

Request for Proposals

Chilao School 2018 Access Grant and Escape Program

Overview

Chilao School is located in the heart of the Angeles National Forest, (Los Angeles County, California). It is owned and operated by Redbird, a Native American and environmental non profit association. Each year, a number of days are made available for use by other organizations and entities for environmental, arts, cultural, life skills and healing arts programs. The 2018 Access Grant is not a cash award. It is an opportunity to utilize a unique rural location for programs that facilitate growth, healing, learning, artistic expression and expanding boundaries. The Escape Program is a labor for recreation trade program that helps Redbird maintain and improve the property in exchange or no-cost camping and site usage.

The 2018 Access Grant

Applicant eligibility

Both individuals and organizations may apply. In your proposal narrative you will be asked to describe both your program and your relevant experience. Programs may be for one day, multiple contiguous days or regularly recurring days.

Types of eligible programs/activities

Environmental education and interaction including but not limited to seminars, speaker engagements, hiking, walking, bicycling, mountain biking, birding, volunteer projects, programs relating to a specific local plant, animal, biome or issue (climate change, forest management, species in danger), camping, first-time wilderness exposure for inner city youth/adults, special needs individuals and other challenged or underserved populations.

Arts interaction, creation, exposure and education including all disciplines that can be accommodated; drawing, painting, sculpture, writing, photography, music appreciation and instruction, dance, poetry, story telling, theatre, sewing, beading, all hand crafts. Activities may vary from a presentation to hands-on classes; individual artists seeking space to work for a limited duration may also apply.

Cultural programs, being defined as any presentation or hands-on activity which celebrates, illustrates and promotes cultural knowledge, understanding and continuity. Examples of cultural programs include basket making, origami, traditional dance, traditional regalia making, language preservation, the study of cultural literature, finger weaving, beadwork, pottery, tool making, loom work, quilt making.

Life skills including but not limited to safety and self preservation for forest users such as hikers, back packers, campers, mountain bikers, motorcyclists and motorists; and life skills as a general topic, including but not limited to building self esteem, healthy physical habits, communication skills, team work, language skills, sobriety, self defense, non-violent activism.

Healing arts, including both body centered and mental/emotional centered classes, workshops and retreats. Examples include yoga, acupuncture, acupressure, meditation, traditional ceremony and traditional healing methods, talking circles, healing-focused guided activities, massage, Reiki, presentations centered on personal growth, group study of healing path work. We Do Not support product-based seminars or activities where attendees are encouraged to purchase products or services, regardless of how worthy, time tested or desirable they are.

Amenities

Chilao School is a rural, vintage 1963 school house with approximately 2,000 square feet of usable space. We are open seasonally from April 1 to November 15. The school includes three restrooms, shower, a variety of usable, arrangeable tables, chairs, couches and recliners, kitchenette area with refrigerators, microwave, crock pots, hot plates, chafing dishes, coffee makers; furnished patio with outdoor camp stoves; two television monitors and DVD players, projection screen, chalk boards, pin boards, blackout drapes for light control, piano (should be tuned before use), four air mattresses and bedding upon request. We have a motorcycle ramp and a portable wheelchair ramp.

The space can accommodate approximately 60 people for presentations, and overnight/multiple day groups of approximately twenty. There is hostel-style camping inside the school and room for tent, camper and small RV camping outside. There is parking for approximately 35 vehicles with additional, adjacent parking available.

Chilao School is located at an elevation of 5,265 feet, or roughly one mile high. Our weather is typically cooler than lower elevations and can vary significantly from day time high to night time low. We recommend bringing a variety of clothing to insure your comfort. The school straddles a transitional zone from conifer forest to high desert chaparral and is situated within the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. We are walking distance to a number of trails, twelve miles from Mount Wilson Observatory and two miles from Newcomb's Ranch Bar and Restaurant. To view images of the area and property please visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ChilaoSchool/>

Escape Program

The Escape Program is a work-for-play exchange. The Chilao School property is 4.1 acres and there are simple but necessary tasks to keep it maintained and to improve its usability. These include watering plants, fuel reduction, raking, simple repairs, wood work, touching up paint, exterior building maintenance, and occasionally more complex

tasks. Volunteer labor is met as a 1-3 to 1-4 match - come up and spend a day working on a project - perhaps four to six hours - and earn a 24 hour stay either in the school or on the grounds or both.

The Escape Program runs from April 1 to November 15 with the greatest time of need for participants being from May to September. If the school is already booked for other programs, participants may need to camp on the property instead of inside the school. Tent, vehicle and small RV camping can be accommodated. The property is not user-friendly for vehicles with long wheel bases.

Artists seeking an extended stay to complete the creation of an artistic work are welcome to apply. The one page application follows the Access Grant application information.

Application Process - 2018 Access Grant

Access Grant applications in narrative format are accepted via email as PDF, Pages and Word documents. Additional attachments should also be PDF, Pages, Word or jpeg. Applications are due by **January 31, 2018** for the 2018 school year..however, we will consider proposals received after this date, but may not be able to fit them into the schedule until 2019. Please follow the instructions (items 1-3 below) and include all documents and work samples in the order shown, preferably in a single document. Email to **redbirds_vision@hotmail.com**

1. **Cover sheet**, including the project name, the name of the organization or individual proposing the project, the duration of the project (for example, “a one day intensive learning session” or “a weekend retreat”) and a one sentence description of the program which includes the type of program it is; arts, culture, environment, healing arts or life skills. Also include all contact information on the cover sheet; physical and email address, phone number and website if applicable.

2. **Proposal Narrative** of no more than five pages, in 11 or 12 point font, addressing these elements:

Program Overview: A paragraph describing your proposed program and its purpose

Description: Explain the basic steps, actions and activities of your program

Impact and Outcomes: Express your goals for this program. (Please note that we are not obsessed with quantity over quality. The venue is relatively small and we do not expect your program to affect hundreds of people directly).

Experience: Describe your personal relevant experience or, if representing an organization, the relevant experience of that organization in the program area you have chosen. (We are aware that students, emerging artists and others may not be able to provide an extensive professional resume. Draw upon your relevant life experience. Everyone has to start somewhere).

3. **Work Samples, Certifications** including no more than ten work samples as jpegs or file links, and copies of certifications/licenses as applicable for the program.

2018 Escape Program

A work-for-play exchange program at Chilao School in the Angeles National Forest

Applicant Name: _____

Names of family members or relations likely to join applicant at Chilao School:

Months of the year available to participate in program:

Special skill sets (carpentry, chain saw certified, botanist, firefighter, EMT etc)

Special needs (medications, allergies, conditions such as vertigo)

Interests (climate change, mountain biking, butterflies)

Contact telephone: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address:

Escape Program applications accepted year-round. Please email to
redbirds_vision@hotmail.com

Redbird, P.O. Box 702, Simi Valley, CA 93062

www.RedbirdsVision.org