

# Hartman Visiting Artist Program

## Hartman Reserve Nature Center

### Overview

The Hartman Visiting Artist (HRVA) program was created in 2012 by the Friends of Hartman Reserve. Until 2019, it was known as the Hartman Artist-In-Residence Program. The program currently is facilitated by Black Hawk County Conservation staff at Hartman Reserve Nature Center.

The HRVA program offers an individual or ensemble the opportunity to pursue artistic disciplines while being surrounded by Hartman Reserve Nature Center's inspiring landscape and wildlife. Past artists have been painters, print-makers, a musician, performance artist, and last year, a painter who studied endangered and threatened species in Iowa. The program is open to professionals, novice artists, and high school and college students.

Recent scientific research shows that besides the recreational benefits, being outside reduces anxiety and blood pressure and enhances creativity. Those positive outcomes are part of our educational and recreational programming at Hartman, and the HRVA program is another means of helping people experience the great outdoors and see the value of nature.

### Residency annual timeline

April 1 through May 15 – Applications accepted

May 16 through May 30 – Artist(s) selected

June 1 through September 30 – Residency

### Objectives and requirements

Through this program, Hartman Reserve is able to offer another diverse program to the public that increases appreciation of nature. The public benefits from the selected artist presenting at least one public program, performance, blog, etc. The artist is asked to donate an artwork that Hartman may present, display, or auction at a Hartman fundraiser, thereby supporting programming at Hartman Reserve. Occasionally the artist would be available to the public for additional public learning experiences during the program.

In return, the artist gains a lucrative opportunity to present at the two local arts centers and at Hartman Reserve. The program and the public presentations at respected venues are impressive additions to the artist's résumé. The artist will receive support, publicity, and a financial award.

Please refer to the enclosed HRVA application to learn about requirements for an applicant's proposal, e.g., how the residency is relevant to the mission of Hartman Reserve and the potential for personal growth for the artist.

### Budget Narrative

Most Artist-In-Residence programs across the nation provide housing, pay living expenses for the artist, and oftentimes includes a cash award. The Hartman Buckles Building has available a loft that the artist may use each day from 8:00 AM to 10:30 PM, which are park hours. This year there is the possibility of a local resident offering a room and a studio in her home to the selected artist. As this program develops, in the future it is hoped that increased sponsorship would cover living expenses as well as an award.

Requests for funding have been sent to the Friends of Hartman Reserve, the Catherine Ann Livingston Fund at the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, Friends of the Waterloo Center for the Arts and the Hearst Center for the Arts, all sponsors for last year's program. Any sponsorship from these and any organization will be consider part of the award money to the selected artist.

Each applicant in each HRVA program year is required to submit a \$25.00 fee along with an application. An application fee is a common practice for competitive, art-related events. Application fees are used to sustain program expenses such as advertising, awards, public program supplies, and simple refreshments for an artist

reception. The artist reception is a meet-and-greet event where the selected artist meets the selection committee and Hartman staff, and planning begins for the artist's proposed programming and events. Hartman has collected application fees over the life of the program and has profited modestly from sales of HRVA-related merchandise. The current balance in the HRVA program restricted account is \$945.69.

Future plans: Once the restricted account reaches \$1,250.00, an extension of the HRVA program will be offered to middle and high school students in the form of an art competition, and up to \$250.00 in prize money will be offered. A trial competition was held in 2018 with modest awards from the account and was successful. The program would be developed and presented to school art teachers during the school year so that students could work on their entries during class time. There would be no entry fee for the students and the nature-inspired art would be displayed at Hartman and/or another venue. Sponsorship for the middle and high school competition would also be appreciated.