

North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

NEWS RELEASE

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State parks host Artist in Residency program

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department is teaming up with the North Dakota Council on the Arts to bring the “Artist In Residency” program to select state parks.

Three area artists are being given the chance to showcase their crafts and talents, each at a different state park for one week between July 11 and Aug. 15. This is an effort to incorporate the arts into the interpretive and educational activities at Beaver Lake, Fort Ransom and Fort Stevenson state parks.

Grand Forks’ Guillermo Guardia is featured at Fort Ransom State Park from July 11-17. Guardia works with clay to create sculptures. Many pieces have been influenced by his Peruvian heritage, while others follow a puzzle piece scheme reflecting personal and social emotions. Guardia looks forward to working in the natural North Dakota outdoor environment.

Thomas Anderson, of Binford, ND, is a classical guitarist. “The classical guitar and the beauty of its music are in many ways similar to the largely unchanged landscapes of North Dakota, in my opinion,” states Anderson. He is performing and holding a workshop at Beaver Lake State Park from July 25-31.

Fargo’s Ryan Christiansen will focus on writing creative non-fiction focusing on North Dakota’s outdoors at Fort Stevenson State Park from Aug. 8-15.

Artists play an important role in the history of North Dakota’s state parks, helping define the value of protecting natural resources. It is the aim of this partnership to generate art allowing public stewards to have a deeper appreciation of artistic works inspired by the state’s landscape and natural features.

The Artist in Residency program recruits writers, composers, visual and performing artists, allowing them to express their experience through their art. Each artist is conducting a presentation and hands-on workshop for the public during their stay at the parks.

For more information about the visiting artists contact the parks in which they are staying. More information about the parks can be found at www.parkrec.nd.gov.