

G E O G R A P H Y O F



A CONFERENCE CELEBRATING
REFLECTIONS
ON WATER

MARCH 18-20, 2011

P O I N T R E Y E S , C A L I F O R N I A

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

OUTDOOR ART INSTALLATIONS IN POINT REYES STATION for the
2011 GEOGRAPHY OF HOPE CONFERENCE
THEME: REFLECTIONS ON WATER

CONFERENCE CHAIRS: POETS BRENDA HILLMAN & ROBERT HASS

The Geography of Hope Conference (Conference) is pleased to present this Request for Proposal (RFP) to Marin and Sonoma County artists for outdoor art projects to be installed and displayed in Point Reyes Station, CA. The Conference will be held on March 18, 19, and 20, 2011. This year's theme is "Reflections on Water." Proposals submitted must relate to this theme. The art projects selected must be installed by the selected artists between February 18–23, 2011, and will remain on display through May 31, 2011.

The Geography of Hope Conference

Art has always been an important part of the conference which was founded in 2008 and has quickly become one of Northern California's most exceptional literary events. The Conference takes its name from Wallace Stegner's famous "Wilderness Letter" in which he describes wild landscapes as part of our "geography of hope." The Conference explores the relationship between people and the landscape through panel discussions, readings, dinners, talks, field trips, radio shows, spirited informal conversations, gallery showings, and outdoor public art installations.

Location

Point Reyes Station, located in western Marin County about 50 miles north of San Francisco, provides artists with a unique opportunity to display art in a beautiful setting which is well-loved by residents as well as by visitors from the Bay Area and beyond. About 2.5 million tourists annually visit Point Reyes. The Conference itself draws hundreds of attendees, many of whom are well-known authors, scholars, environmentalists, and artists.

Request for Proposals

This RFP seeks proposals from Marin and Sonoma County artists for art installations/projects on the theme of “Reflections on Water” to be displayed outdoors on various sites in Point Reyes Station and for one indoor installation at Toby’s Feed Barn (not to be confused with a separate art exhibition in Toby’s Gallery). The sites are identified on the attached map. Artists may propose projects directed to a particular site or not. The indoor installation at Toby’s Feed Barn is anticipated to be on the ceiling of that building. Artists are encouraged to visit Point Reyes Station and view the various sites.

The Conference will award stipends to artists ranging from \$500–\$1000. Artists will be responsible for paying/raising any additional funds necessary to complete their projects and are encouraged to seek such funding from sponsors and other contributors. Similarly, artists are encouraged to collaborate with others to complete and install their projects. It is currently anticipated that between eight and ten projects will be selected.

This RFP does not contain or impose any particular guidelines and/or specific parameters for the art projects—other than that they encompass or relate to this year’s Conference theme of “Reflections on Water” and that they be newly created for this exhibition. The Conference leaves the development and presentation of the art projects to you—the artists. West Marin abounds with beautiful bodies of water—the Pacific Ocean, Tomales Bay, and estuaries, wetlands, ponds, creeks, streams and canals—which provide homes and sustenance for numerous forms of plant and animal life. Those waters, the life-blood of West Marin, may very well be an inspiration for your work, which could celebrate the beauty of the landscape. You may wish to incorporate actual water in your piece, depict forms of water, or otherwise present, reflect, or comment on “water” and its relationship to the land and its inhabitants.

The art projects will be installed outside during the late winter when they will be exposed to rain, sun, and wind. Further, the projects will be located in “public places” accessible to viewers. Artists should take these factors into account when planning and executing their projects. Please note that some sites may not have electricity or water access. The Conference will provide information concerning same whenever possible.

Art Projects will be part of a literary, art, and film program viewed by thousands of people

These art installations will also be part of a larger arts program related to the Geography of Hope Conference, including a juried show in Toby’s Gallery, exhibitions at Gallery Route One and other venues in and around Point Reyes Station. This year’s Conference also includes a film festival dedicated to the theme of “Reflections on Water” which will be held in Point Reyes Station during the weekend of February 25-27 when the art installations will be up. This will further attract visitors. Over the three-month art display

period, thousands of tourists, as well as Conference and Film Festival attendees, will visit Point Reyes Station. They will easily see the art which will be displayed in prominent places. Maps and other literature directing people to the art will be available in local businesses.

Application Submittal Procedure

- Complete **“Outdoor Art Installations”** Application online at www.ptreyesbooks.com/eventseries/geography-of-hope/application-outdoor-art
- Submit application to: John E. Mueller, Curator, at goh.johnmueller@gmail.com, or by U.S. mail to:

Geography of Hope Outdoor Art Installations
Post Office Box 1496
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Selection Process

- There is NO FEE to apply.
- Artists are responsible for delivering, setting up, and removing their artwork.

Timeline

On or before October 15, 2010	Applications and responses to the RFP due.
October 25 announced	Selection of art projects and monetary awards
February 18–23, 2011	Artists install projects
June 1–4	Art projects must be de-installed by the artist

For further information on this exhibition, please contact John E. Mueller, Curator, at goh.johnmueller@gmail.com. For information on the Conference visit www.ptreyesbooks.com/eventseries/geography-of-hope.

John Mueller, curator of the outdoor art installations, has been a member of the Black Rock Arts Foundation Board of Directors since 2004. As a Black Rock board member, he has been involved in the placement of numerous public art installations. John is a member of sculptor David Best's Temple Crew and has helped build temples at Burning Man, in Detroit, near Dublin, Ireland, and in San Francisco. John has created art pieces at Burning Man and done performance art at the Venice, Italy, Biennale. He was the Creative Director of the Santa Cruz Film Festival. He also served on the Bread and Roses Board of Directors for seven years, chairing it for two years.