Flora #1: Trees

Call Type: Archival & Exhibition
Eligibility: International
City: Chaska
State: Minnesota
Fee: No Fee
Participation Deadline: Ongoing
First Jury: 3/1/17
First Exhibition: Spring 2017
Website: http://arboretum.umn.edu/FFIproject.aspx

The mission of the *Flora and Fauna Illustrata* project is to document plants and animals of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum (MLA) for the next one hundred years through scientifically accurate fine art. Artists from around the world are invited to show us the best of the MLA flora and fauna that inspire them. While we are accepting entries for any plant or animal found on the 1,200+ acres of the MLA or the University of Minnesota Horticultural Research Center (HRC), this first call is focused on trees (and/or its parts).

The Andersen Horticultural Library permanently documents and archives the donated art and facilitates periodic exhibitions of it. The collection provides a visual regional and national resource to aid research and serves to inspire learning, discovery, and enjoyment.

**DESCRIPTION**

This juried project is open to all artists. Individual artists working in any two-dimensional media (excluding photography) are strongly encouraged to apply. Artwork selected to be added to the FFI Archive through the jury process will become the property of the Andersen Horticultural Library and will be exhibited periodically, both physically and online. The inaugural exhibition is planned for Spring 2017. Artists will retain some rights to use their artwork, which will be specified in the FFI-Artist agreement. A high-resolution scan of accepted artwork will be provided by AHL to the artist for his or her personal not-for-profit use.

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**Subject:** The MLA is home to more than 5,000 different types of trees. Select a specific tree or its parts (fruit, flowers, branches, etc.) growing at the MLA or HRC and render it in scientifically accurate two-dimensional fine art (excluding photography). Artwork depicting other plants or animals of the MLA or HRC will also be considered, although priority for this call will be given to tree images.
It is not necessary to illustrate the entire life cycle of the subject. If the image is not life-sized, a bar scale must be on the back of the artwork.

Each submission should represent a single species but may include subordinate organisms that occur naturally with that species. A specimen will be provided to the artist whenever possible. Both the scientific and common name should be written on the back of the artwork.

**Media Accepted:** Two-dimensional original artwork, excluding photography.

**Genre Accepted:** Scientifically accurate images. No landscapes.

**Size:** No larger than 32” x 40”; either vertical or horizontal orientation. Diptychs, triptychs, etc. are acceptable, with each piece not exceeding 32” x 40”. Artwork must be unframed. Unmatted work is preferred.

**STAGE 1 – INTENT TO SUBMIT**

Entry may be completed online.

This is a long-term project. *Intent to Submit* forms (and accompanying examples of work) will be accepted on an ongoing basis and reviewed quarterly. Please refer to the website for specific dates. [http://arboretum.umn.edu/FFIproject.aspx](http://arboretum.umn.edu/FFIproject.aspx).

For initial consideration, upload 1 to 3 digital examples (maximum 5MB each) of the artist’s work in each medium intended for submission. Images must be 300 dpi resolution, no smaller than 1920 pixels on the longest side and in jpeg format. The image files included must be labeled with the artist’s name (last name, underscore, first name, underscore) and example number (i.e. Smith_Tom_1.jpeg).

**ONLINE:**
Complete the *Intent to Submit* form [see previous webpage] for each medium to be considered. Submit the form online and upload images.

**STAGE 2 – INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE**

Artists invited to begin work for possible inclusion in the *Flora and Fauna Illustrata* will be invited to a free informational session (approximately 90 minutes) at the MLA. A schedule of meeting times will be available on the FFI website. At the informational session each artist will be matched to a Field Project Leader for that subject to ensure guidelines are met and to provide assistance with the submission process, if necessary. At the session, any artist not already an Arboretum member will be provided with a one-year individual membership.
STAGE 3 – SUBMITTING ARTWORK TO BE JURIED

First Art Deadline: January 2, 2017

Finished artwork of an MLA plant or animal must be submitted in a clear acetate envelope to protect the work. Originals will be submitted to a jury consisting of an artist in the subject field, a scientific expert in the subject field, and at least one representative of the MLA-AHL.

Juries will meet annually to review submissions. Artists will be notified by mail or email by March 1, 2017 whether their work was selected for inclusion in the FFI Archive.

STAGE 4 – EXHIBITION OF SELECTED ARTWORK

The first exhibition of FFI artwork will be Spring 2017. Whether a particular piece is physically displayed at this exhibition will depend on the total number of pieces selected and the space available. AHL will provide all framing. Selected artwork will be displayed in an online gallery by Fall 2017.

RELEVANT DATES

- January 2, 2017 – deadline to submit original artwork depicting MLA organism to jury
- March 1, 2017 – artists will be notified whether their artwork is accepted into the FFI Archive
- Spring 2017 – first FFI exhibition

Note: Project is ongoing. The last day of January/April/July – deadlines for second, third, and fourth rounds for STAGE 1 entries (dates will be posted on the FFI website).

Multiple calls may be in process simultaneously.

FFI CONTACT & INFORMATION

Gretchen Wagener Burau, email: ffi@umn.edu, phone: 612-301-1239. For more information about the Flora and Fauna Illustrata project, visit http://arboretum.umn.edu/FFIproject.aspx.