

## 2010 Denver Biennial of the Americas Residency

### **Biennial Residency: *an artists & writers collective***

*This residency is a collaboration between PlatteForum + Lighthouse Writers Workshop in partnership with the Denver Office of Cultural Affairs and the Biennial of the Americas*

**What:**

Month-long artist residency for two regional literary artists and two visual artists

**When:**

July 1-July 30, 2010

**Where:**

PlatteForum, Denver, Colorado

**Why:**

To create a (*collective*) dialogue between regional artists as a part of the 2010 Denver Biennial of the Americas

**Application deadline:**

March 26, 2010 3:00 pm at PlatteForum

**Perks:**

Artist honorarium, interaction with other artist, regional/national/international press, exhibition and public presentations

**How:**

PlatteForum + Lighthouse Writers Workshop in partnership with the Denver Office of Cultural Affairs and the Biennial of the Americas, funded, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts

**PlatteForum**

1610 Little Raven Street, Suite 135  
Denver, CO 80202

<http://www.platteforum.org>

## **2010 Denver Biennial of the Americas Residency**

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### ***Application Deadline March 26, 2010***

#### **PlatteForum + Lighthouse Writers Workshop**

*During the month-long run of the Denver Biennial of the Americas, cultural institutions throughout metropolitan Denver will present a wide array of arts and culture programming inspired by the Americas. Programs will include both local and international artists, and range from film screenings to exhibitions of art from across the Hemisphere. At PlatteForum four artists will create work in response to one of the Biennial themes: Economy.*

#### **Project: Denver Biennial Residency at PlatteForum, July 1 – 30th, 2010**

During July 2010, PlatteForum and Lighthouse Writers Workshop have created a unique residency opportunity for four regional artists, representing visual and literary arts, to create work as a part of the 2010 Denver Biennial of the Americas. Four artists will be selected to complete a month-long residency addressing **one of the four revised Biennial themes: Innovation, Sustainability, The Arts, and Community**. This unique residency will fuel a high-energy creative collaboration between some of the regions finest visual artists and writers as part of the 2010 Denver Biennial of the Americas. PlatteForum and Lighthouse Writers Workshop will provide support to the resident artists during their residency – providing them staff/artistic support and honoraria. Artists will have the opportunity for cross-discipline collaboration, enhancing his or her own artistic growth and development. The residencies will culminate with an exhibition of the work created during the residency.

#### **The framework: a biennial re-imagined, international**

The Denver Biennial of the Americas is an international cultural event, set to debut in 2010, with exhibitions, public programs and signature art installations that celebrate the power of ingenuity and imagination at work and play in the Western Hemisphere. Once every two years, some of the world's greatest innovators will convene in Denver to tap into a dynamic community of creative thinkers, coming together to galvanize a citizen-driven movement toward cross-cultural understanding and global cooperation. The Denver Biennial of the Americas aims to recognize this untapped potential and in so doing to promote a more cohesive Western Hemisphere – all in an effort to address the region's challenges and opportunities more proactively, collaboratively, and successfully.

#### **The PlatteForum Biennial Creative Residency**

This collective residency will create a think tank of four artists and writers from the Denver area and beyond, to create new work in responses to the Biennial theme "Economy." Drawing on the success of other interdisciplinary arts ventures in this city, this collaboration will be a robust platform for developing and extending both new ideas and new forms. The completed work will be exhibited in tandem with the Biennial, connecting the local artist community to the larger discourse of the Biennial on a national/international level.

#### **How it Works**

Artist residencies provide artists the time, space and support to complete new works. A residency supports artists in their professional and artistic development.

For this special residency, each applicant proposes a body of work that addresses the theme of *Innovation, Sustainability, The Arts, or Community*. The subject of *Innovation, Sustainability, The Arts, or Community* can be viewed abstractly and addressed in many ways. Formal artist talks and community event will be scheduled at

PlatteForum as appropriate. Open studio hours are held for the public to drop in and interact with the artists. At the end of the collective residency (August 5, 2010), a public celebration will be held—an exhibition, performance, or presentation—that includes the work of the four artists.

