



# ARTISTS ON EXPEDITION

IMPACT ART FROM EPIC ECOSYSTEMS

# Introduction

## Artists on Expedition

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2022 by artists, expedition leaders, Indigenous people, conservationists, scientists, educators, and policy specialists.

## Mission

Facilitate the creation and dissemination of Impact Art from the frontlines of a planet in peril, from our Epic Ecosystems.

## Vision

Inspire a global movement through a creative network that drives climate action, protects and preserves our natural ecosystems, fosters social change, and enhances ecological consciousness.



# The Planetary Crisis

We are facing a planetary crisis, and the urgency to address these environmental challenges cannot be overstated. Immediate and transformative action is required on a global scale to mitigate the damage, restore ecosystems, and ensure a sustainable future for all life on Earth. Scientists, governments, NGOs, and the private sector are all calling for coordinated efforts to combat the crisis, and Artists on Expedition's transdisciplinary, in-the-field approach is leading the way.

## Alarming Trends

Extreme climate change and ecological degradation are accelerating, with rising temperatures, intensified weather events, and rapid species extinction threatening ecosystems worldwide. Deforestation, pollution, and habitat loss further disrupt the planet's balance, while ocean acidification, freshwater scarcity, and soil erosion exacerbate the crisis, demanding urgent, transformative global action.

## Lack of Appropriate Action

The failure to address the planetary crisis stems not from a lack of knowledge, but from a lack of creative vision, ecological consciousness, and supportive cultural norms. Policymakers often prioritize short-term interests over long-term sustainability, and individual actions are frequently driven by egoistic motivations rather than a sense of ecological connectedness.

## Urgent Need for Change

Transformative actions are urgently required to implement effective solutions to the planetary crisis. Achieving this will demand a deeper ecological consciousness, combined with compelling storytelling and an inspiring vision of a future that motivates individuals, organizations, and policymakers alike to take the critical steps needed for meaningful change.

# How We Work



## 1. Connection

We invite a small group of artists from a variety of disciplines to join an artists-on-expedition program with scientists and Indigenous people, forming a transdisciplinary expedition team.



## 2. Immersion

The unique expedition team and the authentic artists-on-expedition experience through the Epic Ecosystem generates inspiration, imagination, innovation, and Impact Art.



## 3. Creation

After the conclusion of the program, each artist will return to their studio and create a piece of artwork based on their experience which will be donated to the organization.



## 4. Dissemination

These works will become part of the Artists on Expedition collection, used for advocacy, to increase our visibility, promote the movement, and to raise funds.

# Expeditions in Epic Ecosystems



## **Transdisciplinary Collaboration**

Our programs are transformative because they engage the artists in direct collaboration with scientists, Indigenous peoples, activists, and other stakeholders, fostering a transdisciplinary exchange that enriches and unifies the creative process. By integrating diverse perspectives, artists gain new insights, channeling them into powerful art that is rooted in ecological understanding and designed to inspire tangible change.

## **Immersion into Epic Ecosystems**

Epic Ecosystems are the planet's most precious and imperiled areas in need of protection and preservation. Immersed in these environments, artists are free to express their craft without external constraints. This deep connection allows them to create raw, authentic works inspired by the ecosystem itself. The result is unique, powerful art that resonates emotionally with audiences, fostering a profound understanding of the urgent need for environmental preservation and transformative action.

# The Transformative Power of Artists on Expedition

## Catalyst for Action

By creating art that is deeply connected to real-world environmental challenges—such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and ecosystem degradation—our programs empower artists to use their creativity as a catalyst for action. These artworks raise awareness, inspire action, and advocate for the protection of the planet's most precious ecosystems, ultimately contributing to a global movement for climate action and ecosystem preservation.

## Enhancing Ecological Consciousness

At the heart of Artists on Expedition's mission is the understanding that art, culture, science, and exploration share a common aim: to expand our understanding of the world and our place within it. By fostering deep ecological consciousness through artistic interpretation and expression, our organization seeks to bridge the gap between human creativity and environmental action, inspiring both personal transformation and collective responsibility for the planet's future.



# Our Business Model



## Art Dissemination

Our primary revenue streams derive from the sale of limited-edition prints, sculptures, and other media created by the artists-on-expedition experience. These powerful artworks resonate deeply with collectors, eco-enthusiasts, and art lovers worldwide.



## Partnerships

We forge strategic partnerships to co-create initiatives that support conservation efforts, sponsor Artists on Expedition programs, and facilitate educational events, all while using our artwork to raise awareness and inspire urgent, transformative change.



## Grants and Philanthropy

We actively pursue grants from foundations that support environmental, artistic, and educational projects. Additionally, our powerful storytelling and mission attract major donations and legacy gifts from passionate individuals and families.

# Our Leadership Team



## Scottie Kiefer

Passionate about the ocean, ecological conservation, cultural heritage, and the fine arts. Experienced in leading global expeditions and advocating for environmental conservation.



## Ron Leidich

Manages two paddling companies in Palau and has spent much of his time leading expeditions, from Burma to Borneo, the Maldives to the Galapagos, and Komodo to Papua New Guinea.



## Jordan Wiles

A renowned producer and casting director, known for creating dynamic, community-driven experiences, and for his unique talent in connecting people to achieve meaningful results.



## Gregory Tentler

An independent scholar based in New York City, his work focuses on the emergence of the global contemporary with a particular interest in the rise of environmental and activist-based practices.



[artistsonexpedition.org](http://artistsonexpedition.org)