

CALL FOR TEACHING ARTISTS

The Arizona Commission on the Arts is seeking up to 10 professional teaching artists who have a serious, committed interest in working with older adults in community and care settings. These teaching artists will form the participant cohort for the seven-month *AZ Creative Aging Teaching Artist Institute*.

ABOUT THE AZ CREATIVE AGING TEACHING ARTIST INSTITUTE

Generously supported by Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, [AZ Creative Aging](#) is a three-year initiative of the Arizona Commission on the Arts which aims to embed creative aging knowledge and best practices in the community, build an infrastructure for high-quality arts and aging programs, and enhance quality of life for older Arizonans.

The Teaching Artist Institute is a comprehensive training program that will introduce teaching artists to the variety of settings, programs, and partners that make up the creative aging field, and provide skills-building activities for participants to attain the specialized knowledge needed to work successfully with older adults. Inspired by [ArtSage](#) (www.artsagemn.org) and other national models, the Institute has been developed around the philosophies of person-centered care, a process-based approach, and cultural responsiveness.

Teaching artists selected to participate in the *AZ Creative Aging Teaching Artist Institute* will:

- Discover the unique ways that quality, meaningful, participatory arts engagement improves quality of life for adults across the aging spectrum.
- Explore the unique developmental needs of lifelong learning, legacy-leaving, and meaning-making.
- Learn tools and techniques to utilize existing teaching skills to create innovative and relevant arts learning opportunities for older adult populations.
- Understand the aging field with respect to research, myths of aging, levels of care, changes in the brain, physical challenges, and memory decline.
- Understand the process of initiating partnerships for facilitating work with older adults in a variety of settings, and have an opportunity to connect with potential community, aging service and healthcare partners.
- Explore cultural responsiveness as it correlates with the creative aging sector and what it means for both the teaching artist and older adults.
- Complete valuable Critical Response Process training, a method for giving and receiving useful feedback.
- Establish a peer network of teaching artists working with older adults.

DEADLINE

11:59 PM, Thursday, September 14, 2017

PARTICIPATION FEE

Thanks to the generous support of Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, **there is no fee to participate** in the *AZ Creative Aging Teaching Artist Institute*.

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

For any questions regarding the *AZ Creative Aging Teaching Artist Institute* or application process, please contact

Lies'l Hill

AZ Creative Aging Coordinator
(602) 771-6523
lhill@azarts.gov

PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS AND BENEFITS

Through the *AZ Creative Aging* Teaching Artist Institute, participants will learn with master teaching artists, work with a mentor throughout the course of the Institute, and engage in applied learning through guided, on-site teaching opportunities.

Participating teaching artists will

- attend and actively participate in all in-person learning sessions facilitated by national and local experts;
- complete observation/volunteer sessions with their mentor to see program examples in action;
- develop and deliver a series of lessons to put learning into practice in different aging service environments; and
- participate in an evaluation process, participating in program evaluation surveys sharing final documentation.

In exchange, participating teaching artists will

- receive the professional development and other services provided through the Teaching Artist Institute free of charge;
- receive education materials, tools and other support;
- gain on the ground experience in a supported learning environment;
- establish a peer network of other teaching artists committed to serving older adults; and
- make connections with aging service/healthcare organizations and professionals.

INSTITUTE COMPONENTS AND SCHEDULE

The *AZ Creative Aging* Teaching Artist Institute will take place October 2017 through May 2018, with required in-person meeting dates, webinars, mentor meetings, observations, and teaching sessions.

Training

In-person learning sessions and webinars serve to introduce and deepen specific content knowledge related to the Institute's overall learning outcomes.

Mentorship

Each Institute participant will be paired with a mentor in their artistic discipline. Mentors and mentees will check-in periodically to address individual learning goals, and mentors will provide guidance on teaching session development/feedback on the teaching sessions themselves. The mentorship component is also meant to provide an ongoing sounding board for the participant throughout the Institute.

Applied Learning

On-site, guided teaching opportunities will take place between February and the final session in May. Participants will not be engaged each day of this timeframe, but will need to be available for 4 student teaching opportunities. Each participant will be given multiple opportunities to observe their mentors teaching in various creative aging specific settings. This will then inform the participant's own applied learning, both as a co-teacher (with their mentor) and as the lead facilitator.

