



# GREEN FUND

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Contact Information

Project Leader Name: David Politzer

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Project Name: PFA Outdoor  
Enhancements, Phase 1

NAU Department/Unit for Funding  
Reimbursements: School of Art + Design

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### Executive Summary

The School of Art + Design (SoA+D) seeks funding for **phase one** of an ambitious project that will transform the Eastern-facing outdoor space near the Performing and Fine Art Building into a sustainable, multifunctional, community retreat filled with art and nature. Building on the success of the Secret Garden Project, we aim to create a space that addresses student needs for casual gathering, community building, and mental health, while harnessing the potential of a neglected space to include things like art works that address environmental issues, plants that can be used to make pigments or dyes, water reclamation and composting food scraps.

Phase one of the project focusses on an engineering assessment of the building completed by Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. out of Phoenix. Before we can modify the space, we must first understand the building's structural capacity. The engineers will deliver a full report within the context of our ideas to transform the space. The cost of this work is estimated to be \$16,000.

Once we have a better understanding of how we may modify the building, we can move forward with our vision to address sustainability on two fronts. First, we will reimagine a languishing space as a sustainable, green utopia. Hard surfaces will be softened to reduce runoff pressures, and resources like water and food waste will be collected and diverted to a garden of native plants. Those plants will supply food and art-making materials for SoA+D faculty, staff, and students. Second, the reimaged space will help sustain mental health and creative productivity for the SoA+D community. Currently, there is no casual gathering space for students. The new natural area will be a respite from the classroom, and a place to recharge

and perhaps find inspiration in the works of art featured in the garden.

Over the next academic year, the SoA+D will form an Arts and Sustainability Club comprised of faculty and students. Professors Neal Galloway, and Helen Hawley have expressed interest in sponsoring the club. The club's mission will be to integrate sustainable practices into artmaking. This Fall, SoA+D Professor Neal Galloway is offering a special topics course called *Art, Sustainability, and the Environment*. We will recruit students from this course to continue working on projects, ideas, and issues that arise in the course. The longer-term vision for the Arts and Sustainability Club will be to care for and maintain the proposed space. They will also be encouraged to use the space as a laboratory of sorts, for conducting experiments that might lead to new ways of artmaking.

As a newly activated outdoor space that is easily accessible to the SoA+D, as well as the Schools of Theater and the Kitt School of Music, the space has the potential to be heavily used and occupied much of the year as weather permits. This will draw attention to the space and make it highly visible within the NAU community.

### Project Components

1. Does your project require space or construction on campus? If so, where? Please review the "Space Committee Document" located on our webpage and follow the steps to begin requesting a location.

Yes, construction will take place on the back "patio" areas of Performing and Fine Arts. A Space Request Form will be submitted once scope and nature of project is established.

2. Have you obtained all necessary approvals for this project? The Green Fund is not responsible for acquiring the necessary permits, permissions, or approvals for a project, although we are happy to assist with this process if needed. Please attach all letters of support to this application. Letters of support should include confirmation from the sponsoring department that the sponsoring department will cover all upfront expenses and work with the Green Fund Business Manager to acquire reimbursement after project completion.

Full construction approvals, permits, etc. will be attained once phase one is complete. At this point we don't know the scope of the project. As Director of the School of Art + Design, the sponsoring department, I can approve payments for upfront expenses and work with the Green Fund Business Manager for reimbursements.

3. Does the project include any continued maintenance costs? The Green Fund does not provide any ongoing maintenance costs unless specified within the budget and approved by the committee. A sponsoring department must take responsibility for operations and

management.

Phase one of the project will not include continued maintenance. However, the SoA+D intends to form an Arts and Sustainability Club comprised of faculty and students. The longer-term vision for the Arts and Sustainability Club will be to care for and maintain the proposed space. This will include cleaning, weeding, replanting, harvesting, etc. Club members will also be encouraged to use the space as a laboratory of sorts, for conducting experiments that might lead to new ways of artmaking.

4. Will this project provide funding for student wages? Coordination of wages must be done through the sponsoring department and must be included within the project budget.

Phase one of the project will not include student wages.

5. Please list all additional sources of funding you have pursued, including department, grants, ASNAU graduate, student government, etc.

During phase two, the SoA+D will use the "Collaborations to Enhance the Visual Arts" fund in the NAU Foundation. This fund is designated for campus beautification projects and as such, it can only be used to support expenditures that result in changes in the appearance of the space. We will also pursue the Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant next year.

### **Project Specifics**

1. Is there a public outreach plan? How do you plan on communicating your project with the NAU community? Do you require assistance from the Green Fund in your outreach plan?

Phase one of the project will not include public outreach.

2. Are you working with other groups on or off campus? If so, describe your partnership.

During phase one, we will continue to work with faculty and staff members, Denielle Perry and Janel Wilcox. We look forward to building partnerships with nurseries, artists, faculty and students.

### **Project Parameters**

1. What are the environmental costs and benefits associated with your project?

There are no known environmental costs/benefits for phase one of the

project.

2. Is this a one time expense or will you require future funding for your project?

As mentioned, this is phase one of an evolving project. We anticipate that phase two will be significantly more involved in terms of scope and budget. Phase two cannot occur without completing phase one first (assessing the building).

3. How will you measure and monitor the impact of your project after its implementation?

NA

### Project Budget

Please include a thorough breakdown of all project costs as well as **justification for each line item**, as well as a 5% line item for contingency. Based on the parameters of the project, the committee may increase or decrease this contingency. **Make sure to include all potential taxes or costs associated with each item.**

Item	Quantity	Price	Justification
Construction Engineering Assessment - Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.	1	16,800	Need to understand building capacity before moving forward with construction plan.

<b>5% Contingency (5% of total project cost)</b>	\$800
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	\$16,800

### Project Timeline

Please provide a timeline for the significant dates of your project. Please add all relevant information and consider any holidays/breaks and time required to obtain necessary approvals. **Please be as specific as possible.**

Timeline	
Action & Parties Involved	Month/Year
Engineering Assessment	Summer 2024
Green Fund, Phase Two Application	Fall/Winter 2024
Construction	Summer 2025

 <b>Anticipated Date of Completion</b>	Fall 2025
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**Project Completion Checklist**

Please complete all of the following items before submitting an application

- Contact Information
- Project Overview
- Project Budget
- Project Timeline
- Obtain **ALL** necessary letters of support for reimbursement, ongoing maintenance, student wages, etc. Attach the letters of support to the completed application.
- Submit the completed application to [GreenFund@nau.edu](mailto:GreenFund@nau.edu)

*Thank you for your submission. We deeply appreciate your commitment to sustainability at NAU, and we look forward to working with you.*