**Gulf Guardian Application**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PROJECT NAME: |  |
| Organization Name |  |
| Street Address |  |
| City, State, and ZIP Code |  |
| Phone (with area code): |  |
| Email Address: |  |
|  |  |
| Name of person submitting this nomination in case further information is needed. | Name: Address:  City: State: Zip:  Phone: Email: |
|  |  |
| Award Category: (Highlight category) | 🌕 Environmental Justice/Cultural Diversity  🌕 Youth Environmental Education  🌕 Business and Industry *(non-regulatory, consultants, contractors, etc.)*  🌕 Civic/Nonprofit Organization *(501c3, charitable, volunteer, etc.)*  🌕 Ben Scaggs Gulf Partnership  🌕 Government Entities *(City, County, State, Federal)* |
| Focus Area- Please check all that apply to your nomination. (Highlight focus area) | 🌕 **Water Quality/Public Health:** *Does this project protect the public’s health or preserve, or enhance water quality for healthy beaches, living marine resources and shellfish beds in the Gulf?*  🌕 **Habitat: Conservation and Restoration:** *Does this project conserve, protect or restore critical Gulf of Mexico coastal habitats?*  🌕 **Ecosystems Integration and Assessment:** *Does this project aid coastal managers, scientists and others make sound decisions regarding the health and productivity of the Gulf?*  🌕 **Nutrient Enrichment:** *Does project aid in the ultimate reduction of nutrients introduced to our streams, rivers, bays and the Gulf?*  🌕 **Cultural Diversity/Environmental Justice:** *Does this project enhance environmental awareness and protection among the culturally diverse and underserved communities?*  🌕 **Environmental Education**: *Does project increase awareness and stewardship among youth and students and ultimately aid in the protection of Gulf of Mexico resources?*  🌕 **Coastal Community Resilience:** *Does this project provide education or enhancements for coastal communities, ecosystems, and economies to become more resilient to coastal hazards?* |
| If this results in a winning entry, who would be most likely to accept the award? | Name(s): Title(s): |

1. Summarize the project’s highlights and accomplishments. (Summarize in 100 words or less.)

*A wonderful serenity has taken possession of my entire soul, like these sweet mornings of spring which I enjoy with my whole heart. I am alone, and feel the charm of existence in this spot, which was created for the bliss of souls like mine. I am so happy, my dear friend, so absorbed in the exquisite sense of mere tranquil existence, that I neglect my talents. I should be incapable of drawing a single stroke at the present moment; and yet I feel that I never was a greater artist than now. When, while the lovely*

(2) Describe the project in detail [date of event(s), site(s), purpose, goals, history, description of the problem, accomplishments to date, etc.]. What type of environmental improvement was made and how was the improvement accomplished? (Describe in 500 words or less.)

*A wonderful serenity has taken possession of my entire soul, like these sweet mornings of spring which I enjoy with my whole heart. I am alone, and feel the charm of existence in this spot, which was created for the bliss of souls like mine. I am so happy, my dear friend, so absorbed in the exquisite sense of mere tranquil existence, that I neglect my talents. I should be incapable of drawing a single stroke at the present moment; and yet I feel that I never was a greater artist than now. When, while the lovely valley teems with vapour around me, and the meridian sun strikes the upper surface of the impenetrable foliage of my trees, and but a few stray gleams steal into the inner sanctuary, I throw myself down among the tall grass by the trickling stream; and, as I lie close to the earth, a thousand unknown plants are noticed by me: when I hear the buzz of the little world among the stalks, and grow familiar with the countless indescribable forms of the insects and flies, then I feel the presence of the Almighty, who formed us in his own image, and the breath of that universal love which bears and sustains us, as it floats around us in an eternity of bliss; and then, my friend, when darkness overspreads my eyes, and heaven and earth seem to dwell in my soul and absorb its power, like the form of a beloved mistress, then I often think with longing, Oh, would I could describe these conceptions, could impress upon paper all that is living so full and warm within me, that it might be the mirror of my soul, as my soul is the mirror of the infinite God! O my friend -- but it is too much for my strength -- I sink under the weight of the splendour of these visions! A wonderful serenity has taken possession of my entire soul, like these sweet mornings of spring which I enjoy with my whole heart. I am alone, and feel the charm of existence in this spot, which was created for the bliss of souls like mine. I am so happy, my dear friend, so absorbed in the exquisite sense of mere tranquil existence, that I neglect my talents. I should be incapable of drawing a single stroke at the present moment; and yet I feel that I never was a greater artist than now. When, while the lovely valley teems with vapour around me, and the meridian sun strikes the upper surface of the impenetrable foliage of my trees, and but a few stray gleams steal into the inner sanctuary, I throw myself down among the tall grass by the trickling stream; and, as I lie close to the earth, a thousand unknown plants are noticed by me: when I hear the buzz of the little world among the stalks, and grow familiar with the*

1. Is this project innovative or creative in its use or application of technology or personnel? If so, please explain. (Explain in 100 words or less).

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1. Describe how the project benefits the health and productivity of the Gulf. (Describe in 100 words or less.)

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1. How do you specifically measure the success of the project? (Describe in 50 words or less.)

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1. Describe any educational, training, or outreach component to your program (if applicable) . (Describe in 100 words or less.)

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1. Is this a collaborative project involving the cooperation of public, private, community, business, or citizen groups? If so, please explain the cooperative effort and list all participating entities and their respective roles. (Describe in 100 words or less.)

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1. Describe anything exceptional about your project. For example, is it financially self-sustaining? Does it go above and beyond legal requirements? Does it result in a significant positive impact to the environment? Does your project take place in a critical region? Can it be duplicated in another area? (Describe in 100 words or less.)

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1. Does this project benefit disadvantaged communities? If so, describe how the disadvantaged communities have benefited. (Describe in 100 words or less.)

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1. Does this project have climate change benefits? If so, describe the climate change benefits of this project (e.g. sea level rise, cultural resource loss, community resilience, floodplain management). (Describe in 100 words or less.)

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**All Nominations must be emailed by July 31, 2024, to** [**GulfGuardian@epa.gov**](mailto:gulf.guardian@epa.gov)**,**

**Note: For questions, contact Jeanne Allen, Gulf of Mexico Division, 228-679-5892.**