

COMPTON FOUNDATION – FAMILY ASVISORY BOARD

Proposal Outline Form

DATE 4/10/03

ORGANIZATION AMD&ART,INC.

CONTACT PERSON Emily Ruby or T. Allan Comp, Ph.D.

TITLE Outreach Coordinator, Founder

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Johnstown, PA 15906

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SHORT PROJECT TITLE AMD&ART Outreach Initiative

PROPOSAL SUMMARY/PROJECT DESCRIPTION

As an established non-profit interdisciplinary abandoned mine drainage remediation site, AMD&ART seeks to enhance the spirit of communities long burdened with the environmental blight of dead streams. Within our education center we seek to demonstrate how art is valid in addressing environmental and social ills. Our goal as an organization encompasses not only our own remediation efforts, but also aiding other fledgling organizations in approaching remediation in an original and artful way. Not satisfied with the status quo, AMD&ART celebrates environmental healing as a centerpiece of the community rebuilding, surrounding sustainable AMD treatment systems with recreational area, historic reminders and artful places. These systems enhance Appalachian communities by cleansing the water and healing the spirit, bringing dead water back to life and dying communities back to fuller civic engagement, even hope.

TOTAL ORGANIZATION BUDGET 40,000 (last fiscal year)

TOTAL PROJECT (Site Construction) BUDGET 450,000

AMOUNT REQUESTED 14,400

PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES AND AMOUNTS

1. RECEIVED/COMMITTED
2. APPLIED FOR

* Although we have many previous grants, and some that address our current outreach efforts, this is the only grant applied for to fund the Outreach Initiative.

Project Budget- AMD&ART Outreach Initiative

AmeriCorps Position Match	4,000
Conference Displays and Attendance	3,000
Information Kits and Mailing	2,000
Web-site Update	3,000
Office Support	2,4000
Total Requested	\$14,400

The total project budget shown on the Proposal Outline Form refers to our total budget for the construction of the treatment system and construction of several large public art pieces.

Projected Income and Expenses for 2004

Expenses

Payroll- \$12,000.00 match for AmeriCorps positions

Insurance- \$1,500.00

Telephone/Fax- \$3,600.00

Postage- \$1,500.00

Travel- \$5,000.00

Misc. Office Expenses- \$800.00

Marketing- \$3,300.00

Exhibit materials- \$500.00

Conferences- \$300.00

Rent- \$2,400.00

Total: \$30,900.00

Income

State Grants- \$15,500

Foundation Grants- \$26,500

Total: \$42,000.00 *these funds carry over from year to year.

* We do have federal grants that address specific issues such as Environmental Justice and Environmental Education, but I have put our basic administrative costs in this budget. We also have some other arts grants for our artist in residency and other specific projects that don't affect our yearly administrative budget.

Organizational Budget

The organizational budget reflects the costs of running the main AMD&ART outreach office in Johnstown, PA for the last fiscal year.

Vista Staff	1,876.74
AmeriCorps Staff	13,480.09
Office Supplies	1,798.11
Office Equipment	673.79
Postage/shipping	1,136.64
Telephone/fax	3,660.45
Internet access	723.58
Legal Fees	100.00
Audit Fees	2,200.00
Accounting/Bookkeeping	3,167.80
Insurance Expenses	5,623.59
Office Rental	1,937.50
Utilities	1,840.58
Real Estate Tax	137.16
Marketing/Public Information	465.99
Printing/Newsletter	1,561.97
Total Budget	40,383.99

Project Proposal

A. Organization Description

The Appalachian coal region has long been the stuff of legends. Stretching from northeast Pennsylvania to Alabama and mined for almost two centuries, this region is the accumulation of hard work, exploitation, immigration, repression, resilience, bravery, provincialism, religion, privation, and hope. Today coal is no longer king; but the remnants of that kingdom, thousands of miles of abandoned mine tunnels and mountains of waste coal, still prevail, dominating and despoiling, creating the most widespread and dispiriting environmental problem throughout the region: Acid Mine Drainage (AMD). Pre-regulatory coal mining left miles of exposed minerals which are then dissolved in the groundwater. When this water, loaded with metals, flows into local waterways the metals coat the streambed smothering the aquatic and animal life, rendering the stream lifeless and associated communities stained by their own legacy. In the wake of a coal fueled economy, the Appalachian region was left scarred by this environmental liability and remains largely neglected by the government. In the drive to restore more "pristine" environments, the vast Eastern mountain ecosystem that is coal country was largely forgotten. Through the work of many grassroots level organizations awareness of this plight is expanding, but much remains to be done.

AMD&ART is a non-profit organization that is artfully transforming this environmental liability into a community asset in the Coal Country of Southwestern Pennsylvania. The AMD&ART process is one that combines public art, environmental improvement and community engagement in treating abandoned mine drainage (AMD), an emblem of regional social and economic woes. With multidisciplinary intervention and wide public participation, AMD&ART has created a holistic approach to re-creating place, incorporating recreational elements, artful spaces, educational opportunities, historic reminders and restored wildlife habitat into designs for passive AMD treatment systems. This approach honors a past of hard work and community building, bringing that same civic engagement to the design and construction of treatment systems that clean polluted waters, reach people, restore nature and revitalize abandoned spaces. Working within a community to not only remediate environmental degradation, but to heal a conflicted sense of the past and restore a sense of hope and purpose are the overall goals of AMD&ART. The seeds of hope we are planting in a community will blossom into a spirit of empowerment, giving communities long neglected the confidence to rebuild and revitalize their place in the world.

