



Village of Lake Placid/Town of North Elba Arts Alliance

Artist's Prospectus for
The Beach Fence at Peacock Park
(Village Beach)
(To be installed for summer 2022)

About the Lake Placid/North Elba Arts Alliance

The Arts Alliance exists as a sub-committee of the Lake Placid/North Elba Community Development Commission, which serves at the pleasure of the Village of Lake Placid and Town of North Elba boards. As such, the Arts Alliance promotes the objectives of the Comprehensive Plan concerned with supporting and marketing artistic programs, activities and events.

About the Beach Fence

During the summer of 2020, the Village (owner of the beach) and the Town (operator of the beach), were required to install fencing around the public access to the beach to control capacity, per NYS COVID guidelines. Subsequently, the NYS Health Department informed the Village and Town of the need to have mechanism in place to ensure the safety of swimmers at the beach when there were not lifeguards present, during the months that the lake was available for swimming. After weighing numerous options, it was determined that a fence was the most practical method of doing so.

The Arts Alliance requested to be involved in the process so that the fence could become “environmental art” rather than a utilitarian barrier. For background, during the 1980 Olympics there was environmental art, much of it made of chain link fence, displayed as part of the Olympic art collection. This history inspired the idea, but should not, necessarily, inspire the current design.

The Development Commission had already partnered with students from Clarkson University to develop a plan for the entirety of Peacock Park and subsequently requested that they include engineering concepts and specs for a fence to be built later. The design of the fence will utilize these engineering concepts for the basis of the design. Details can be found on www.futurelakeplacid.com/initiatives/peacockpark(Placid Planning Mirror Lake Waterfront Plan PC:2021:007).

Specifications for the design

The fence will consist of a series of 8' panels affixed to the ground using 5" PVC pipe set 4' into the ground. The fence is approximately 350' in length and will have 3" of space between panels. Thus, there will be 42-43 panels needed. One 8' panel will serve as an entrance and exit for beachgoers during times when there is a lifeguard present, this should be located to have easy access to the beach house and be lockable when the lifeguard is not there. Panels should be no less than 45" and no more than 57" high including a gap at the base no greater than 12". The panels will be inserted each spring and removed at the end of each summer season and stored.

You are primarily responsible for the design within the panels, however, if your design incorporates the framing, this should be included in what you propose to the committee.

Designs may use metal, photography, wood or other medium as long as it is designed to be durable and have a lifespan of at least 3-4 years before needing maintenance or repair. Designs should also be two-sided to be seen both from the walkway and from the other side of the lake.

Exhibition Guidelines

- This call for artists is open to artists from all areas, though preference will be given to those living or working within the Lake Placid region.
- The selected work will be exhibited at 49 Parkside Drive, Lake Placid, NY for a three year period, at which time the project will be reviewed.
- Work must be suitable for outdoor installation and take into consideration fence specifications listed above.
- Work must be capable of withstanding adverse weather conditions (high winds, sunlight, etc.) and withstand a high traffic environment.
- Work must be designed to be maintenance free for the duration of the exhibition and take into consideration safety of the audience of all ages.
- Work must be existing works completed prior to submission. No incomplete works or project proposals will be considered.

They should also take into consideration their location, meaning that they should tell a story and be relevant to Lake Placid, its history, traditions, identity, and community. They may be literal interpretations or abstract. The design should not appear to be a barrier, but an enhancement to the surroundings.

Timing of the project

Timing for this project is very tight, we need to have designs, approvals, construction and installation completed by Memorial Day weekend 2022 (Friday, May 27, 2022).

As such, the committee will begin accepting proposals for design on January 24, 2022. Submissions will close February 28, 2022. The decision process will be completed by the committee, approved by the Village and Town boards and shown to the community for input no later than March 31, 2022. The project will be awarded immediately thereafter.

Selection Criteria

80% Selection Weight: Submittal of work as outlined here. Attention to context, architectural, historical, geographical and cultural aspects of the work and how it fits in the park environment. Strength and artistic merit of past art works, creativity of the approach, fabrication/installation experience and the ability to create safe site-specific work.

20% Selection Weight: Submittal of an installation plan, letter of interest that includes experience, motivation to display in Lake Placid and a resume that provides at least two references, artist statements or images or complete work similar to work being submitted.

The Arts Alliance will form a committee of jurors from the alliance and the community to evaluate and score each submission on the above criteria.

Eligibility & Restrictions

- Open to mediums including, but not limited to, photography, metal work or sculpture, and woodwork or sculpture.
- Eligible submissions must be executed by artists 16 years or older.
- The Arts Alliance places no restriction on content other than there should be no nudity or sexually prurient content included.

Artist Responsibility

Artist will be responsible for transportation to and from the site according to the timeline provided and is responsible for ensuring that the work is properly prepared to meet specified fence guidelines.

- Artist will be responsible for providing nametag information to be attached by local municipalities to the fence. The information required (artist name, medium sales price, contact information and, if applicable, name given to the work)
- Artist will be required to claim their work promptly at the conclusion of the loan period. Failure to do so will indicate forfeiture of ownership to the Lake Placid/North Elba Arts Alliance.

Artist Fee

Please include the costs for construction of your submission as well as your artist fee.

Submissions should be submitted to hbreen@northelba.org for consideration.