



ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST and SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS NATIONAL MONUMENT



Big Pines Lodge, near the Big Pines house

THE PROGRAM

At several dozen National Parks and Forests in the United States, Artist-in-Residence programs offer artists of any medium—painters, writers, poets, weavers, musicians, photographers, sculptors, performers, dancers, teachers, etc—a unique setting in which to practice their chosen art form. The Angeles National Forest and San Gabriel Mountains National Monument’s Artist in Residence program is accepting applications through April. Selections are made in May, and residencies are scheduled between June and October of the same year based on availability and artist’s schedules.

Those selected stay at historic cabins for one to two weeks, based on their project’s needs. Residents are requested to contribute either a piece of work representing their experience while at the cabin or a monetary donation of their choosing to the not-for-profit 501(c)3 supporting the program. They are also asked to share their talents during their residencies through an open house, exhibit, performance, or workshop. Residents also participate in an annual group show and reception held the following year. Community service contributions must be set up in advance through the Program Coordinator.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Angeles National Forest enrolls participants, once selected, through a Volunteer Agreement. Representatives of arts and cultural associations help judge entries and select residents. Applications are judged for artistic value, uniqueness, creativity, historic or natural resource content/messages, and the ability expressed by the artist to work in a primitive setting. (Apply at www.angelescrest.org to read more about the facilities.) Selections are made on the basis of merit, without regard to gender, race, creed, religion, national origin or physical ability. However, because of their historic nature, some locations do not meet Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility standards.

THE FACILITIES

- Big Pines house on Angeles Crest Hwy above Wrightwood (at elevation 6,500’), in a “snow country” pine forest
- The Volunteer House in San Gabriel Canyon on Highway 39 (elevation 2,000’) in a dense oak forest
- Crystal Lake at the end of Hwy 39, camping in an RV (provided) in an open pine forest (elevation 5,500’)

Volunteer House in San Gabriel Canyon



Because of their historic nature, no permanent changes can be made by residents to interiors or exteriors. All areas are in a rustic forest setting adjacent to paved roads. Higher elevation locations experience mild summer days and cool to cold summer nights. Some visitors who live at lower elevations may experience mild altitude sickness above 5,000’ until they become accustomed to the elevation, usually after a couple days. Please refer to the “Lodging” document at www.angelescrest.org for site-specific information.

Residents are asked to conserve resources, such as water, propane and electricity. Each facility is outfitted with rustic furnishings. Because of the remote locations, rodents may be encountered inside the cabin, and wildlife outside. Overnight guests are welcome, but each site has a size limit, and all visitors must sign volunteer agreements with the Forest Service prior to their arrival. Camping is available at nearby Forest Service campgrounds.

WHAT TO BRING: Food/condiments, beverages, portable lighting, flashlights, bedding, bath soap, bath towels, toiletries, pet hair removal tools (if bringing an approved pet), bed linens and blankets, and patience for any inconveniences experienced in a primitive setting. Participants, upon selection, will be given a comprehensive list of items to bring, house rules, as well as safety information.

SAFETY AND CONSERVATION MEASURES: Handle trash in a bear-resistant manner during your stay – stored either inside the cabin or in a car trunk. Pack out all your garbage. Encouraging black bears to visit is dangerous to occupants, the cabin and the bears. Inside garbage cans are provided, and food and scented items should not be kept in any outside bins. Please conserve water so as not to run out of well water or water pressure. Conserve propane by turning off lights and appliances when not needed. Use stovetop burners only for cooking – not for heating. Keep screen doors closed to keep out flying insects. Keep cabin clean to deter ants, mice and other pests. Never feed wildlife, including chipmunks and squirrels—even feeding them once prevents them from foraging for themselves.

NEARBY FACILITIES: In San Gabriel Canyon, Crystal Lake Resort offers a cafe and small general store; otherwise, the closest amenities are in Azusa. The cabin in Big Pines, above Wrightwood, is about 5 minutes from stores and services. Recreation opportunities include hiking, cycling, bird watching, rock climbing and stargazing. Maps and information are provided on site.

CLEANING: Residents must leave their locations clean and tidy upon their departure. A clean-up check list posted inside describes what is expected. Mops, brooms and cleaning supplies are provided. The cabins are well sealed but mice do occasionally sneak in. If you see mouse droppings, douse the area with bleach (provided), wait for 20 minutes, and wipe up with a wet cloth and plastic gloves (also provided). Alert the Program Coordinator for help in removing mice from traps.



OTHER: Artists are welcome to donate small items to help make the cabins more comfortable for other visitors, including nonperishable goods, decorations and household items. Ask the coordinator what may be needed. This generosity helps assure that the Forest Service is able to continue offering this program despite a small budget.

REQUIRED:

- Signing of a volunteer application and residency acceptance form prior to your stay;
- Artwork for display or monetary donation to the non-profit group for program maintenance;
- Offering an open house or workshop free to the public during your residency;
- Participation in an group show and reception the following year;
- Adherence to cleaning, safety and water conservation requirements;
- Agreement that all overnight guests will sign individual waivers at least one week in advance of their visit. No exceptions;
- Forest Service reserves the right to accept and display contributed works at its sole discretion

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Artist in Residence Program Coordinator
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