

## **Request for Proposals**

### **Art & Film Contract Positions**

Audubon protects birds and the places they need, today and tomorrow, throughout the Americas using science, advocacy, education, and on-the-ground conservation. The Rio Salado Audubon Center, a nature, education, and conservation action center located in the heart of Phoenix on the south bank of the Salt River/ Rio Salado, is seeking to contract two creative professionals from within our community to deliver artwork and media for new, interpretive learning exhibits at our nature center.

Located at the gateway to South Phoenix, the Rio Salado Audubon Center is in the early days of renovations in a new Discovery Learning Hall, a fun and engaging interpretive exhibit space that will serve to reconnect people and nature. These contractors will be critical in bringing new exhibits to life, helping reach thousands of local community members, students, and visitors, and inspire passion and action around the preservation of Arizona's water and its unique biodiversity. **Two contract-based positions are available for this RFP:**

#### **Contract 1: Digital Artist/Designer:**

This contract seeks to employ a local digital artist with experience in mural work, fine art, and graphic design. The main objective of this contract will be the production of a large mural, highlighting the iconic natural landmarks of Arizona, with a focus on water and key wetland or riparian habitats. The mural shall be produced digitally, using vector-based software such as Adobe Illustrator, and will be printed at roughly 23 feet wide. The artists will work with Audubon staff to support production of accompanying infographics and art for activity stations. **Key Deliverables & Considerations:**

- The main deliverable for this contract is the design of a large format, digitally illustrated mural, highlighting the iconic landscapes, waterways and biodiversity of Arizona. The mural will integrate and support other graphics and activity stations.
- Support production and design of smaller art pieces for exhibits, infographics or activities.
- Support production and design of other activity station elements, including but not limited to: 3D printed elements, maps, carved or cut wood or metal pieces, and the integration of biofacts, dioramas or other hands-on materials in collaboration with Audubon staff.
- Support the production of educational infographics in collaboration with Audubon staff.
- Audubon to fund all printing, materials and installation costs for the exhibits; however the artists should provide their own art supplies if needed, as well as computers, drawing tablets or other electronic equipment required.
- The artists should expect to travel to and meet with Audubon staff at Rio Salado Audubon Center occasionally for discussions, planning and installation days.

#### **Contract 2: Filmmaker/Producer:**

This contract seeks to employ a local filmmaker to lead in the production of a series of video interviews for our Voices of Water activity station, part of a larger exhibit on water in Arizona. With

permission from those filmed, the activity station will ultimately share interviews from Indigenous voices and their perspectives on water, stories connections to water and other related messages they wish to share. These stories will be shared with students, visitors and local community members who visit the Rio Salado Audubon Center through an interactive touchscreen kiosk within the water exhibit, as well as potentially through social media or other platforms for broader awareness and promotion. The filmmaker will be expected to help Audubon identify potential participants willing and able to collaborate and work with interviewees on their story or message. Interviewees can be Indigenous leaders, community members, water and habitat conservation professionals, storytellers, musicians, artists or scientists, and the interviews may be conducted in any language. The filmmaker should expect to direct, shoot and engaging interviews or stories that result in 1-3 minute long videos. Each video should include both English and Spanish subtitles. **Key Deliverables & Considerations:**

- The filmmaker shall produce, film, edit and deliver at least 4 (but no more than 6) video interviews, (1-3 min each, 4K, 24-30fps, vertical 9:16 ar). Export to various formats as needed.
- The video interviews should share unique perspectives, stories, histories, or messages around water, the interviewees connection to water, and/or land and habitat reliant on water in Arizona from Indigenous communities, leaders or speakers.
- The filmmaker will help Audubon find and identify willing and able participants, and work as a liaison between Audubon staff and interviewees throughout the project.
- The filmmaker will be expected to help interviewees craft engaging stories that do not filter or diminish the storytelling but do keep each video concise and impactful.
- The filmmaker should deliver finished edits of each interview alongside English and Spanish subtitle files for each, and versions of each with subtitles baked in.
- The filmmaker shall provide their own filmmaking and interviewing equipment.
- Audubon will refund required travel to more remote communities or meetings as needed, and shall provide a stipend/honorarium to support speakers or interviewees when needed.
- The artists should expect to travel to and meet with Audubon staff at Rio Salado Audubon Center occasionally for discussions, planning, or filming days as needed.
- Priority will be given to local filmmakers who have experience or cultural familiarity working with Indigenous communities or Tribal Nation community leaders.

**Budget:** This is a grant-funded independent contractor position. Competitive bids of **up to \$9,000** will be considered for each contract. Audubon will select contractors based on their proposals, availability, and relevant experience.

**How to Apply:** Prepare your application as a PDF document. Please include:

- **Proposal & Bid:** A short cover letter or proposal detailing your interest and relevant experience, including your competitive bid or offer
- **Portfolio:** A link to your website, portfolio or gallery showcasing relevant work
- **References:** Contact information for at least 2 recent professional references
- **Email proposal to:** [RioSalado@audubon.org](mailto:RioSalado@audubon.org)
- **Subject Line:** please use either **Artist RFP** or **Filmmaker RFP**

**Thank you for your interest in working with National Audubon Society.**