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**Robert Rauschenberg Foundation Announces New Grant Program,
Calls for Proposals Addressing Climate Change**

The Climate Change Solutions Fund will accept applications through December 22nd



Untitled (*Spread*), Captiva, Florida, 1983. Photo: © The Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation. Courtesy Art + Commerce

New York, NY — The Robert Rauschenberg Foundation announced today the creation of the Climate Change Solutions Fund to support cross-disciplinary responses to global warming, issuing an open call for grant proposals from organizations whose work matches the Fund's objectives.

The Climate Change Solutions Fund pushes back against the “doom and gloom” narrative that emphasizes impending disaster or frames the scale of the problem as insurmountable. Instead the new grant program seeks projects that facilitate new, sustainable ways of being and living.



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That may translate into pragmatic tactics like advancing alternative energy sources or it may be more adaptive strategies like developing new economic systems. For more information about the grant's guidelines and requirements, including how to register for an application webinar, visit <http://www.rauschenbergfoundation.org/grants/how-apply>.

Projects of particular interest are those that apply a systemic lens to the root causes of global warming; enroll the leadership of frontline communities most vulnerable to the impact of climate change; push for broad based civic engagement and community action; and wherever possible leverage the value artists and culture bearers bring to processes for devising and deploying practical solutions to this global crisis.

"We are looking to fund projects that advance actual solutions to the greatest crisis of our time," said Risë Wilson, Director of Philanthropy at the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation. "We want to find organizations working in impacted communities to build leadership and raise awareness that will use this funding to spur innovation and systems change. This is unusual work for an artists' foundation and we're incredibly excited about it."

The Climate Change Solutions Fund is designed to expand the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation's current efforts in its Art + Environment program. To date the program has focused on artist-led projects to deepen public awareness of climate change, providing support to Maya Lin's *What is Missing* memorial and Lars Jan's *Holoscenes*. A year ago, the foundation partnered with Ballroom Marfa and the Public Concern Foundation to launch Marfa Dialogues/New York, a two-month examination of the intersections between climate change science, environmental activism, and artistic practice. The Climate Change Solutions Fund broadens this arts-centered strategy to equally foreground the work of non-arts organizations tackling the root causes of global warming in ways that both engage the public and recognize the catalytic roles culture and creativity can play in these endeavors.

All of the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation's philanthropy programs operate with a set of core values that embody Rauschenberg's work as both an artist and a philanthropist: from experimentation and fearlessness to a commitment to collaboration and working across disciplines.

About the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation:

The [Robert Rauschenberg Foundation](http://www.rauschenbergfoundation.org) fosters the legacy of the artist's life, work, and philosophy that art can change the world. The foundation supports initiatives at the intersection of arts and issues that embody the fearlessness, innovation, and multidisciplinary approach that Robert Rauschenberg exemplified in both his art and philanthropic endeavors. In the last 24 months, the foundation has broadened its philanthropic efforts from seven legacy grantees to more than 100 individuals and organizations across the United States; supported hundreds of artists impacted by Hurricane Sandy; and converted Rauschenberg's home and studio in Florida into a dynamic residency program for emerging and recognized artists.