

FIGMENT NYC 2014 Summer-Long Sculpture Program: about FIGMENT, the Program and additional requirements

About FIGMENT

FIGMENT is a free, annual celebration of participatory art and culture, that began on Governors Island in 2007, and has grown and spread to events in 2013 in nine cities in three countries on two continents. In New York, during the FIGMENT NYC weekend event, over 400 artists transform Governors Island into a large-scale collaborative artwork, experienced by 25,000 participants in 2013. In 2011, FIGMENT was voted “Best Art Festival” in New York by the Village Voice, and in 2012 the BBC wrote, “If Figment were a country, it would be the happiest in the world – and I would apply for citizenship immediately.” FIGMENT and its projects have been profiled in The New York Times, the New Yorker, New York Magazine, Time Out New York, ABC 7, CBS Channel 2, WNBC, Thirteen, the Weather Channel, and many other publications and broadcast stations.

About the FIGMENT Summer-Long Sculpture Program

In New York, in addition to the FIGMENT event, FIGMENT has hosted an annual summer-long program on Governors Island since 2008 that includes an artist-designed minigolf course, a treehouse, an interactive sculpture program, and an architectural design competition to create and build a pavilion in collaboration with ENYA and SEaONY. In past years, we have selected 10-15 interactive sculptures, and partnered with the artists to raise the funding required to execute their proposed sculptures. This year, we’re changing our focus for this program to some extent. We will be choosing fewer sculptures and investing more of our own resources to work with artists to bring those sculptures to life.

The FIGMENT Summer-Long Sculpture Program has been a huge success over the last five summers, receiving substantial media attention and over 100,000 visitors a year. The Sculpture Garden was voted number three in Complex Magazine’s 2012 top ten best interactive art exhibits in NYC. Subject to approvals and permitting, FIGMENT’s 2014 Summer-Long Program, including the treehouse, minigolf course, and interactive sculptures, will again be located at the south end of the Parade Ground. The FIGMENT Summer-Long Program will be free and open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays while the island is open. We intend to open these programs at the FIGMENT NYC weekend event on Saturday, June 7, and have it open while the island is open until the end of September.

Governors Island is located in the New York Harbor, approximately 1/2 mile from Lower Manhattan and 1/4 mile from Brooklyn. Its waterfront offers dramatic and impressive vistas of the New York skyline and New York Harbor, including the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. In 2003, the Island was opened to the public with the mission of serving as a cultural and educational location for all New Yorkers.

Additional Information/Requirements

Community Involvement: FIGMENT is a large-scale participatory arts project that is created by a large community of volunteers. We look forward to your being a part of this community, and volunteering to help make the FIGMENT event and exhibitions happen. We require all artists to volunteer to work a minimum of three four-hour shifts in our mini-golf kiosk in our summer-long area over the summer.