

**Call for Proposals**

**2017 Cheng Long Wetlands International Environmental Art Project  
Yunlin County, Taiwan**

**“Take Action, Live with Change”**



Artists from all countries are invited to send a proposal for a site-specific outdoor sculpture installation that will raise public awareness and enlist people to take action and live with a changing global environment and in particular the sinking land, rising waters, strong winds, and increasingly powerful typhoons in the Cheng Long area. This year the art project aims to raise awareness about collective environmental responsibility and how people can work together in harmony with nature to rebuild and readjust to a changing environment. The artworks will emphasize the natural cycle of life: birth, life, death and then rebirth, and engage the community to take action to make the environment better for living with the changes.

Cheng Long is in a low-lying coastal area, and the land in Cheng Long sinks more each year due to over pumping of the underground aquifer, increasingly severe typhoons and rising water levels caused by global warming. The Cheng Long Wetlands provide a great home for many different species of wildlife, including about 120 species of wild birds and many other unique creatures and plants. The wetlands are also valuable as a place for learning, recreation and aesthetic enrichment as well as international cultural exchange activities such as the annual international environmental art project. Wetlands also provide many ecological benefits such as water purification, flood protection, erosion control and shoreline stabilization as well as commercial benefits from fish and shellfish production and increased tourism. The artworks in 2017 should relate to environmental conditions in Cheng Long, a small village near the southwest coast of Taiwan, and engage the local people to take action and do all they can themselves to make life better

in a changing environment.

The artists selected for 2017, the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of the international environmental art project, will create large-scale outdoor site-responsive public artworks during a 25-day artist in residency in Cheng Long village, Yunlin County, Taiwan. For 2017 we expect to select 5 or 6 artists (including 1 Taiwanese artist and at least one project proposed by a team of local villagers) based on the proposals received. This environmental art project is organized by the Kuan Shu Educational Foundation as part of their ongoing environmental education program in Cheng Long village with the Taiwan Forestry Bureau. The selected artists will work with elementary school students at Cheng Long Elementary School (a small village school with about 66 students in grades 1 – 6) and community residents, visitors and volunteers to create large-scale sculpture installations that will raise awareness about environmental issues and help develop community pride and promote environmental education.

In 2017 the artworks will be sited in the wetlands nature preserve area of Cheng Long Wetlands, a sunken land area mostly covered by water that is part salty and part fresh water, and that is now a nature preserve and home to many birds, fish and other wildlife. Artists making proposals should visit the Blog at <http://artproject4wetland.wordpress.com> to see possible sites for the outdoor sculpture installations in 2017 as well as look at previous year's artworks (links for catalogs of 2010 to 2015 are found at the top of the page). The final selection of the site for each proposed artwork will be made with the artists and the approval of the curator and organizers. Artists are required to use natural and biodegradable materials and environmentally friendly processes that encourage sustainability and preserving and improving the environment. The artworks should last for one year or more, but they should be biodegradable so that they can change over time and be left to recycle naturally back to nature and enhance the environment of the wetlands. Artists will work alongside other international artists and Taiwanese artists and with local children and volunteers in Cheng Long village. Collaborative teams are welcome to apply, but one artist fee and one airfare ticket cost will be shared by the team.

**Deadline for Entries: January 20, 2017**

**Artists will be selected and notified by February 20, 2017**

**Installation and Residency in Cheng Long, Taiwan: Thursday, April 13 (artists arrive) – Monday, May 8, 2017 (artists depart). Selected artists must be in Cheng Long during this entire period of time: 04/13/2017 to 05/08/2017**

**Dates of the Exhibition: May 5, 2017 (opening ceremony), May 6 and 7, 2017 (Opening weekend activities with the artists). The exhibition will be on display through March 2018, and the artworks may continue to be enjoyed into the next years.**

**Selected Artists will receive the following:**

- Artist's Award of NT\$60,000 (about US\$2,000) for creating the artwork and participating as an artist in the public programs and working with community school children, residents, volunteers and visitors.
- Round trip economy airfare from the artist's home to Taipei (Taoyuan International

