

South Dakota

South Dakota Arts Council
Rebecca DallaGrana, Assistant Director

General Information

Organization Mission Statement

The South Dakota Arts Council (SDAC) is a state agency serving South Dakotans and their communities through the arts. Recognizing the importance of creativity in the lives of all South Dakotans, the Council makes quality arts accessible throughout the state by providing encouragement, grants, services and information to artists, arts organizations, schools and the public.

Arts Education Program Overview

SDAC partners with the National Endowment for the Arts and the state of South Dakota to provide funds for grants to artists, arts organizations, community arts projects, traditional arts apprentices, and community symphonies and orchestras. In addition, SDAC provides the state with the Artists in Schools and Communities (arts residency) Program and a Touring Arts Program.

SDAC partners with South Dakotans for the Arts (SoDA), a sister agency in the private sector, to implement a traditional/folk arts program, an art institute for educators, a program for art in the state's juvenile corrections facilities, an A+ Pilot School Program, the High School Congressional Art Competition, and scholarships for Native American youth to the Oscar Howe Summer Art Institute. Together, SDAC and SoDA present the biannual statewide arts conference, a biannual Governors Awards in the Arts event, South Dakota Governor's Biennial Art Exhibits, and the annual Prairie Arts Management Institute. SDAC and SoDA also partner to offer Technical Assistance Grants to arts organizations and to maintain a Performing Arts Bank that underwrites performances up to \$500 for communities with populations of fewer than 15,000.

SDAC has a relationship with the South Dakota Department of Education working in fine arts standards and curriculum through a cooperative Arts Education Advisory Board.

Grant Programs

Types of Arts Education Grant Programs

- residency program
- out-of-school-time arts education
- early childhood learning in the arts
- lifelong learning in the arts
- general operating support for arts education organizations
- arts education program/project support for arts organizations
- quick funds/minigrants
- Other SDAC partnerships include working with the Department of Social Services to offer the Afterschool Summer Arts Program, an artist residency opportunity designed for organizations licensed by the South Dakota Office of Child Care Services.

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

177 grants

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

\$ 155,808

Major Initiatives & Partnerships

Art Education Institute

South Dakotans for the Arts and the South Dakota Arts Council sponsor this week-long summer institute for teachers on the campus of Black Hills State University, in Spearfish, South Dakota. The Institute provides training for teachers and administrators in developing local content standards and curriculum in K-12 visual arts, music and special education. In addition to morning standards and curriculum courses, a wide variety of afternoon workshops in various disciplines are offered. Two hours of college credit are given to registrants through the University. Scholarships are available for participants on a first-come, first-served basis.

Arts Education Enhancement Grants

South Dakotans for the Arts partners with SDAC to provide elementary schools the opportunity to develop a comprehensive arts curriculum in the areas of creative writing, dance, music, theater or visual arts. These grants provide funding support for development and enhancement of fine arts curricula and integration of fine arts in learning in one or more other academic areas.

Afterschool Summer Arts Program

The Afterschool Summer Arts Program (ASAP) is an artist residency opportunity designed to meet the needs of organizations licensed by the South Dakota Office of Child Care Services (CCS) as out-of-school-time programs. Funded through a grant from CCS, ASAP is administered by South Dakotans for the Arts in collaboration with SDAC.

Additional Comments on Initiatives and Partnerships

Until this fiscal year –2010– SDAC partnered with the South Dakota State Library to coordinate a Solo Artists In Libraries program. SDAC still offers matching grants for this program, but the library is no longer a partner and libraries now are required to find their own matches for artists.

Artist Residency Program

Artist residency program is administered by the state arts agency office.

- Entities other than schools may apply to sponsor a residency.

Fee Structure for Teaching Artists

- \$1,000 per week
- There can be additional compensation outside of the fee structure. Organizations can request residencies for shorter time periods or special teaching events through SDAC's Artists in Schools and Communities Program. The Arts Council will match funds for those requests in some cases.

Teaching Artist Roster Program

Teaching Artist Roster Basics:

- Out-of-state artists may apply for artist roster.
- Roster artists are required for residency program.
- A panel is used to select roster artists.
- Applications for roster are reviewed once per year.
- To retain eligibility, artists must reapply every three years.

Additional Comments on Teaching Artist Roster

After artists have been through the panel application and selection process twice, they can stay on the roster without reapplying as long as they wish, pending satisfactory evaluations from sponsors/hosts.

Annual Events

Governor's Awards in the Arts

The Governor's Awards are sponsored biennially by South Dakotans for the Arts and the South Dakota Arts Council. The awards recognize South Dakota's finest artists and supporters of the arts.

Professional Development Services

Provision of Professional Development Trainings, Workshops and/or Institutes

- For classroom teachers, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. See Major Initiatives & Partnerships.
- For arts specialists, professional development is administered in partnership with another organization. See Major Initiatives & Partnerships.

Poetry Out Loud

Poetry Out Loud Administration

- in-house with arts education staff

Poetry Out Loud Participation

- number of schools participating in Poetry Out Loud statewide: 54
- Home-schooled students participate.
- Schools specifically for students with disabilities participate.
- Schools specifically for at-risk students participate.
- number of regional semifinals: 1

Poetry Out Loud Resources and Activities

- lesson plans
- classroom teacher training
- original poetry component

Additional Prizes and Awards

- three \$100 prizes in original poetry; plaques and medals for competitors
- Poetry Out Loud teacher of the year receives \$500. Prize is awarded based on participation and accomplishment.
- Additional prizes were purchased.

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

South Dakotans for the Arts; South Dakota Public Broadcasting

Resources & Publications

Publications and Media Resources Provided:

- arts education planning guide
- arts education newsletter
- social networking, e.g., Twitter or Facebook
- Arts education is part of SDAC's annual report.
- currently working on streaming video/audio

Arts Alive is SDAC's quarterly publication about arts events, issues and news across the state. It is designed to raise awareness about fine arts in South Dakota.

Evaluation & Assessment

Program Evaluation for Grantees

- Evaluation tools and frameworks are provided for grantees. Evaluations for sponsors as well as resident and touring artists are available on the Web site and are mailed to them after residencies and tours.
- Evaluations are required as part of artist/sponsor contracts. SDAC uses them to ensure that quality, capable artists are being contracted and that artists' needs are being met at sponsor sites.

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

- formal external evaluation
- participation data
- financial data
- surveys and feedback forms
- direct observations

Arts Education Staffing & Network Contacts

State Alliance for Arts Education

SDAAE works with SoDA and SDAC to advance arts education opportunities for children and their teachers. SDAAE shares programs, members, offices and staff with SDAC and the Community Arts Network of South Dakota.

Arts Education Program Staff, Job Title, FTE

- Rebecca DallaGrana, Assistant Director, 0.5

Arts Education Coordinator's Split Responsibilities

- other areas of work: administer grant programs, oversee grants, communications specialist, accessibility coordinator
- percent of time dedicated to arts education program: 50%

Staff Biographies

Rebecca DallaGrana coordinates Artists in Schools and Communities residencies, manages the agency's various granting programs, and provides technical assistance to artists, arts organizations, and potential grantees. She is also the agency's communications specialist and accessibility coordinator. DallaGrana came to SDAC after working as editor of the *Capital Journal*, a daily newspaper in Pierre, the state capital. She holds degrees in theater, creative writing and Spanish from Dakota Wesleyan University. In addition to her formal theater training, she has worked for several professional theater companies in the Midwest and New England. She is experienced in nearly all aspects of theater production: acting, directing, technical design, playwriting and teaching creative dramatics. She has also toured Italy, Mexico and much of the Midwest with vocal and theater performance groups.