

# Call for 2021 Artist-in-Residence, Planet Texas 2050



## **The Opportunity:**

In recognition of the important role that the arts play in communicating new research and challenging the public to think in new ways about critical social and environmental issues, Planet Texas 2050, a research grand challenge at The University of Texas at Austin, seeks to launch an Artist-in-Residence Program for the spring and/or summer semester(s) of the 2020-2021 academic year.

Through this request for proposals, Planet Texas 2050 will select one or more artists to collaborate with researchers. We will select participants whose vision best matches that of Planet Texas and who demonstrate capacity to produce original art - i.e., visual art, music, drama, etc. which can be made public via physical and/or virtual mediums. Artistic collaboration must relate clearly to some combination of the concepts of resilience, climate change, equity, growth, or adaptation. Work should be based on this premise: when artists tackle climate change through their work and invite the public to engage in new, unexpected ways, they can reach people in a way that scientists and other academic researchers most often cannot.

Special consideration will be given to those artists best able to represent communities of color or otherwise ensure that different voices and experiences are considered, facilitating outreach and engagement between Planet Texas and oppressed communities on the front lines.

## **About Planet Texas 2050:**

The climate is changing, Texas' population is on track to double by the year 2050, and our resource base is already under strain. We are a community of researchers working to make Texas resilient in the face of these challenges. Planet Texas 2050 includes researchers from wide ranging disciplines across the university and community partners spread across the state. Our mission is to advance interdisciplinary research about resilience, and to co-design resilience strategies with stakeholder communities. One of PT2050's core values is equity. We know that marginalized communities experience magnified impacts from climate change and we are committed more than ever to work hand in hand with communities to make Texas more resilient. Placing great value on the arts and humanities, we believe there is no way to come together to solve the climate crisis, across Texas and beyond, without better, more diverse and powerful storytelling. Artistic representation and voice can translate into power and better outcomes for all. Stories in different forms are powerful, and bringing in scientific credibility to artistic creativity and perspective makes them both impactful and enduring, in the truest spirit of partnership.

More information about PT2050 is available on our [website and social media channels](#). This [recent blog post](#) gives a particularly good overview of where Planet Texas 2050 is headed.



Artwork by Champ Turner, 2020  
<http://www.champturnerart.com>

**Eligibility, Criteria, and More Information:**

Artists who are at least 18 years old at the time of submission and authorized to work in the US (i.e., are a US citizen or permanent resident) are eligible to apply. Artists with experience and expertise that highlight issues relevant to Texas will be given priority.

A virtual Artist Information Meeting for this project will be held on January 6, 2021 at 2pm Central Time, and inquiries and questions are welcome any time prior to 5pm Central Time on January 22nd, 2021 (i.e., no later than one week prior to the January 29th deadline). Please send inquiries to [pt2050@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:pt2050@austin.utexas.edu).

This call for proposals is intentionally broad, but those submitting proposals are asked to consider how art can contribute to Planet Texas 2050's research endeavor and public engagement / education potential, and to justify your rationale and expected impact.

Please also consider how to weave together concepts and values from among this list:

- Equity and power
- Resilience
- Community engagement and community leadership
- Water-related hazards, from drought to flash floods
- Heat
- Extreme weather events and natural disasters

- Benefits nature provides for people
- Nature-based solutions to climate change
- Green buildings and infrastructure
- Participatory data collection and modeling
- Link between rural and urban places / communities
- (Interrupting) Data visualization
- Just transitions & Decarbonization
- Decolonization
- Relationships with the more-than-human world

Proposed work may include, but is in no way limited to:

- Video, film, and animation
- Photography
- Murals and public art installations
- Storytelling and drama
- Virtual reality / gaming
- Experiential audio
- Text (provided there is a robust plan of engagement)

The Selection Committee is composed of the Planet Texas 2050 faculty Theme Organizing Committee with consultation from a small panel of additional select artists. More information about the Planet Texas faculty leadership [can be found here on our website](#).

Artists should expect active engagement with the Planet Texas 2050 team and community of researchers, whereby the Planet Texas team will be available to collaborate as actively as possible.

#### **How to Submit a Proposal:**

Proposals of no more than 3 pages will be accepted until **5pm Central Time, January 29th, 2021** to [pt2050@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:pt2050@austin.utexas.edu) A proposal may be submitted by an individual and/or team, but no single proposal package may make a request totaling more than \$25,000 USD.

Proposals need to (i) list contact information, including one main email address for official correspondence, (ii) list all expected team members, (iii) explain the project activities, (iv) situate project activities on a basic production calendar, (v) itemize the project budget, and (vi) clearly state any kinds of support expected from the Planet Texas 2050 staff and research team.

#### **Award Details:**

Artists will be notified of project approval decisions by Feb 26, 2021 using their provided email contact information. Each actual award may be lower than \$25,000, as Planet Texas 2050 reserves the right to ultimately commission more than one proposal.

Once awarded and agreements are finalized, a funds transfer schedule will be established. These agreements will be established between The University of Texas at Austin and one

individual, team member, or business entity per awarded proposal. Depending on the type of work proposed, agreements will clearly delineate specifics relative to ownership, rights, and intellectual property. Further, please note that receiving any payment is contingent upon completing an authorized [Payee Information Form](#).

A winning submission will be disqualified and receive no funds if: (i) The person/entity cannot be contacted; (ii) the person/entity fails to provide requested information within the required time period; (iii) the notification is returned as undeliverable; or (iv) the submission or person/entity is disqualified for any other reason.

# PLANET TEXAS 2050

A UT Grand Challenge