- Airport). Artists must pay their own train fare (approx. US\$35) to the High Speed Rail Station where the artists will be picked up and brought by car to Cheng Long Village. Detailed travel instructions will be sent to selected artists. Artists must get the approval of the curator before booking tickets and keep all receipts for reimbursement when they arrive in Cheng Long.
- 25 days of accommodations and meals in Cheng Long with other international and Taiwanese artists. Each artist will have a separate bedroom, but bathrooms and living areas may be shared. Breakfast and dinner will be provided at the meeting house, and artists will eat lunch at the elementary school. Some group dinners will also be provided.
  - Local transportation to scheduled site-seeing trips with the artists and volunteers will be provided. Bicycles will be provided for the artists to use around the local area if they wish.
  - Volunteer help from school children and adults in the community and one adult volunteer to help each artist for the entire residency period. This adult volunteer will be able to speak English and Chinese. However, artists should be able to finish their proposed artwork on their own.
  - Help to find local natural, biodegradable and recycled materials to make the artworks. Local natural materials include shells, reeds, grasses, bamboo, driftwood, branches, earth, sand, etc. Other possible biodegradable materials include natural rope, nets, natural fiber fabric, wood and other recycled materials that are biodegradable and not harmful to the environment. Artists who need to purchase materials to make their artwork must consult with the curator, and pay for this from their own artists' fee. We hope that artists will use mostly free recycled and available natural materials.

#### **Qualifications of Artists:**

Artists who apply should have experience working with children and communities to create large scale site-specific outdoor sculpture installations in public settings and involve ordinary people in their thoughts and process. The artists should also have an interest in environmental issues related to wetlands. The selected artists should be able to speak English and be able to get along well with other artists, the local community and people of all ages and backgrounds. The selected artists should also be able to introduce their home culture to the community and share the environmental concerns of their own part of the world.

#### **Curator and Administrator of the Exhibition:**

Jane Ingram Allen, from the USA, is the curatorial consultant, and Chao-mei Wang, from Taiwan, is the Administrator of the 2017 international environmental art project. Jane is an American independent curator, artist and critic, living in Taiwan from 2004 - 2012, and now based in California, USA. Jane first came to Taiwan as a Fulbright Scholar artist in residence in 2004 and 2005 and worked as an independent artist and curator in Taiwan from 2006-2012, starting the Guandu International Outdoor Sculpture Festival at Guandu Nature Park in Taipei in 2006 and the Cheng Long Wetlands International Environmental Art Project in Cheng Long village, Yunlin County, Taiwan in 2010 as well as the National Museum of Marine Science & Technology Environmental Art Project in

Keelung, Taiwan in 2015. Jane is also a former university art professor and museum curator and educator. Her website is [www.janeingramallen.com](http://www.janeingramallen.com) and Blog at <http://janeingramallen.wordpress.com>

Chao-mei Wang is the Head Environmental Educator for the Kuan Shu Educational Foundation based in Taichung, Taiwan. Chao-mei has a Master's degree in Environmental Education from National Taiwan Normal University and another Master degree in Museum Studies from University of Leicester in the UK and has worked in the field of Environmental Learning Center for around 20 years. She has worked in Cheng Long village since 2009 to provide environmental education programs for the community and elementary school children. She has also administered the environmental art project since its founding in 2010. For the Cheng Long art project Jane and Chao-mei work with the staff of the Kuan Shu Educational Foundation, the Taiwan Forestry Bureau and local government leaders, teachers, and community people to administer and coordinate all aspects of this project, including the selection of artists and supervising the art installations and public programs related to the art project.

**To Apply:**

Send the following in English by email to Jane Ingram Allen before the deadline of **January 20, 2017**, at this address: [allenrebeccajanei@gmail.com](mailto:allenrebeccajanei@gmail.com)

Proposals in Chinese may be sent to Ms. Chao-Mei Wang, [chenglong.artproject@gmail.com](mailto:chenglong.artproject@gmail.com) before the January 20, 2017 deadline.

1. **Description of a proposed sculpture installation** for the 2017 Cheng Long Wetlands International Environmental Art Project (limit one page), sent as an attached .doc or .pdf file. Include dimensions and materials to be used in the proposed work.
2. **Artist Statement** about your interest and experience working with communities, volunteers and children to create sculpture and installation art projects. Also in the statement, tell how your proposed work relates to the theme, and tell how you will involve local elementary school children in your artwork. The statement should be limited to one page and sent as an attached .doc or .pdf file.
3. **Sketch** or rendering of your proposed artwork (attached .jpg file of less than 1 MB)
4. **6 images of previous related works** (6 separate attached .jpg files of less than 1 MB each)
5. **Image list** with details about the 6 images. Include title of work, date made, materials used, dimensions, and location of the artwork (attached .doc file or .pdf file)
6. **CV or Resume in English** (attached .doc or .pdf file) that details your education and art experience, awards and exhibitions and any international experience. Be sure to include your name, present address and nationality.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** All 6 items must be sent as **separate** attached files by email. **Do not put files into a single .pdf or .doc file, and do not use a Zip file.**