Through the AMD&ART approach, communities are not only engaged in environmental awareness and remediation, but in a new holistic approach to healing and to life after coal. By acknowledging and even celebrating the mining history that created the problem of AMD while it also helped to build this nation, we are inviting an exploration of the connection between industry and environment and how they both can, and must, exist in a sustainable relationship. AMD and other coal-related problems have plagued these communities for so long it is also essential for us to work within the community to explore new economic opportunities created by clean streams and a more progressive community outlook. The AMD&ART Education Center will continue to assist Vintondale in pursuing sustainable living and continual remediation efforts within the watershed, largely because the foundation for innovative and critical thinking – and

for success -- has already been created in the AMD&ART remediation park, which was a community driven project. Because Vintondale residents helped to address the largest environmental problem in the region, their next steps will not appear as daunting.

We have proven, through our successes, what can be done when you mix historical perspectives with the discipline of science, the healing and delight of innovative design, and the energy of community engagement. A productive pathway gets created, emerging directly from the array of problems challenging the Appalachian coal region. We have created a working model for the entire region in Vintondale PA that brings an AMD treatment system out in the open, to acknowledge and even celebrate community engagement in environmental improvement. The park provides recreational opportunities, walking trails, and wildlife habitat areas. We also created a small environmental education center adjacent to the park. Bringing a multidisciplinary team together has resulted in a community-wide revitalization effort. This grassroots "bottom up" approach has had the AMD&ART team working with many community members from the first brainstorming sessions to the grand opening. Local citizens have taken ownership of a park in which they can take great pride- one that celebrates their heritage, cleans up the environment, provides a place for children to grow and learn, and establishes Vintondale as a successful community, not a desolate and disillusioned patch town so typical in coal country.

B. Project Goals and Objectives

By taking passive treatment out from behind fences and celebrating these projects as a vital part of community rebuilding, AMD&ART has created a national model for innovative approaches to alternative passive treatment systems. Our goal is to be able to provide similar organizations and communities with the benefits of an interdisciplinary approach to remediation on a local and national level, not by doing it for them, but by helping them to do it themselves. We believe an interdisciplinary approach to any type of remediation effort produces the most innovative, integrative and therefore effective results. Each discipline brings a different perspective and insight to the ever-pressing questions that arise from remediation and revitalization efforts.

We also have almost 10 years of experience working with community, state and federal organizations. With nearly a million dollars in funding over the last ten years, we have a lot to share with grassroots organizations about funding opportunities and alternative, expansive, possibilities. Collaboration with the local community and organizations has proven vital to the success of AMD&ART and is essential for an organization's successful incorporation into any community, a lesson we are anxious to pass on to others. Without resident community engagement, if we ignore civic life as a part of environmental improvement, any organization will be hard pressed to accomplish anything of lasting significance.

Over the years we have been recognized with awards and publications that have cemented our reputation as a leader in innovative AMD treatment and interdisciplinary community engagement. These include the Governor's Award for Watershed Stewardship, CNN/Time, PBS and NPR features, articles in *Orion*, *Civil Engineering*, *Earthlight* and local newspapers. Invited presentations have included the Headlands Center for the Arts; Documenta 11, an international art exhibit in Germany; the national Symposium for the Future of Creativity and many regional AMD, community development and community service conferences.

Up to this point in our organization we have not had the time or staff needed to fully develop serious outreach efforts. We frequently receive requests for information and advice from interested organizations and so we would like to have a more uniform and complete way of addressing these requests. With the imminent completion of the AMD&ART Park in Vintondale, we can now dedicate more time and resources to these requests. Most recently, AMD&ART was featured on an entire page in the EPA National Watershed Report as the best example of an organization that did every one of EPA's recommended steps, adding to our unfunded burden of providing information about what AMD&ART did and how we did it.

We need to now turn more of our attention to serving others, not just developing and funding and completing our project, and we seek Compton Foundation support to make this shift. To accomplish this goal we would like to hire a full-time AmeriCorps volunteer who would lead in these efforts and we need the funding to support that effort. The outcome of this emphasis on outreach would be our increased ability to inform and equip other interdisciplinary programs and educate them on the wide variety of funding available as well as build a strong partnership throughout Appalachia of like-minded organizations. There are already two new "AMD&ART" projects, one in Murray City, Ohio, and one on the campus of the University of Virginia at Wise, Virginia and their success will only amplify our need to be more effective in providing direction and advice.

C. Measurements of Projects Effectiveness

The success of our efforts will be measured through invitations to appear at conferences, requests for outreach information, number of hits on our web-site, number of site visits and tours, number of students and educators who utilize the education center and ultimately the number of community driven initiatives that start as a result of our efforts. AMD&ART has become, because of its pioneering work, the "mother ship" for a growing fleet of communities determined to make more of their heritage that orange creeks and distressed communities. We are confident that with just this small assistance, we can play a vital role in that expansion and in bringing the healing power of art and nature combined to the devastated communities of the Appalachian coal country.

COMPTON
FOUNDATION,
INC.

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September 29, 2003

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Dr. T. Allan Comp
Founder and Project Director
AMD&ART, Inc., N P
411 Third Avenue
Johnstown PA 15906

Dear Dr. Comp:

I am pleased to inform you that the Compton Foundation has approved a grant of \$14,400 to AMD&ART, Inc., for your Outreach Initiative. Enclosed is our check #23496 for that amount. This is a discretionary grant initiated by Marshal J. Compton.

Sincerely,


Edith T. Eddy
Executive Director

cc: Marshal J. Compton