

South Florida Cultural Consortium
Teaching Artist Certification Project
Artist Application for Endorsement



The South Florida Cultural Consortium (SFCC) is piloting a regional process to endorse and recognize exemplary Teaching Artists serving schools and communities within the region. Teaching Artists endorsed by the SFCC will gain recognition across Broward, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach counties as being excellent teaching artists who have an outstanding track record of demonstrable skill. Candidates for Endorsement must show mastery within their artistic discipline as well as best practices in teaching artistry. The primary candidates for endorsement at this time are individuals who specifically have extensive experience working with pre-K-12th grade children and youth in school and community settings. For now, the endorsement process will only consider applications from individual teaching artists, not companies or arts groups with multiple artists.

The application process consists of three parts: 1.) A written application must be completed and submitted for review by the Endorsement Panel. 2.) The panel will then select and invite finalists to participate in a practicum session to demonstrate their skills at a school in the South Florida area. 3.) Finalists will then meet with the Endorsement Panel for an interview.

All application materials must be submitted by 12:00 PM on February 6, 2015.

The SFCC will announce finalists by February 20, 2015. Practicums will occur in March.

To be considered for Endorsement, candidates must email the following items as one PDF document to Betsy Mullins at betsy@A4Lmiami.org.

- Written statement of intent (See Attachment 1)
- Completed Endorsement Application Questionnaire (See Attachment 2)
- Full resume of artistic and educational experience
- Three letters of recommendation (See Attachment 3)
- Proof of background screening (only copies of VECHs records or School Board Employee Identifications will be accepted)
- A signed and notarized Affidavit of Good Moral Character (Click here for the form: http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/admin/training/docs/SR_CriminalHistoryBSTraining/AffidavitofGoodMoralCharacter.pdf)
- Sample lesson plan or residency outline with ties to appropriate educational standards

In addition, the following work samples must be submitted/uploaded:

- Sample of artistic work
Visual Artists must submit 10 digital images (JPG files only)
Performing Artists must submit a video of their work (max length 5 minutes)
- Sample of Teaching Artist work
Video should be no more than 15 minutes of continuous and unedited footage of the candidate at work with his/her students helping them understand aspects of the artistic process.

Attachment 1

Statement of Intent

Thoroughly and thoughtfully answer the following questions in essay form: What drives you to be a teaching artist? How does your work as an artist feed into your teaching practice? How does your teaching work inform your art making? Why is this work important to you? (1000 words max).

Attachment 2

Endorsement Application Questionnaire

Please answer the following questions in full.

- 1.) What age group(s) are you most interested in working with and why?
- 2.) How did you discover teaching artistry as a personal path? Trace your timeline of development along this path (Where did you start? How did you get to where you are now?).
- 3.) What has been your most successful residency or project? Why was it so successful?
- 4.) What has been your worst residency or project? What did you learn from that experience?
- 5.) Please describe your experiences and abilities to work with children/youth with disabilities. How have you adapted activities or experiences?
- 6.) How would you manage a classroom discussion in a group where only one or two students are answering every question?
- 7.) How would you react if you found yourself in a residency where the students are antagonistic or disrespectful towards their regular classroom teacher?
- 8.) Using your sample lesson plan or residency outline as a starting point, how would you adapt that sequence for a group of shy 3rd graders? For a group of rambunctious 7th graders? For a professional development model for a classroom teacher?
- 9.) How do you assess student learning? What tools or strategies do you use?
- 10.) How do you build reflection into your student interactions?
- 11.) What classroom management strategies do you most often utilize?
- 12.) What are your three highest priorities before coming into the classroom?

Attachment 3

Letters of Recommendation

Candidates for Endorsement need to submit three letters of recommendation from three different types of individuals who can testify to the candidate's quality of work with children, youth and educators (example- one letter from a teacher, one from a parent, and one from an administrator).

For Teachers and Administrators-

Name of Candidate:

Name of Person Giving Recommendation:

Title:

Contact Information:

In what context have you worked with the teaching artist? How long have you known or worked with the teaching artist?

Describe the residency/performance/workshop the artist led for you. What was special about it?

How dependable would you consider this teaching artist? How easy were they to work with?

What qualities do you feel set this teaching artist apart from others with whom you have worked?

How did this artist impact your students? How have you seen change in your students after the teaching artist finished his/her time with you?

What is one thing you wish everyone knew about this teaching artist?

Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.

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For Parents/Guardians/Caregivers-

Name of Candidate:

Name of Person Giving Recommendation:

Name of Program or Site Where You Met the Artist:

Contact Information:

In what context has your student worked with the teaching artist (classroom/after-school/workshop/performance)? How long have you known or worked with the teaching artist?

How old is your student?

Describe the residency/performance/workshop the artist led for your student. What was special about it?

How would your student describe the artist?

What qualities do you feel set this teaching artist apart from others whom you have seen?

How did this artist impact your student? How have you seen change in your student after the teaching artist finished his/her time with your student?

What is one thing you wish everyone knew about this teaching artist?

Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.