



## **Torry Island Summer EcoArt Project Request for Contribution**

The Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic (LORE) Alliance of Palm Beach County is teaming with EcoArt South Florida to enlist a lucky group of 17 Glades youth interns ages 17-21 from Workforce Alliance, and over 100 summer campers ages 7-11, to learn first-hand, through art and science, about the native plant and animal species of the Lake Okeechobee region. This one-of-a-kind EcoArt project commenced on June 25 and is scheduled to be completed by August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Project manager and EcoArtist, Jesse Etelson, is mentoring and supervising the Workforce Alliance youth interns who will develop and install the wildlife habitat sculptures (see attached conceptual renderings) while fine tuning their communication skills (see attached journal entries) through project documentation, marketing and exhibition. Additionally, Etelson is teaching children from three Pahokee Summer camp programs under the auspices of the Center for Creative Education. These campers will create EcoArt Bird Nesting Habitats as well as masks, large puppets and costumes depicting native plants and animals of the Lake Okeechobee region, and will perform a dance procession on Torry Island, at the City of Belle Glade's dedication of the demonstration site at the end of July.

Spearheaded by local business owner and Lake Okeechobee ambassador, Ashley Tripp, the LORE Alliance and EcoArt South Florida have garnered support from scientific, educational and arts organizations, and local businesses to develop this six week project engaging Glades youth in working to re-establish habitat around the lagoon in Torry Island's Nature Park. Some of these supporters include: the City of Belle Glade; Workforce Alliance; Palm Beach State College; SFWMD; Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission; Torry Island Campground; Lawrence E. Will Historical Society and Museum; Belle Glade Elks Lodge; and Manuel Moya Photography. To date we have received in excess of \$100,000 worth of goods and services and \$8,000 in cash contributions but are still lacking funds to cover the remaining project expenses. As you can see, with the project completion date 6 weeks away, it is of critical, time sensitive importance that we raise the remaining \$20,000 needed to complete this project. Therefore, it is our hope that you will help us reach our funding goal and kindly ask for your generous contribution towards this community project.

The LORE Alliance is the local community sponsor for this project and is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization whose mission is to promote high quality economic development in the Lake Okeechobee region of Palm Beach County by building community consensus on regional projects, ensuring quality project design that creates a more attractive community and providing early stage conceptual project planning that result in greater economic opportunity for residents, current and potential businesses. This EcoArt project fits well into our mission. Thank you for your consideration.

540 South Main Street  
Belle Glade, FL 33430  
PH: (561) 996-2745 FAX: (561) 996-2252  
[www.LOREalliance.org](http://www.LOREalliance.org)



## LORE Board of Directors

Name	Representing
Denny Abbott	Workforce Alliance
Derrek Moore	City Manager – City of Pahokee
Leeanne Criswell	City of Pahokee – Alternate
Brenda Bunting*	Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce; <i>Secretary</i>
Dale Erickson	Independent Farmer—Cooperative Extension Services
Benita Hamilton	City of South Bay – Citizen
Marcia Hardney	Provost – Palm Beach State College
Lomax Harrelle	City Manager – City of Belle Glade
Beverly Scott	City of Belle Glade – Alternate
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Angela Pope	PNC Bank
Steve Prielozny	Bank of Belle Glade
Robert Rease*	City of Belle Glade – Citizen; <i>Treasurer</i>
Judy Sanchez	United States Sugar Corporation
Caroline Villanueva	Florida Crystals Corporation
Sherry Howard	Palm Beach County Government
Corey Alston	City Manager – City of South Bay
Eddie Rhodes	City of Belle Glade – Citizen
Sylvia Sharps	City of South Bay – Alternate
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Royal York	City of Pahokee – Citizen
Shawn Rowan	Business Development Board of PBC
David Davis	South Florida Conservancy District
Donia Roberts*	Legal Counsel, <i>Vice Chair</i>

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## Torry Island EcoArt Project - Summer 2012 - Concepts

*Key Species: Snail Kite, Apple Snail, Smooth Bill Ani, Indigo Bunting, Okeechobee Gourd, Pond Apple...*

