

North Carolina

*North Carolina Arts Council
Linda Bamfiord, Arts in Education Director*

General Information

Organization Mission Statement

A robust arts industry produces a creative economy, vibrant communities, children prepared for the 21st century and lives filled with discovery and learning.

Arts Education Program Overview

The North Carolina Arts Council (NCAC) provides technical assistance and arts in education funding through a competitive grants process for professional development for educators and teaching artists as well as artist residencies and after-school and summer programs for at-risk youth. Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 are available once a year to nonprofit organizations including preK-12 schools. In addition, the Arts Council supports several flagship arts in education programs, including the following:

Traditional Arts Programs in Schools. The Junior Appalachian Musicians program, providing musician-led instruction to youth in playing traditional musical instruments, expanded to include instruction in other North Carolina traditional art forms, such as pottery.

cARTwheels II: In its fourth year, cARTwheels is a statewide performing arts touring program that originally provided funding for eight major North Carolina based arts groups to present fully staged 55-minute performances for grades 3 to 5 in community based venues across rural North Carolina. Due to the downturn in the economy and severely reduced funding, the program has been streamlined for 2009-2010 and will tour four major North Carolina based companies rather than eight.

School Public Art Residency Collaboration: This flagship program is a joint initiative of the Arts in Education and Public Art Programs of NCAC. Professional artists are chosen through a public art process to create a public art piece for a high school in North Carolina and to conduct a two-week residency with one advanced visual art high school class on the study of public art. The work is created by the artist, not the students. It becomes a permanent internal or external public art piece at the school.

International Educator Workshop: The Arts Council is working with the Kenan Institute for the Arts, University of North Carolina/School of the Arts and the Lincoln Center Institute to establish North Carolina as a regional site for the International Educator Workshop of the Lincoln Center Institute. The first Institute will be held at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, August 2-6, 2010. For the past two summers, the Arts Council has sent teaching artists to the Lincoln Center Institute in New York City to be trained in aesthetic education. Workshops are being developed to support aesthetic education through the cARTwheels II program. It is the goal of the Arts Council to provide training in arts integration, aesthetic education and early learning through the arts to all qualified and interested teaching artists and educators.

Grant Programs

Types of Arts Education Grant Programs

- residency program
- in-school arts education
- out-of-school-time arts education
- early childhood learning in the arts
- general operating support for arts education organizations
- arts education program/project support for arts organizations
- other management technical assistance grants

Groups Eligible for Grant Programs

- pre-K centers
- public schools
- private/nonparochial schools
- private/parochial schools
- charter schools
- home school groups
- regional/local arts agencies
- arts organizations
- non-arts organizations
- arts education alliance or similar statewide organization

Total Number of Arts Education Grants Awarded in Most Recent Fiscal Year

56 grants

Total Dollar Value of Arts Education Grants Awarded in Most Recent Fiscal Year

\$ 491,410

Additional Comments on Arts Education Grant Programs

The Arts Council encourages and gives priority to multiple-year projects; however, the applicant must reapply for funding each year of the multiyear project and funding is not guaranteed.

Major Initiatives & Partnerships

Kenan Institute for the Arts/University of North Carolina School of the Arts/Lincoln Center Institute

In partnership with the Kenan Institute for the Arts, the University of North Carolina School of Arts, and the Lincoln Center Institute, NCAC is working toward North Carolina becoming a regional site for the Lincoln Center Institute and establishing an international educator workshop in Winston-Salem August 2-6, 2010.

Early Learning through the Arts Project

In collaboration with the North Carolina Wolf Trap at the Arts & Science Council Charlotte, NCAC is working to train artists to work in preschool settings and to extend the program statewide.

Arts Education Requirement for High School Graduation

Through the North Carolina state legislature, NCAC is working collaboratively with Arts North Carolina to establish a high school arts education graduation requirement.

Statewide Arts Education Conference

In 2007 and 2009, NCAC worked collaboratively with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, the A+ Schools Program, North Carolina based John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Partners in Education programs and Arts North Carolina to offer a three-day statewide arts education conference. It is the Arts Council's intention to continue this initiative on a three-year basis.

Artist Residency Program

Artist residency program is administered in partnership with another organization.

- Optional training is provided for artists.
- Entities other than schools may apply to sponsor a residency.

Fee Structure for Teaching Artists

- Based on an average fee
- \$1,500 per week
- There can be additional compensation outside of the fee structure. Teaching artists can be paid separately for performances/exhibitions, professional development, parent workshops, and planning and evaluation meetings.

Additional Comments on Residency Program

The Arts Council funds artist in residency programs but does not directly sponsor them. Orientations and training are provided to resident artists from the Touring Artist Directory, but not to all artists providing residencies.

