guests** on our public and private kayak tours and now the Bucket Brigade.

Public and Private Eco-Art Adventures



Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences

Public & Private Eco-Art Adventures

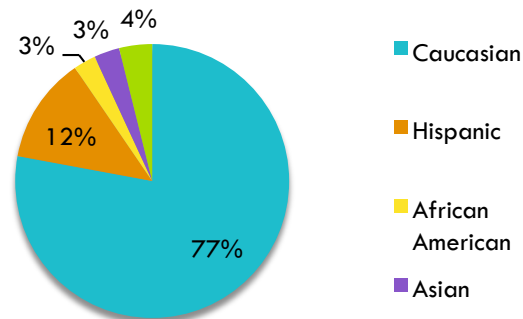
Demographics



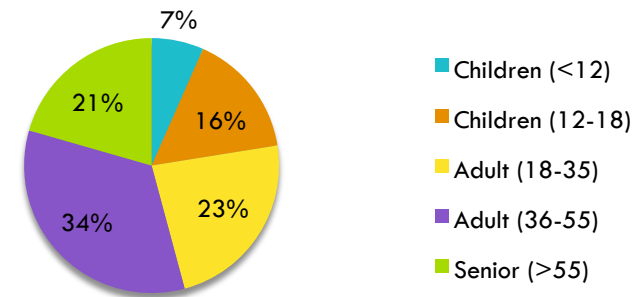
The Bucket Brigade continued to add to the overall participants reached by Artist Boat's Public Adventures. It also continued to expand Artist Boat's audience by reaching a greater percentage of Hispanic and African American visitors and younger children.

Eco-Art Kayak Adventures

Race Demographics

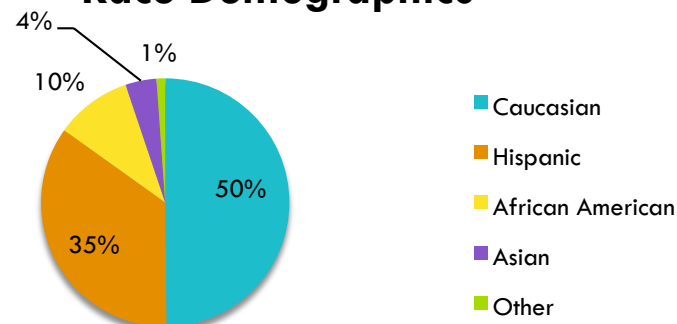


Age Demographics

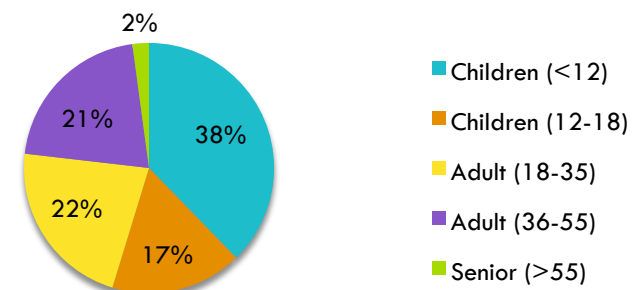


Bucket Brigade

Race Demographics



Age Demographics



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



The Coastal Heritage Preserve grew by 65 acres in 2017 – 2018, now totaling over 669-acres of land that we are restoring and protecting. Volunteers of all ages have 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, church missionaries, boy & girl scouts, teachers, forestry students, and two groups from as far as Nebraska and Minnesota. The Artist Boat Sea Citizen program continues to grow and thrive. With \$11.5 million in grants, financial donations, and land 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 & Future Vision



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



Coastal Heritage Preserve

Implementing habitat management, restoration, and stewardship engagement



- Conduct quarterly monitoring of 642- acres of the Preserve. Moore's Island will be included at a later date.
- Sea Citizen Leadership Program continues to grow with 6 regular Sea Citizens currently volunteering on a weekly or monthly basis.
- 48 new species have been added to the master list year, including 16 new species of birds observed at our winning 2018 Big Sit.
- 288 ft² Tuff Shed and concrete foundation installed on the NFWF tract with funds from NFWF.



Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences

Coastal Heritage Preserve

Implementing habitat management, restoration, and stewardship engagement.
Over 925 people volunteered this year and over 7,743 since the Preserve was formed.



4000 linear feet of fence line replaced between the Preserve and Spanish Grant. This includes crossing a pond and the slough.

Many staff members and volunteers worked hard to complete this project; however, Greg Hall went above and beyond.



Special thanks to Jason LeMoine, local firefighter and CHP volunteer. He taught us everything we needed to know about building fence line.



Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences

Coastal Heritage Preserve

Implementing habitat management, restoration, and stewardship engagement



8,000 pound of debris removed this year, including:

- one pop-up camper
- two refrigerators.



Coastal Heritage Preserve

Building Relationships – Scouting and the Gulf Corps



- Two completed Eagle Scout projects – new shed in corral and fence posts painted purple across the Preserve.
- Four Eagle Scout projects in the approval process– upgrade old shed in corral, purchase and install 15 new ranch gates, purchase and install 21 property signs, and build three wildlife camera stands.
- Ten members of the Gulf Corps removed over 200 large and small chinaberry trees from the Peake Wood tract of the Preserve.



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** continued to add to the educational landscape of the Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve during the Spring 2018 semester. Students designed and built an outdoor classroom for Artist Boat to use to help inspire and educate the public and youth groups. Students built the structure themselves under the guidance of their professor, Coleman Coker.



Habitat Restoration

CITGO Caring for our Coast in 2017-2018



Grant	Number of Volunteers	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Events	Acres Restored	Grass Plugs Planted	New Shed	Fence Line Cleared
CITGO	925	3,551.25	124	3.1	3,778	1	7,951 feet



Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences



Habitat Restoration Adventures

Coming 2018-2019!



Artist Boat received funding from the Moody Permanent Endowment Fund to provide Habitat Restoration Workshops and Adventures to Galveston 4th Graders during the 2018-2019 school year. Adventures will take place at the Artist Boat Coastal Heritage Preserve and will help restore the native coastal prairie ecosystem.

Students will:

- Grow native coastal prairie grasses at their schools.
- Plant the grasses they grow at the Coastal Heritage Preserve to restore habitat.



