



COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION  
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Deni Javas  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
101 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Savannah, Georgia 31401

FEB 20 2020

**Re: Letter of Permission (LOP), Sand Arts Festival, Savannah College of Art and Design, Activities within Shore Protection Act (SPA) Jurisdiction, South Beach, City of Tybee Island, Chatham County, Georgia**

Dear Ms. Javas:

This letter is in response to your request to hold the annual Sand Arts Festival in the SPA jurisdictional area at South Beach on Tybee Island. The one-day festival is scheduled May 1, 2020 from 9am-5pm.

As proposed, this one-day event involves students from Savannah College of Art and Design creating sand and wind sculptures on South Beach in the vicinity of the Chatham County Pier. Students will only use sand from the beach and nothing will be added to create the sculptures except water. The wind sculptures will include prefabricated items that will be hand carried to the location and removed after the event is wrapped. There will be a total of eight (8) 10ft. x 10ft. tents set up on the beach in association with this event. All tents will be north of the Chatham County Pier and south of the Tybee Drive crossover. The Chatham County Pier will supply power for the audio equipment. Savannah College of Art and Design will provide an electrician who will ensure that power cords from the facility are appropriately sized and marked for public safety.

No activities are planned in the dune area. During the event, faculty and students will patrol the beach to monitor activity and collect trash. After the festival is over, faculty and volunteers will canvas the beach, filling depressions by hand, collecting trash and restoring the area to its pre-event topographic condition. The use of vehicles or heavy equipment on the beach is prohibited in association with the event. No obstruction of public access is authorized through the existing crosswalks or along the high water mark.

The Department authorizes the use of the beach for the Sand Arts Festival on May 1, 2020 as depicted in the attached location map. This LOP is not meant to exempt the above referenced activity from future environmental laws. **No unauthorized equipment, materials or debris may be placed, disposed of, or stored in jurisdictional areas.** Any incidental impacts associated with this project must be rectified by fully restoring areas to their pre-construction topographic and vegetative states. This LOP is valid for the above referenced project. This project must comply with all other Federal, State, and local statutes, ordinances and regulations.

To protect sea turtle nesting, all depressions must be filled using hand tools only. Since the event occurs between May 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>, turtle nesting season, an individual with a DNR Sea Turtle Cooperators Permit must survey the area to be used prior to the work beginning to ensure all sea turtle nests are avoided.

If you have any further questions or concerns in regard to this or any other projects please feel free to contact Sam LaBarba at (912) 262-3127.

Sincerely,



Jill Andrews  
Chief, Coastal Management Section

Enclosures: Description & Site Plan

cc: Chantel Morton  
City of Tybee Island  
P.O. Box 2749  
Tybee Island, GA 31328

File LOP20200011

February 4, 2020

Dear Mr. LaBarba:

I am writing in application concerning a letter of approval for the annual Sand Arts Festival hosted by the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). The event is scheduled for Friday, May 1, 2020 on the South Beach area of Tybee Island, North of the pier. The festival runs from 9:00am to 3:00 pm and involves approximately 600 SCAD students creating sand sculptures throughout the day, with category prizes awarded in the afternoon.

When constructing sand sculptures students are instructed to use only sand from the beach and water from the surf. They are not allowed in the dunes or the water. Only shovels and buckets are allowed on the beach, no vehicles or mechanized digging is allowed. Faculty and student volunteers regularly patrol the beach throughout the day to monitor activity and assist with trash collection. Lifeguards and SCAD security officers will also patrol the beach regularly. During the event, faculty and students will patrol the beach to monitor activity and collect trash. After the festival is over, faculty and volunteers will canvas the beach, filling depressions by hand, collecting trash and restoring the area to its pre-event topographic condition. The use of vehicles on the beach is prohibited in association with the event. No obstruction of public access is authorized through the existing crosswalks or along the high water mark. Public viewing will be from 3:00-5:00 pm. To reiterate our commitment to preserving the beach and its habitat, there are no events planned in or near the dunes.

In addition to the sand sculpting, students will also participate in a wind sculpture category. These sculptures will be pre-fabricated and transported to the beach. Materials used will be appropriate for the beach and include objects such as kites and whirligigs. Before transport to the beach, all entries in this category will pass a rigorous inspection by qualified faculty at SCAD's Savannah location to ensure that they are suitable for display on the beach. All wind sculptures will be removed at the end of the day. We commit to this in an effort to follow state regulations in favor of supporting the Best Management Practices (BMP's) prescribed to protect jurisdictional shore areas.

For media/check-in, information, first aid, drawing, tools, and music, we will have eight (8) tents measuring 10' x 10'. All tents and materials will be hand delivered from the parking lot to the beach, no motorized vehicles will be necessary. The eight tents of the same size will be placed parallel to the parking lot beginning at the pavilion and moving north housing our SCAD Radio sound, Check in and Media, the Drawing Center, and tools for sand building. In the middle of the sand building area we will place two more tents for First Aid and Information. SCAD Radio will provide music for the event. Extension cords extended from the pavilion area of the pier will provide power for the devices. SCAD will provide an electrician to ensure that the proper precautions are taken for the cords. The Chatham County Parks department has approved the use of power from the pier.

During the Sand Arts Festival, SCAD invites a resident artist to build a temporary, one day, sculpture on the beach. Gregor Turk from Atlanta, Ga. is our guest artist and at this time, we do not have any information on the sculpture to provide you details. However, the following map indicates where the sculpture will rest. There will be no interference to the public's ability to walk around or by this sculpture during the installment or display. The sculpture will be built early in the morning and finished by early afternoon.

As you know, the City of Tybee requests a copy of the letter of permission from the Department of Natural Resources for the festival. An email from your office expressing permission would suffice. I would also appreciate a copy of the letter for my records.

Thank you for your consideration  
Deni Javas

Lead Coordinator Sand Arts/Faculty Foundation Studies  
SCAD Herstand Hall, 101 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Savannah, GA 31401  
djavas@scad.edu



The SCAD Sand Arts Festival will be hosting a visiting artist. All materials used will be conducive to the beach and able to be installed and taken down on May 1, 2020. No vehicles or machinery will be needed for the installation of the artwork. We have coordinated with the City of Tybee and the County Parks Department to ensure that the artwork is appropriate and manageable.