### Owl and Bat Houses

Imaginative nesting boxes with specific internal dimensions



### Snail Kite Perch

Torry Island resting zone



### Butterfly Rain Garden and Bio-Swale

Parking lot run off cleansed with native plantings and landscape sculpture



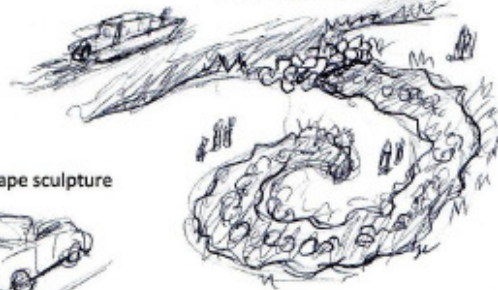
### Smooth Bill Ani and Indigo Bunting Habitat Sculpture

Recycled invasive brush formed into nesting structures



### Apple Snail Pond

Breeding program



### Reptile Hibernacula

Protective rock mound





## **Journal Entries from Interns**

**June 26, 2012**

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I've learned a little about Eco Art these last couples of days, For instance i've learned that Eco Art helps the community in many ways throughout our water system. Ive notice that Eco Art has been around for years and Artistist have created many sculptures that are beautiful and unique. The sculptures are built for different reasons during different seasons. I enjoy your teaching ability and your effort to help our community a fashionable and healthy place.Im also ready to start on our projects so we can "Get Her Donee"..

The last couple of days was very interested.. I got a change to learn about my home town Belle Glade that i never new. For instant i never new how large Lake Okeechobee was, who build it, and about how what the people does effect the community. I learn that ecoart can be build on land and water. also its helpful to the animals around us build a habit. Today i learn that a couple in there 6 months year old child lived on the lake and they travel by boat. each time it rain it rain in there tent and they survive until they died in the 70s. Also that when the hurricane comes it makes the lake level really low which kills the animals an plants.. As a team we have to work together even if we don't agree with what each other have to say.. i like the fact that we can make a different in our community in change other opponents about us, to show that we have more to our community than what the media try to put out.... We got our name from a many people and Belle means beauty..

How wonderful! I participated in my eco class is the fun and life art, IN. The artist has an inspiring home annd workshop, using objects that would normally be discarded. We learned how to make eco art out of items such as home for things to live that were no longer thier broken trees and things that might be considered useless to the average person. It was a wonderful afternoon to be able to create art from things which may appear to have lost their purpose or value. For those who can find value in all things, they are an inspiration. I'm an incredibly lucky guy that gets paid to do what I enjoy—being a Plant Ecologist. At work, I spend most of my time either conceiving, implementing, analyzing, or publishing research projects. The work is filled with challenges, and I also enjoy the multiple ways that I get to be creative while doing my job. I have other passions in my life including: my family, hiking, camping, hunting, and nature photography. In many cases, these passions are intertwined.

From the pass two day i have learnd many different things such as how to build things out of mother nature i have also learned you always have to get use to new things before you start saying what you do and don't like. I like how everybody coming together as one and helping each other out with out complaing and i also like Mr.Jesse Etelson Himself because he's teching me new things everyday such as different names of rocks, trees ,palnts and animals the videos we viewd on youtube or very interstening with all the different kind of artwork i think i will love the Eco art proqram and the project we're starting would be fun and interstening.

In the last two days i learned that hoover built a levee around lake okeechobee because the hurricanes whipped out homes from the unprotected water. Lake Okeechobee is the largest lake in the southern us. The average depth is around 2.7 meters. Lake Okeechobee can lose up to 1 inch of water a day due to evaporation. Lake Okeechobee bottom was once sand. Then about the calcium rock is good for the water, it cleans the toxins out of the water and holds it inside. The nurse log is soft and good for making animal homes.

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## Journal Entries from Interns

June 26, 2012

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I'm so glad that i'm getting the opportunity to be able to learn what eco art really is and how it effects the environment also. Workforce couldn't have given me a better job, because i get to learn as well as put to action what i am really learning about. It's good to know that i have an instructor such as yourself who knows what he is doing and also has a passion for what he is doing. so just seeing that you have a passion for it makes me even more motivated to stick it out and see all the hard work that we put into it and watch this project be a huge success!!!.

For the past two days By breaking out of the traditional confines of what is considered art and engaging in real world issues - ecoartists are allowing their art to have a function. They are reaching out across disciplines and helping to bridge the gap between art and life by raising awareness and appreciation for our natural resources. By giving aesthetic form to restored natural areas and urban sites, they are engaging in a collaborative process with nature practicing a socially relevant art. The focus of a work of art can range from elucidating the complex structure of an ecosystem, examining a particular issue, i.e. a type of relationship, interacting with a given locale, or engaging in a restorative or remediative function.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW DAT I LIKE THE PROGRAM. OVER THOSE TWO DAY I LEARN SOMETHING.  
ALSO I GET TO KNOW YOU. WHAT I LEARN OVER THOSE TWO DAY IS BOUT YOU AND BOUT YOUR PROGRAM.  
WE LEARNED BOUT HOUSE BIRDS, HOW YOU BUILD THE HOUSE BY SHOWING VIDEO.  
AND YOU LET US KNOW  
WHAT WE GONE TO DO. IN MY OPINION I THINK I WOULD LIKE THE PROGRAM AND HAVE FUN LEARN AT THE SAME  
TIME. ALSO WE WOULD GET TO KNOW YOU MORE, AND MAKE YOU PROUD.

