

Andrew T. Mack
Commissioner
550 W. 7th Ave., Ste 1400
Anchorage, AK 99501
dnr.alaska.gov



Elizabeth Bluemink
Communications
Coordinator
907.269.8434
elizabeth.bluemink@alaska.gov

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Alaska State Parks seeks artists for 2017 residency program

(Anchorage, AK) – Alaska State Parks is inviting artists to apply for the summer 2017 Artist-In-Residence Program at the Ernest Gruening State Historical Park in Southeast Alaska.

The program is open to emerging or established artists working in all types of media. Selected artists will spend up to two weeks at the scenic and historic Ernest Gruening Cabin from May through September. The cabin, nestled along the coastline of Amalga Harbor, was the territorial governor's summer retreat and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The deadline to submit applications for the program is March 15, 2017. Artists who participate in the program will be asked to donate an original artwork inspired by their time at the cabin and to host a community outreach event, such as a workshop, talk, or other presentation. Travel to Juneau and transportation to the cabin will be the artist's responsibility. Artists must also provide their own food, supplies and art materials for their stay.

Now in its third year, the purpose of the artist-in-residence program is to encourage artists to create work inspired by Alaska's state parks. It also offers visitors and the general public an opportunity to see state parks through the eyes of contributing artists. As Constance Baltuck, one of the first artists to participate in the inaugural year of the program, explained, "It's so exciting to be part of this great new program. It's a wonderful opportunity for an immersion experience, not just in the creation of art, but also in the appreciation of a beautiful natural landscape."

The Ernest Gruening State Historical Park is located approximately 24 miles north of downtown Juneau and the cabin is a major feature of the 13-acre park, which provides spectacular views of Lynn Canal and the Peterson Creek Salt Chuck, as well as fishing and wildlife-watching opportunities.

For more information on this program or to download a copy of the application form, please visit <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/artistinresidence.htm>.

CONTACT: Mike Eberhardt, 907-465-2481, mike.eberhardt@alaska.gov

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