



For Immediate Release  
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# Wormfarm Institute Requests Artist Proposals for Biennial Farm/Art DTour Opening Next Fall in Wisconsin's Driftless Region

Up to ten artists will be commissioned to create a temporary, site-responsive work featured on the DTour route. Deadline to apply is February 15, 2022

REEDSBURG, WI—The Wormfarm Institute is pleased to announce a national call for artist proposals for its biennial Farm/Art DTour returning October 1-10, 2022 to Sauk County, Wisconsin located on the edge of the famed Driftless Region. This agri/cultural excursion is a self-guided drive through 50 miles of Sauk County's scenic, winding roads and working lands punctuated by temporary site-responsive artworks, pasture performances, roadside poetry, educational Field Notes, local food markets, and more. Year after year, the DTour draws thousands of visitors from the region and across the country with its invitation to experience a landscape and rural communities where farming plays a central, though changing, role.

Up to ten artists will be commissioned to create large-scale, outdoor projects that will be temporarily installed at various locations along the DTour route. The request for proposals invites artists from all backgrounds and locations to apply, including those who are formally trained and those who are self-taught. Proposals will be reviewed by a jury and DTour artists will be selected through a two-step process. The deadline to apply is February 15, 2022.

## How to Apply

Interested artists are invited to apply online at [wormfarminstitute.org](http://wormfarminstitute.org) by submitting their resume or CV; a statement of interest; a preliminary project concept including drawings or visual references; and 8-10 images of recent work demonstrating the ability to realize a large-scale outdoor project. Finalists will receive a stipend to support travel costs for a site visit, and DTour artists will receive funding ranging from \$2,500 - \$10,000 to realize their installation.

Artists will be selected through a two-part process. Initial proposals will be reviewed by a jury comprising regional and national arts professionals, past DTour artists, and Wormfarm staff. Proposals will be evaluated based on criteria including artist excellence and visual impact; feasibility within the context of the larger DTour event; site and/or community responsiveness; how it fits within the DTour's broader curatorial vision; and the artist's demonstrated ability to realize the concept.

From those submissions, up to fifteen finalists will be selected by March 30, 2022, and invited to attend a two-day orientation in Sauk County, WI in spring 2022 to learn more about the project, travel the DTour route, and meet landowners. Finalists will receive a stipend to help cover travel expenses to attend the orientation and subsequently develop a full proposal for a second round of jury review. From the group of finalists, up to ten DTour artists will be selected in June 2022.

The deadline to apply is **February 15, 2022**. For more information, visit [wormfarminstitute.org](http://wormfarminstitute.org) or email [info@wormfarminstitute.org](mailto:info@wormfarminstitute.org).

### **Impact of the Farm/Art DTour**

Since 2011, the Farm/Art DTour has become a beloved tradition in the region that continues to grow in popularity among rural and urban audiences. The DTour heightens curiosity among its visitors, offering a layered, polycultural experience where artists explore the timeless connection between land and people, and visitors discover the art of what farmers do everyday. For Wormfarm, this work has taken on a special importance as perceptions of the rural/urban divide have grown starker in recent years.

The DTour has also generated a positive impact on the local economy. Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the DTour was uniquely positioned to provide an economic boost to area businesses. With social distancing already built-in, attendees came from throughout the Midwest and beyond to enjoy this agri/cultural excursion. More than 18,000 people traveled the route over the course of the ten-day event (down only 18% from 22,000 people in 2018) which supported over 100 artists and performers and connected local farm stands, shops, restaurants, and cottage food entrepreneurs to new customers. The event has gained national and international attention, as well as accolades including the 2021 Governor's Tourism Award for Arts, Culture, and Heritage which recognized its outstanding contributions to the state's hospitality and travel industry.

### **About Wormfarm Institute**

Wormfarm Institute is a nonprofit organization in Sauk County, Wisconsin working to build a sustainable future for agriculture and the arts by fostering links between people and the land. An evolving laboratory of the arts and ecology and fertile ground for creative work, Wormfarm explores the links between rural and urban communities within and beyond the food chain, creating opportunities for cross-sector collaboration. For more information, visit [wormfarminstitute.org](http://wormfarminstitute.org)

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