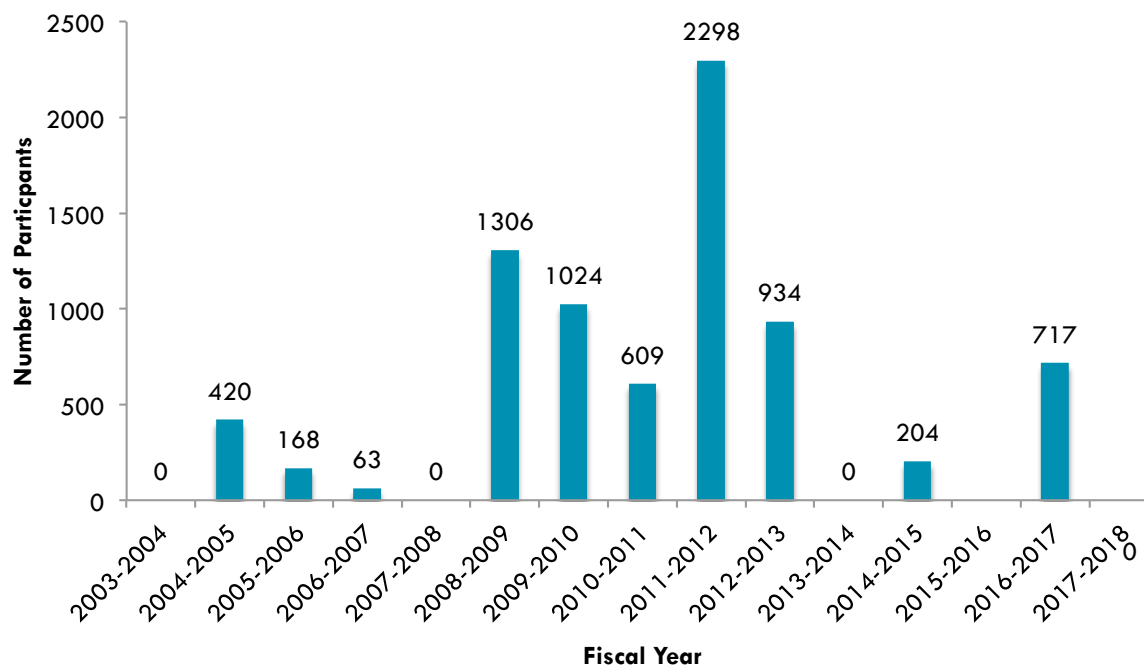
Habitat Restoration Adventures

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

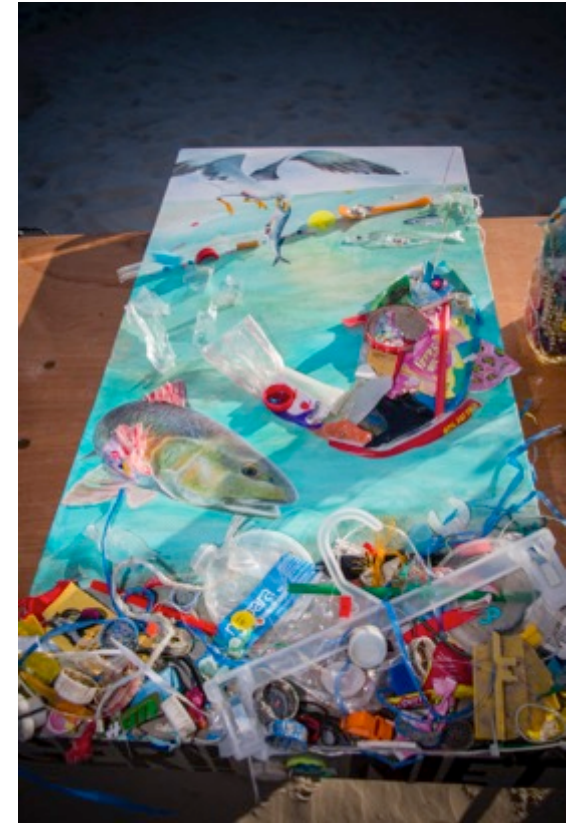


Artist Boat served **0 participants in 2017-18**, but is looking forward to working with Galveston 4th graders again in the 2018-2019 school year. **Since 2003, we have reached 7,743 students, teachers and members of the public.**

Habitat Restoration Adventures



Outreach & Engagement



Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences

World Oceans Day Festival



The World Oceans Day Festival was held for the third year on June 8th, 2018 at Stewart beach. Almost 400 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.



Inspiration and education through unique coastal experiences

Beautify the Bucket

Actions that help tourists find the trash barrels



During Fiscal Year 2018 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 **92 barrels** for a total of **207 barrels!** During outreach events Artist Boat also allowed event visitors to paint barrels to beautify Galveston beaches.



Sea Citizens



Between 2017 and 2018 Artist Boat increased its volunteer recruitment efforts and combined all recurring Artist Boat volunteer activities into the Sea Citizen program. Artist Boat has hosted 4 Sea Citizen Orientations which have been attended by 15 interested volunteers. Sea Citizens can get involved at the Coastal Heritage Preserve, with the Public Kayaking or Bucket Brigade programs, or help in the office or with special events.