Each Biennial Resident is expected to devote a minimum of 20 hours a week on their work and meet weekly with the artist residency group. Artists are encouraged to work together collaboratively to address the Biennial theme of Innovation, Sustainability, The Arts, or Community. Each artist will receive a \$1000 stipend.

**Goals for the Artist:**

- Recognition
- Time to create a body of work
- Time to grow as an artist and creative member of the community
- Public opening/exhibition
- Collaborate with other artists of different genres

**The Facility**

PlatteForum is at the base of the Millennium pedestrian bridge by Union Station, in the heart of Denver’s downtown neighborhood, Riverfront Park. Its location provides easy access to light rail and downtown transportation, Commons Park, the Platte River, the Museum of Contemporary Art-Denver, and some of the city’s finest urban residential and shopping complexes. More than just a great location, PlatteForum is a “platform” for community and culture through youth and arts. The contemporary facility is over 3,000 square feet with dedicated outdoor sculpture area and plaza. An open studio (2,000 square feet) is surrounded by staff offices, kitchen, restrooms, and artist/staff space with shower and futon couch.

**PlatteForum** is an artists’ community that facilitates both the creation and presentation of art and ideas by contemporary artists. By supporting the artists *as they work*, PlatteForum generates dialogues in the larger community about the *role of the artist in society*. PlatteForum’s competitive residency program (Creative Residencies) accepts applications from established artists as well as emerging artists from all genres, creating a diverse and robust program. The PlatteForum approach, pairing Creative Residents with the community makes a valuable contribution to the city’s cultural discourse fostering the personal growth of the artist while impacting the lives of the youth and individuals who participate.

**Lighthouse Writers Workshop** is committed to fostering a public engagement with literature through creative writing programs, author residencies, retreats, and the annual summer Lit Fest. The organization believes in the transformative power of reading and creative writing, and has nurtured a love of both in thousands of people of all ages, enabling members of Denver’s diverse cultural landscape to find their voices and tell their stories through fiction, drama, poetry and creative nonfiction.

## APPLICATION GUIDELINES

### Who Can Apply

The Biennial Residency program is open to regional visual and literary artists, with preference to artists who thrive working collaboratively. We welcome applications from established professional artists and emerging artists, as well as graduate students. Artists can apply as individuals or in collaborative teams. A total of four artists will be selected (two visual and two literary artists). You can apply individually or as a collective team of two.

### Selection Process

An interdisciplinary selection committee will consider applications for all residencies with careful consideration of artistic excellence. Care will be given to select artists representing a variety of genres and experiences. Priority will be given to those proposals that interact with the community in a dynamic way.

### Biennial Residency Application Deadline

**March 26, 2010, 3:00pm at PlatteForum**

### Residency Period

July 1 – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010; Opening Exhibit: August 5, 2010

### Application Process

Please assemble an application package containing the following: *(if applying as a team, please list each member with contact information for the lead artist)*

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Name

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Address

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Day phone

Evening phone

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Email

Web site if applicable

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Genre            ( ) visual arts    ( ) literature

### Stipend

A \$1000 supplies and material stipend will be provided to each artist to help defray artist expenses. No travel or housing allowance is provided. Whenever possible, PlatteForum will help Creative Residents apply for additional funding to support their work while in residence.

### Background Check

Since this residency involves contact with youth in our high-school ArtLab program we ask the following questions:

Have you ever been convicted of a crime? \_\_\_\_\_ [If yes, on the other side of the paper please explain the nature of the crime and the date of the conviction and disposition.] Conviction of a crime is not an automatic disqualification for residency.

