



Nature Foundation Artist Residency Program Prospectus 2025

About Nature Foundation

Nature Foundation is an apolitical not-for-profit organisation that invests in conserving, restoring and protecting Australian landscapes, flora and fauna to ensure their survival. We aim to lead the way in sustainable nature conservation. We currently manage nine nature reserves for conservation with our two largest being Witchelina Nature Reserve in the far north of the state, and Hiltaba Nature Reserve in the far west. Both offer opportunities to enjoy beautiful and diverse landscapes, flora, fauna, geology, and other natural features to inspire artists working in a variety of media.

Artist Residency Program

Nature Foundation's Artist Residency Program was launched in 2019. The program offers artists an opportunity to work on Witchelina or Hiltaba Nature Reserves, at times to be negotiated during the 7-month period in which they are open to visitors from 1 April to 31 October. Both nature reserves are approximately 630kms (9-10 hours drive), from Adelaide.

The Artist Residence program aims to:

- reflect Nature Foundation's conservation vision by encouraging artists to become immersed in the natural environment, and to respond to it in their creative work;
- support the work of participating artists with an interest in remote natural environments, by providing them with opportunities with visits to Witchelina, Hiltaba, or both.

In pursuit of these aims, the Artist Residency Program seeks to attract professional artists, producing high-quality work inspired by nature.

Nature Foundation gratefully acknowledges sponsorship of this program by the Helen James Endowment Fund.

What is offered?

The Artist Residency program invites up to two artists each year to spend up to two weeks on either Witchelina, Hiltaba, or a week on each. These large nature reserves offer extensive opportunities to create work inspired by rich biodiversity and rarely visited landscapes.

Nature Foundation provide participating artists with accommodation, a reserve orientation and general support, while on the nature reserve. Accommodation options are:

- Campground – ideal for those artists with a self-contained caravan
- Shearers' Quarters (single or double rooms, with access to showers, toilets, and shared kitchen facilities)
- Self-contained cottage accommodation if available.

Transport to and from the chosen reserve(s) will be the responsibility of participating artists. A living away from home allowance commensurate with the length of a Residency will be offered to participating artists. However, participants will need to provide their own food and all consumables for the duration of the Residency, as well as a vehicle (4WD) and equipment (including safety equipment) suitable for travel and work in remote areas.

Importantly, the Artist Residency Program offers participating artists the opportunity to exhibit their work and discover new audiences for their work, particularly collectors who are specifically interested in artwork inspired by nature.



Following the conclusion of the Artist Residency, Nature Foundation will promote the works generated through artists' visits via exhibition opportunities. Nature Foundation will promote the Exhibition through its networks and through arts networks. A commission will be negotiated with participating artists, and the exhibiting gallery prior to the commencement of their Residency, which will be documented in a Memorandum of Understanding.

Please note: successful applicants will be solely responsible for costs and arrangements associated with transport of their work, and their own travel, to and from the exhibition in an Adelaide venue.

Managing nature reserves generates operational requirements that may take priority over other activities. Nature Foundation reserves the right to postpone or cancel Residencies, or to restrict access to all or part of the properties regarding these requirements.

Who can apply?

Nature Foundation wishes to encourage professional artists. Suitable artists may be art school trained and may be regularly selling work and exhibiting in a commercial gallery, but these will not be preconditions for a Residency.

Aboriginal artists are strongly encouraged to apply.

How do I apply for a Residency?

ALL Applications must be received by Nature Foundation by 31 March 2025.

All applications are submitted via the digital form listed at the end of this prospectus.

Further enquires can be made to:
Carolyn Pickering, Artist Residency Executive Officer
art@naturefoundation.org.au

Assessment Process and Assessment Criteria

The Nature Foundation Artist Residency Advisory Group will assess and short-list applications. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview (in person or remote) by the panel.

Applications will be assessed on the basis of:

- Artistic merit as revealed in the images supplied;
- Professional record as an artist;
- Compatibility of an applicant's aims with those of the Artist Residency program;
- Experience of, or preparedness for, living and working in remote outback environments.

Nature Foundation reserves the right to seek professional or personal references if required.

Further information about visiting Witchelina and Hiltaba Nature Reserves can be found at:

- <https://www.naturefoundation.org.au/what-we-do/nature-based-tourism/visit-witchelina>
- <https://www.naturefoundation.org.au/what-we-do/nature-based-tourism/visit-hiltaba>
- <https://visit.naturefoundation.org.au/book> - See our FAQs about visiting remote reserves

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