# 2024/25 Polar STEAM Antarctic Artists & Writers Application

*Please use this document to prepare answers if desired, but you must submit answers through Polar STEAM’s online portal. The link is on our website at https://polarsteam.info/application/*

# What is Polar STEAM for Artists & Writers?

Polar STEAM, which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math, is not just a national program but a journey for all of us to get closer to what is so physically distant, to understand the Polar regions and its people, and to commit to share what we learn with the world so others too can let their curiosity thrive.

The Antarctic Artists & Writers program facilitates deployments to the Antarctic for creative practitioners within the arts and humanities.  Collaborations between polar researchers and artists and writers help increase the public’s understanding of and appreciation for human and scientific endeavors in Antarctica through the resulting works. Polar STEAM welcomes applications from working artists, writers, and creative practitioners in a variety of genres, from traditional to experimental.

**This application is for two to six weeks during the 2024-25 Antarctic summer season, typically October 2024 through February 2025, with a possible option for early season (August through September).**

Because the potential creative scope of projects will be determined in part by logistical considerations in the remote Antarctic environment, we strongly encourage applicants to attend the informational webinar on July 11, 2023 at 11am PST (or view the recording) in order to prepare the strongest possible application.

**Before applying, please read the** [**FAQs on the Polar STEAM website**](https://polarsteam.info/faq/)**.**

On this application, personally identifiable information and demographics are for program use only and will be blinded from the review committee. The review committee will only see your responses to the application questions. If you have additional questions about the application process, please email polarsteam@oregonstate.edu. Staff are unable to comment on the merit of the creative proposal, but can provide assistance with the application process.

# Eligibility Criteria

* Are you a US Citizen or Permanent Resident? (If no, you are not eligible for this program. Please do not submit an application as it will not move forward. If you have additional questions, please feel free to email polarsteam@oregonstate.edu)
* Are you 21 years of age or older? (If no, you are not eligible for this program. Please do not submit an application as it will not move forward. If you have additional questions, please feel free to email polarsteam@oregonstate.edu)
* Have you attended or watched the informational webinar? (yes/no)
* Have you read the FAQs? (yes/no)

# General Information

* First Name
* Last Name
* Email/Secondary Email
* Phone Number/Secondary Phone Number
* Zip Code
* List two to three professional references who can speak to your work and collaborations.
	+ In the application, you will provide email addresses for your references. An email will automatically be sent to them from notifications@email.submittable.com. This may go to their junk or spam email, and it might be helpful to inform them. References will have the opportunity to either write their reference in a text box or upload a reference letter. Applicants will not see references once they have been completed. References are due September 8, 2023.

How did you hear about this opportunity? Check all that apply:

* 1. From friend or colleague
	2. Social media
	3. National Science Foundation (indicate source in other below)
	4. Polar STEAM website
	5. Professional society/group
	6. Internet search
	7. News outlet (e.g., radio, newspaper, online publication)
	8. Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Application Questions

1. Introduce yourself to us personally and professionally. Please use 3-5 brief statements of 1-2 sentences each. (100 word max)
2. Describe your intellectual, creative, and artistic curiosity about the Antarctic. (250 word max)
3. Describe your proposed project, paying particular attention to the ways in which collaboration with the scientific community in Antarctica would influence or shape your work. Polar STEAM is particularly interested in new or innovative artistic approaches to the Antarctic environment. (500 word max)
	1. *Supplemental instructions: Please note: Polar STEAM is unable to support permanent installations in the Antarctic or performance-based works that occur only during the residency.*
4. Antarctica is a vulnerable environment and requires significant effort to reach. How is presence on the continent necessary for your work? (250 word max)
5. Describe the ways in which you imagine this opportunity as a next thread in your practice and how participation in this program fits into your overall creative goals. You are welcome, but not required, to include reference to your website or other publicly available sources as a context for your explanation. (250 word max)
6. One of the goals on this program is to increase the breadth of public awareness and engagement with Antarctica. How do your project plans reach audiences or communities that may not have had prior exposure or access to polar regions. How does your project contribute to that goal? (250 word max)
7. Submit a portfolio of 2-5 work samples (images, writing samples, videos, audio files, or other, as appropriate to your genre and practice) that best demonstrates the conceptual foundations of your work. For each file, give a detailed description of the context for the work. (Total limit for all descriptions is 250 words)
	1. *Supplemental instructions: Please adhere to the following time/space limits. For writing samples, the total quantity of any writing submitted should not exceed 10 double-space pages maximum. For any audio/visual material, the total quantity submitted should not exceed 10 minutes of content. Video and audio files should be uploaded to a separate site (e.g. YouTube) and a link provided in the response to question 7 above.*
8. Describe the timeline and/or steps you would take to develop this project upon return from Antarctica. (250 words)
9. (Yes/No) I acknowledge that semi-finalists will be required to submit a 1-2 page logistics plan. This will need to be completed between Oct 1 – Oct 20, 2023. The logistics plan will be reviewed by the National Science Foundation to determine if the proposed project can be supported logistically. Polar STEAM will provide support to finalists in creating this plan. A preview of the instructions can be viewed on the applications page of the Polar STEAM website.

Demographic information

What is your gender? (Note: demographic and identity information will be used to understand the reach and inclusivity of Polar STEAM recruitment)

Prefer not to answer

Agender

Female

Genderqueer

Male

Non-binary including gender fluid and gender nonconforming

Transgender

Questioning or not sure

I prefer to self-identify: \_\_\_\_

Which of the following racial or ethnic groups do you identify with? (Select all that apply)

Prefer not to answer

African American or Black

Asian or Asian American

American Indian or Alaska Native

Caucasian or White

Hispanic, Latino/a/x or Chicano/a/x

Middle Eastern or Arab

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

I identify as: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any accommodations we can make to support you in the program. Please describe.