

CALL FOR ARTISTS

2018 Farm/Art DTour Oct 5-14



Where artists explore the timeless connection between land and people

OVERVIEW

The Farm/Art DTour is a 50+-mile self-guided tour through the beautiful working lands of Sauk County, Wisconsin punctuated by Art Works (large-scale temporary art installations), Pasture Performances, PassWords (roadside poetry) Field Notes (interpretive signage), and more. The DTour is part of [Fermentation Fest](#) - A Live Culture Convergence, 10 days of classes, tastings, and art events celebrating live culture - in all its forms.

Wormfarm will commission 6-8 original Art Works to be installed along the DTour route. The work will be on public view from October 5-14, 2018. We are seeking artists (individuals or teams) who are interested in creating site-responsive work and engaging with agricultural landscape, the farmers, landowners, and surrounding communities. This is an opportunity to contribute to a unique and exciting project with a growing reputation for its innovative and effective approach to "creative placemaking."

This project has been supported by The National Endowment for the Arts, Wisconsin Arts Board, ArtPlace America, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and The Educational Foundation of America. It has received national attention and in 2016 attracted over 20,000 people from near and far. The Wormfarm Institute, creator and host of the Fest & DTour, is an award-winning organization with the mission to integrate culture and agriculture along the rural/ urban continuum.

We seek to curate a diverse group of artists for projects on the edge of Wisconsin's Driftless Region. Artists are responsible for both installation and de-installation of their work and will have about 2 weeks to install and 1 week after to de-install. Artists retain ownership of the work after the DTour.

BUDGET

Wormfarm will fund projects at two levels- \$5000 and \$2500. Six to eight total projects will be selected from a combination of funding levels. Please indicate on your application which funding level you are applying for. An itemized budget will not be required for phase one.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please respond with:

- One page Letter of Interest including contact information
- Preliminary Project Concept indicating funding level , not to exceed one page
- Concept drawings or visual references
- 8-10 images of applicant's recent work demonstrating capacity to realize large-scale outdoor project
- Resume or C.V., not to exceed two pages

Format:

- Letter of Interest, Project Concept, drawings, and Resume/C.V. should be saved as a pdf or word document
- Images must be JPEG format, "high" or "fine" quality, file size not to exceed 2 MB per image. Image file names should include artist's last name and be numbered, e.g. "Smith-01."

Email dtour@fermentationfest.com to the attention of Katie by March 5, 5 p.m. CST

Things to keep in mind when developing your proposal:

- Wisconsin weather in October can be unpredictable, so plan for rain, cold and high winds.
- The landscape can dwarf even the most ambitious projects.
- DTour audience interaction with installations ranges from drive-by to direct engagement. Keep both scenarios in mind as you develop your idea.
- The DTour runs primarily through farm fields, but also includes woods, wetlands, and small towns. Most sites will be located in hay fields or pasture

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Artistic excellence
- Visual Impact
- Demonstrated ability to realize
- Community Engagement
- Feasibility in the context of the larger event
- Curatorial vision

VISION

In ecology there is a concept called "edge environments" – areas between one sort of landscape and another, where ecosystems overlap. These edges tend to have more diversity (and therefore more hardiness) than either of the adjoining environments alone. These mixed-use zones, both literal and conceptual, characterize the DTour experience and allows us to see new possibilities for our land, our work, and our communities.

SELECTION PROCESS

Artists will be chosen to participate through a two part selection process. Initial proposals will be reviewed by a jury consisting of former DTour artists, organizers, and regional and national arts professionals. Up to 15 finalists will be selected. Finalists will be notified by **March 21** and will be expected to attend a two-day orientation in Reedsburg, WI in late April.

The Orientation aims to deepen the participants' understanding of the event and the landscape as well as provide an opportunity for finalists to meet with landowners, former DTour artists, and event organizers. The weekend will include a tour of the DTour route, shared meals, and ample opportunity to share ideas and questions. It is our hope that this experience has value independent of being selected for this year. A stipend will help cover travel expenses and to subsequently develop a full proposal. Meals and housing will be provided. Finalists will then have three weeks to develop a full proposal.

TIMELINE

March 5: Email Applications due by 5 p.m. CST
March -21: Finalists chosen, notification sent to applicants
April 28-29: Finalist Orientation in Reedsburg, WI
May 18: Final Proposals due
May 30: Artists chosen, notification to finalists
June: Contracts with selected artists, final site selection
September 15 – October 3: Installation of art work
October 5 – 14: Farm/Art DTour + Fermentation Fest
October 15 – 21: De-installation of work

For information and images from previous Fermentation Fests:

- www.fermentationfest.com
- <https://www.facebook.com/FermentationFest>
- http://intransit.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/09/20/a-celebration-of-fermentation/?_r=2
- <http://www.jsonline.com/entertainment/arts/farmart-dtour-marries-agriculture-and-culture-b99369989z1-279567472.html>
- <http://arts.gov/exploring-our-town/farmart-dtour>
- <https://theamericanscholar.org/pungent-metaphors/#.VeROJSVviko>

Reflections from past DTour artists:

"This project was one of the most ambitious I've undertaken in many ways (technical, community engagement, multiple media). It was largely successful from my standpoint and provided an opportunity to try some things I've been wanting to do in a very supportive setting. I hope to keep doing projects that have the same level of direct interaction/collaboration with the viewers, who really helped create the piece."

Joshua Pablo Rosenstock, MA

"The intersection of art, culture, and local agriculture that is so unique to Fermentation Fest made the Farm/Art DTour the perfect place to develop an idea that we'd had for a long time: to create an installation that, through the fun of cooking and eating dumplings, would draw a temporary community of practice together from the visitors on the tour."

Emily Stover & Molly Balcom Raleigh, MN

"I love the mix. Especially as the mix is encouraged by the map listings - there's not a separation or ranking of pro to vernacular, so it's up to the audience to decide what they respond to, not an audience being told what to think about each one. Love it. "

Erika Nelson, KS

"All in all, I love the Wormfarm staff and am so impressed with your attention to detail and your ability to work with complexity, uncertainty and the crazy needs of all of the artists and variables."

Brenda Baker, WI