If selected as a Creative Resident you will be asked to undergo a background check. Are you willing to release information for this? \_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_no

**Project Description** (*not to exceed two typed pages*)

1. Tell us about yourself: Include details about you and your work, including a resume, if you feel that is appropriate.
2. Tell us about your proposal: What do you want to accomplish during your Biennial residency? Describe the personal body of work you hope to accomplish and how it addresses the theme of *Innovation, Sustainability, The Arts, or Community*. Tell how working with other visual/literary artists would enhance your work. Include ways you might want to include the community if appropriate.
3. Identify your needs: Would you work out of your own studio? Would you use the PlatteForum facility to support what you are doing? Do you need any special resources requiring special arrangements? Please be specific.
4. Describe what the public presentation at the end of the residency would entail. Would it be a performance, exhibition, or event?

*Please note: selection committee will contact finalists for phone interviews.*

**References**

Please include two letters of reference from qualified individuals who are familiar with your work. Please let your references know that we might be contacting them.

**Work Samples**

Samples should be recent, of high quality, and as relevant to the project as possible. Preview your samples before submitting them to ensure that there are no technical problems that might interfere with the panel's review of your work.

**Work Samples for Visual Artists**

The selection committee will review up to 10 work samples. Please include a work sample index of what you have included as your work sample. Submit slides, digital portfolio, tear sheets, DVD's, clearly identified on a separate sheet. Provide the information below, as relevant to the particular samples that you are submitting. List your samples in the order in which you want them reviewed.

- Title,
- Date,
- Materials,
- Size,
- Responsibility (if work is done by multiple people) and
- Instructions for reviewing time the selection. Include as relevant:
  - The track or chapter number.
  - Real elapsed time or cue information indicating the start of that selection. Note your first cue as 0:00. If your second selection starts five minutes later, note the start of that as 5:00, etc.
  - (audio/performance work), responsibility (if work is done by multiple people), etc.

*Please make sure your video or audio samples are clearly labeled and cued.*

### **Work Samples for Literary Artists**

The selection committee will review up to 10 work samples. Please include a work sample index of what you have included as your work sample. Provide the information below, as relevant to the particular samples that you are submitting. Where appropriate, flag no more than three pages that you would most like reviewers to read. List your samples in the order in which you want them reviewed.

- For books and manuscripts: Title and author.
- For journals: Volume and issue number.
- For audio cassettes, VHS video cassettes, CDs (audio or video), DVD-Rs, or DVD-ROMS:
  - The format (e.g., VHS video cassette).
  - A brief description of the sample and its relationship to the project for which you are requesting support.
  - Instructions for reviewing those selections or parts of the sample that you most want reviewers to see or hear, in priority order. Indicate real elapsed time or cue information, indicating the start of each selection, or track or chapter numbers, as relevant. Please be aware that the entire sample (not just the selected segment) is considered a part of the application package and may be reviewed.

### **Work Sample Returned**

Please note that every precaution is taken to see that work samples are handled with care. PlatteForum cannot be responsible for their safety. Work samples will be returned only if you provide a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE). No dated metered postage please.

SASE provided       Do not return sample

### **Processing Fee**

A non-refundable processing fee of \$25 is required with each application. Please make check payable to PlatteForum.

### **Notification**

Artists will be notified by email or phone no later than May 1, 2010.

### **Checklist**

- Two copies of application
- Two letters of reference
- Work samples
- \$25 processing fee
- SASE if appropriate

***Mail or deliver proposal to be received at PlatteForum by 3:00pm, Friday, March 26, 2010.***

#### **Biennial Residencies at PlatteForum**

1610 Little Raven Street, Suite 135

Denver, CO 80202

303.893.0791

[www.platteforum.org](http://www.platteforum.org)

[judy@platteforum.org](mailto:judy@platteforum.org)

### **For more information:**

PlatteForum: [www.platteforum.org](http://www.platteforum.org)

Lighthouse Writers Workshop: [www.lighthousewriters.org/](http://www.lighthousewriters.org/)

Denver Biennial of the Americas: [www.denverbiennial.org/](http://www.denverbiennial.org/)

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