Day 1: first day as a worker for the Youth Summer Program sponsored by WorkForce Alliance was a big surprised. I arrived at the college and was told that I was going to receive my worksite and to my surprise PBSC was my worksite. At this point my attitude was already sour because this was not what I had in mind. At this time I was told that ,y work assignment was an Art assignment for the EcoArt Project this included getting dirty and sweaty and other things. To top it off, I learned that I would be working in the same enviornment as snakes, alligators, other reptiles and maybe Florida Panthers. I was already blown by the idea and really wanted to give up. As I stayed throughout the project I start to to slowly come around and give in and actually listen to what was being told. Day 2: Second day on the job and I was a bit more comfortable about my job. After going home and thinking things over I found some positive things to say about the program and decided to stay. Today we talked about the different types of rocks and how they were being formed, we watched movies and got a small preview of what we will be getting ourselves into for the next 6 weeks. I'm actually glad that I decided to stay because I really think that this project will be a learning experience and who know's I might actually like it!

what I had learn for the two days I was here is how to make thing find thing off the ground in put them together sorry Mr Jesse this all I can say because I have a disibility .



**Torry Island EcoArt Project**  
**>\$116,000 Value**  
**of Probono/In Kind Organizational/Professional**  
**Contributions as of**  
**June 25, 2012**

<b>Workforce Alliance:</b>	\$36,700.00
17 WA interns @\$12.00hr x 180 hours	
<b>EcoArt South Florida:</b>	32,900.00
-Jesse Etelson (regular hourly rate=\$60; for TI Project paid cash \$15/hr.) Contributing \$25,700	
-MJ Agerstoun (hourly rate=\$80) Contributing \$7,200	
<b>Andres Paradelo, landscape architect:</b>	7,500.00
Workshops with kids (\$500.00)	
Development of master plan (\$4,500.00)	
Signed drawings ready to go out for bid (\$2,500)	
<b>Photo Instruction</b>	36,000.00
Manuel Moya Photography and Instruction: 150 an hour x 30 a week x 8 weeks	
<b>Housing for EcoArtist for 6 weeks</b>	1,600.00
<b>Palm Beach State College --Belle Glade</b>	
Use of computer lab, classroom	
Exhibition space in Dolly Hand Center	
<b>South Florida Water Management District Scientists</b>	960.00
Workshops, boat and walking tours on Lake Okeechobee Flora and Fauna	
- Bruce Sharfstein: 540.00	
- Therese East 420.00	
<b>Fish and Wildlife Commission</b>	350.00
- Don Fox:	
Historian	TBD
Materials	TBD
Trucking	TBD



INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
P. O. BOX 2508  
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: OCT 23 2007

LAKE OKEECHOBEE REGIONAL ECONOMIC  
ALLIANCE OF PALM BEACH COUNTY INC  
C/O BELLE GLADE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
540 S MAIN ST  
BELLE GLADE, FL 33430

Employer Identification Number:  
20-5895168  
DLN:  
17053108038017  
Contact Person:  
DONNA ELLIOT-MOORE ID# 50304  
Contact Telephone Number:  
(877) 829-5500

Accounting Period Ending:  
December 31  
Public Charity Status:  
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)  
Form 990 Required:  
Yes  
Effective Date of Exemption:  
August 23, 2006  
Contribution Deductibility:  
Yes  
Advance Ruling Ending Date:  
December 31, 2010  
Addendum Applies:  
No

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. During your advance ruling period, you will be treated as a public charity. Your advance ruling period begins with the effective date of your exemption and ends with advance ruling ending date shown in the heading of the letter.

Shortly before the end of your advance ruling period, we will send you Form 8734, Support Schedule for Advance Ruling Period. You will have 90 days after the end of your advance ruling period to return the completed form. We will then notify you, in writing, about your public charity status.

Please see enclosed Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Letter 1045 (DO/CG)

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