

Call for proposals: Artist in Residence at NCEAS

“Art is a process of observation. So is science. They have a natural correspondence to build on.”

-Elkpen (artist)

Create art inspired by interactions with environmental scientists and the scientific process while helping influence the way science is done. The National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS), an environmental science research center located in Santa Barbara, CA, is seeking proposals from artists for a one-month residency in March 2020. The opportunity is open to artists of all sorts, including painters, poets, musicians, photographers, illustrators, printmakers, playwrights, digital artists, and more.

The aim of our artist-in-residence program is to get artists and scientists engaged in creative conversation that hopefully changes the way each thinks about her/his own work – artists finding new ways to represent and communicate science and scientific ideas, and scientists finding different ways to pose and address core scientific questions. Science at NCEAS spans a vast spectrum of topics in environmental science – from ocean plastics, to food systems, to environmental health – creating a rich tableau within which both artists and scientists can conduct potentially impactful work. For more information about our science, visit <https://www.nceas.ucsb.edu/science>.

You can learn more about the program and our past and current artists in residence at <https://www.nceas.ucsb.edu/art-science>.

Benefits of the residency include

- Accommodations in the Via Maria Villa, generously provided by [The Squire Foundation](#) and located in the foothills of Santa Barbara
- Office space at NCEAS
- Interactions with a diversity of scientists spanning a range of environmental topics
- Potential funding for travel, materials, and a stipend
- Opportunities to give on-campus lectures at UC Santa Barbara
- Potential for an exhibit in a local gallery

Artists needing studio space will be considered; please note this need in your application. To apply, please send the following to Ben Halpern (halpern@nceas.ucsb.edu) by **5pm PDT, September 13, 2019**:

- 1) Cover letter explaining your interest in the residency and what you would hope to gain from it;
- 2) Digital images, or links to digital files, of your three best pieces; feel free to send also links to your broader body of work if you'd like, but you must identify your three best pieces separately.
- 3) Anticipated needs for travel, materials and stipend – please keep in mind that cost will be one of the evaluation criteria

Why Art + Science @ NCEAS

Art and Science play key roles in nurturing the innovative thinking we need to deal with the complex changes we are currently experiencing across the globe.

Both entail a process of asking new questions and exposing possible answers. While science communicates the complexity of our world with data and facts, art relies on the imagination and feelings.

Together, art and science have the power to transform.

Given this power, NCEAS has created unique opportunities for artists and environmental scientists to come together to work in dialogue with and inspire each other. We hope to unleash new levels of creativity and innovation in the ways we think about, communicate, and solve the world's most pressing environmental challenges.

About NCEAS

NCEAS conducts transformational science focused on informing solutions that will allow people and nature to thrive. We are an independent research affiliate of the University of California, Santa Barbara, with a global network and impact.

Our mission is to accelerate scientific discoveries that will enhance our understanding of the world and benefit people and nature, as well as to transform the scientific culture to be more open, efficient, and collaborative. Our pioneering approach brings together teams of environmental scientists to synthesize existing data and harvest from them new insights. This approach enables discoveries at bigger scales and faster speeds, making them well positioned to inform environmental policy and management. Learn more at www.nceas.ucsb.edu.