**Thank you to our wonderful Sea Citizens
who have volunteered 10+ hours in
FY2018**

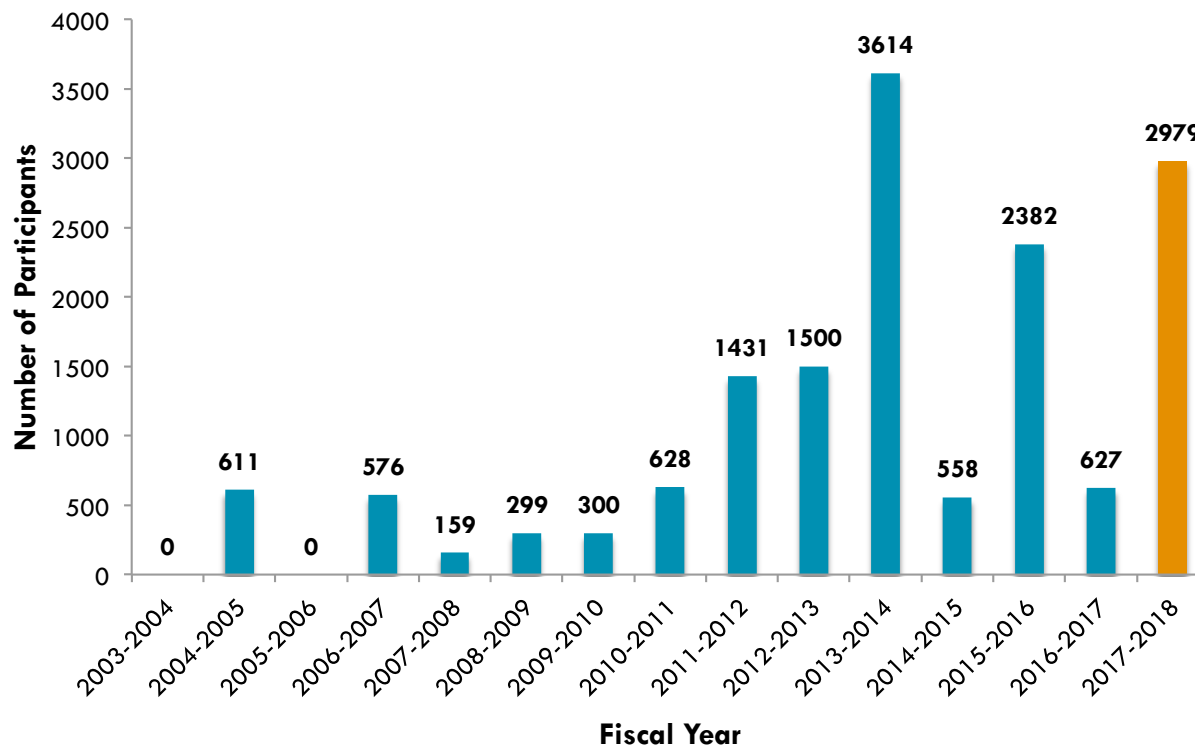
Peggy Purvis
Sidney Solomon
Phil Salvador
Gloria Augelli
Doug Barnett
Kathy Maines
Alvin Carr
Jason Lemoine
Marianne Buggley
Maggie Gentry
Christine Boodley



Outreach & Engagement

Artist Boat **engaged 2,979 participants in 2017-18** at outreach events, including visitors to the second World Oceans Day Festival. **Since 2003, we have reached 15,664 members of the public.** The increase in engagements during Fiscal Year 2018 is in large part due to increased presence at regional festivals and events in an effort to market Artist Boat's Public Eco-Art Kayak Adventures.

Outreach and Engagement



Float the Boat



Artist Boat's annual fundraiser was held on November 10, 2017 at The Trolley Station and was the most successful event to date. The 2017 Float the Boat event raised over \$58,000.00 in unrestricted dollars to help support Artist Boat programming. The event also had 45 sponsors, the largest number to date.



Float the Boat 2017 Estimates

Entry Tickets Sold	120
Raffle Tickets Sold	443
Event Revenue	\$76,163.04
Event Expenses	\$17,840.83
Event Profit	\$58,322.21

Board Members 2017 -2018



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.
Kenneth Booth

Former Members:

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



Staff Members

Karla Klay, Executive Director

John Stokes, Executive Assistant

Colleen McGaskey, Accounting Manager

Amanda Rinehart, Education Program Manager

Mary Warwick, Habitat & Stewardship Program Manager

Greg Hall, Habitat & Stewardship Coordinator

Kendall Guidroz, Education Program Coordinator

Liz Aguilar, Marketing & Outreach Coordinator

Karissa Laffey, Eco-Art Educator

Aly Munger, Eco-Art Educator

Rachel Thornton, Eco-Art Educator

Mara Braun, Eco-Art Educator

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-gray 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.