



Art in the Parks Background

Immigrant Yarn Project is the latest installation associated with the Art in the Parks initiative, a collaborative effort of the National Park Service at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the Presidio Trust, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and the Headlands Center for the Arts. The goal of Art in the Parks is to provide new and innovative ways of encouraging the public to explore and connect with their parks – intellectually and emotionally – through art. This initiative is made possible through the generous support of a variety of community organizations, artists, and arts and cultural organizations. Some of our current and past partners include the FOR-SITE Foundation, We Players, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco Public Library, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, SF JAZZ, and many talented artists.

Through Art in the Parks, both emerging and established artists and arts organizations have found inspiration from the diverse and expansive parklands, creating place-based artworks that illuminate the park's natural and historical landscapes and telling stories in innovative and unexpected ways. Participating artists include Andy Goldsworthy in the Presidio, Mark di Suvero on Crissy Field, Jeannine Przyblyski at Lands End and the Presidio, and Ai Weiwei on Alcatraz and in the Presidio. Featured exhibitions include *International Orange* at Fort Point (multiple artists), *Presidio Habitats* and *Home Land Security* in the Presidio (multiple artists), and *Fire of Freedom* and *Double Victory* at Fort Point. Noted performances include productions by We Players at Fort Point, Alcatraz, and Sutro Heights, and SFJAZZ's production of John Luther Adams' *Inuksuit* at Lands End, and *Future IDs at Alcatraz*.

Art in the Parks programs and exhibitions draw on a long legacy of artistic interest and inspiration in America's national parks. The program shares iconic panoramas, historic sites, and the diverse wilderness and wildlife within our public lands.

Art in the Parks builds on this long tradition, focusing on welcoming the diverse communities of this unique urban region to explore and foster meaningful connections with their parklands next door. Created to bring new perspectives to the park places they inhabit, Art in the Parks programs are helping to encourage a timely exploration and discussion on the inter-relationships between art, culture, nature, and an ever-changing society. By creating new avenues for visitors to interact, experience, and connect with the natural and cultural treasures in our national parks, art is helping to engage the next generation of park users, reinforcing the importance and impact of these spectacular and uniquely American places.

For more information on past and current art experiences throughout the Golden Gate National Recreation area visit www.parksconservancy.org/visit/art.

For more information on art experiences in the Presidio visit <http://www.presidio.gov/activities/art>.

For more information on the history and future of art in national parks visit www.nps.gov/arts.

For more information on public programs at Headlands Center for the Arts visit www.headlands.org.