Teaching Artist Roster Program

Teaching Artist Roster Basics:

- A panel is used to select roster artists.
- Applications for roster are reviewed every three years.
- To retain eligibility, artists must reapply every three years.

Additional Comments on Teaching Artist Roster

The Arts Council does not have a stand-alone teaching artist roster. Its Touring Artist Directory requires that all artists go through an initial review process for acceptance. If the artists are approved and want to be considered for teaching artist status, they go through a second review process. The noted fee structure is not a requirement. The site determines the residency fee and the Arts Council evaluates the fairness of the rate of payment during its review process of grants. The \$1,500 fee per week is the average for an artist residency. Currently the Arts Council is working with major urban arts councils to create a statewide Arts in Education Directory for 2011-2012.

Professional Development Services

Provision of Professional Development Trainings, Workshops and/or Institutes

- For classroom teachers, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. NCAC annually supports a week-long Teacher Institute sponsored by one of North Carolina's Kennedy Center Partners in Education teams. Classroom teachers also will participate in August 2-6, 2010 International Educator Workshop in Winston-Salem, sponsored by NCAC and the Kenan Institute for the Arts.
- For arts specialists, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. Arts specialists are involved with the week-long Teacher Institute offered by a Kennedy Center Partners in Education program. They also will be involved in the 2-6, August 2010 International Educator Workshop in Winston-Salem.
- For teaching artists, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. The Arts Council is involved with the North Carolina Wolf Trap training of teaching artists annually. NCAC collaborates periodically on special workshops for teaching artists, such as the Kennedy Center's seminar on preparing artists to lead professional development workshops for educators. For the past two summers, the Arts Council has sponsored teaching artists to participate in the week-long Lincoln Center Institute in New York City. NCAC is in the process of developing a comprehensive professional development program for teaching artists that provides training at various places on the continuum for artists who engage with students, beginning with artists who provide assembly programs and progressing to artists who lead professional development workshops for teachers and other artists.

Additional Comments on Professional Development Services

The Arts Council is developing a comprehensive training program for teaching artists that it intends to launch in 2010.

Poetry Out Loud

Poetry Out Loud Administration

- in-house with contracted staff

Poetry Out Loud Participation

- number of schools participating in Poetry Out Loud statewide: 111
- Home-schooled students participate.
- Schools specifically for at-risk students participate.

Poetry Out Loud Resources and Activities

- documentation
- two-day intensive poetry presentation workshops led by professional writers, performance poets or theatre artists
- 90-minute professional development workshops for educators led by professional writers, performance poets or theatre artists

Additional Prizes and Awards

- Books of poetry are solicited from various sources.
- Additional prizes were donated.

Partners, Funders or In-kind Donors That Support the Poetry Out Loud Program

- The North Carolina Museum of History provides free rental and reception space for the state finals.

Resources & Publications

Publications and Media Resources Provided:

- arts education residency planning guide
- school public art planning guide
- traditional arts programs for students (TAP) guide
- video or audio CD
- on-line Touring Artist Directory that features approved teaching artists
- A section of the NCAC Web site is devoted solely to arts learning, and NCAC will launch a site for teaching artists in 2010.
- The Arts in Education Program will develop a quarterly e-newsletter in 2010-2011.

Evaluation & Assessment

Methods of Self-Evaluation of State Arts Agency's Arts Education Program

- quantitative and qualitative grants data
- participation data
- financial data
- direct observations

Arts Education Staffing & Network Contacts

State Department of Education Arts Curriculum Specialist

Christie Lynch Ebert and Myron Carter

Arts Education Program Staff, Job Title, FTE

- Linda Bamford, Arts in Education Director, 1.0
- Catherine Lavenburg, Program Assistant, 0.25
- Banu Valladares, Literary Director, 0.25

Staff Biographies

Linda Bamford has served as the arts in education director for NCAC since November 2000. She has more than 35 years of experience in the arts, education and nonprofit management. She has taught high school and college; served as the executive director of a community theatre; consulted with school systems and arts organizations; and worked as the arts in education director for a local arts council. Bamford is a certified 6-12 theatre arts educator with a B.A. in speech and drama from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College in Indiana and an M.A. in dramatic art from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

A native of Venezuela, Banu Valladares joined NCAC in 2007. She was a teacher, professor and teaching artist before joining the Durham Arts Council (DAC) in 2004 as manager of the Creative Arts in Public and Private Schools (CAPS) program, developing high-quality arts in education programs in response to community needs, and later as director of community arts education and partnerships, providing leadership and management for both CAPS and the DAC art school. She holds a B.A. and an M.A. in English from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte.

Catherine Lavenburg earned a bachelor's degree from Gettysburg College in psychology and visual art. Upon graduating, she worked in Maryland for several years as an administrative assistant. In 2006 she moved to North Carolina and worked for two years in the Global Education Center at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, before coming to NCAC in 2008.