Schedule*

- **Learning Session I: Greater Phoenix (exact location TBD)⁺**
Learning Session I will provide 2.5 days of intensive professional development, introducing many content areas and topics, such as the aging process, arts and aging research, fundamentals of creative aging program design, a cultural responsiveness primer, and more, and will lay the groundwork for the remainder of the Institute.
Thursday, October 26, 2017, 8:30am- 5:00pm
Friday, October 27, 2017, 8:30am- 5:30pm
Saturday, October 28, 2017, 9:00am- 12:30pm

- **Fall Webinars: Online**
[November/December](#)
 Exact webinar dates and times will be set with the Institute participants to accommodate schedules as best as possible.
 Webinar I: Person-centered Memory Care
 Webinar II: Meaningful Programming
- **Mentor/Mentee Check-in: Online or by Phone**
[November/December](#)
 Mentors and mentees will touch base via skype or phone at least once following Learning Session I. These check-ins may be individual or small group.
- **Learning Session II: Greater Phoenix (exact location TBD)**
 Learning Session II will include site visits to a variety of aging/healthcare service organizations, where participants will tour the facilities and meet with staff. The second day will focus on preparation for the applied learning component, including a Critical Response Process training.
[Friday, January 26, 2018, 9:00am-5:00pm](#)
[Saturday, January 27, 2018, 9:00am-4:00pm](#)
- **Spring Webinars: Online**
[February/March/April](#)
 Up to two webinars will take place in the spring. The content of the webinars, as well as the dates/times, will be determined by the Institute participants based on what they identify as a group as areas of interest that they would like to learn more about.
- **Mentor/Mentee Check-in: Online or by Phone**
[February/March/April](#)
 Mentors and mentees will touch base via skype or phone at least once following Learning Session II. These check-ins may be individual or small group.
- **Applied Learning**
[February/March/April/May](#)
 During this timeframe, each Institute participant will observe/co-teach one session with their Mentor and will teach four sessions on their own, two in a memory care setting and two in an active older adult setting. The Institute coordinator will work with each participant individually to schedule their teaching opportunities.
- **Learning Session III: Greater Phoenix (exact location TBD)**
[May TBD](#)
 At the final learning session, Institute participants will share what they have learned with the peers and reflect on their overall experience.

Facilitators, presenters, and mentors include: [Melita Belgrave](#), [Trisha Burroughs](#), [Ashley Hare](#), [Kirsten Jacobs](#), [Elizabeth Johnson](#), [Liz Lerman](#), [Jorge Merced](#), Heather Mulder, [Harper Piver](#), [Angelina Ramirez](#), [Toni Robinson](#), [Tessa Windt](#), [ARTabilityAZ](#)

**Schedule, meeting start/end times, and facilitators/presenters are subject to change.*

**An honorarium will be available to assist participants traveling from outside of Maricopa County to attend the in-person learning sessions.*

APPLICATION PROCESS AND GUIDELINES

Eligibility

The call for applications is open to all teaching artists residing in Arizona and working in any arts discipline, including craft, folk, and traditional art. Prior experience working with older adult populations is not a requirement.

In order to participate in the AZ Creative Aging Teaching Artist Institute, participants must commit to the full Institute (Training, Mentorship and Applied Learning) as outlined in this call. After you have submitted an application, please be sure to set aside predetermined dates required for participation.

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of teaching artists, aging service partners and Arts Commission staff. The panel will seek a balance of arts disciplines, gender, and geography within the participant cohort. Up to 10 participants will be selected.

Teaching artists who will be successful in this training have prior teaching experience of some kind, a strong desire to work with older adults, an interest in learning about the aging field and new approaches to their teaching artistry, mastery of their own art form, an empathetic approach, a desire to be part of a peer network, and an ability to commit to the full Institute schedule.

How to Apply

All applications must be submitted online through Submittable, an online submission platform, by the deadline: **11:59 PM, Thursday, September 14, 2017**. The application submission link is <https://azarts.submittable.com/submit/272d77f0-11e3-4355-9a5b-4642e5b7e96f/2017-2018-az-creative-aging-teaching-artist-institute-application>. For more information about using Submittable, see the FAQ on page 6.

The application consists of the following sections: **[1] Profile, [2] Overview, [3] Application Narrative, [4] Personal Introduction Video, [5] Artistic Resume or CV, and [6] Artistic Work Sample**. Incomplete applications or applications which do not follow all published guidelines will be ineligible for review.

[1] Profile

Information provided here, with the exception of name and city of residence, will be used for reporting purposes only and will not be made available to the review panel.

[2] Overview

Information provided here will be used for evaluation and planning purposes.

[3] Application Narrative

Respond to the following questions in the online application.

1. Briefly describe your experience as a teaching artist. (400 word limit)
2. Why are you applying for this training program? (350 word limit)
3. How do you plan to put this training experience to use in your teaching artist career? (350 word limit)
4. How do you artistically engage with older adults? (350 word limit)
5. What are the biggest challenges you feel you face working with older adults? (350 word limit)
6. What kinds of arts experiences do you feel are most beneficial to older adults and why? (350 word limit)

[4] Personal Introduction Video

Submit a video, no longer than two minutes in duration, responding to the following question:

1. What do you hope to learn or accomplish as a participant in the AZ Creative Aging Teaching Artist Institute?

This video is a way for the review panel to learn about you more personally and interactively. Videos can be taken on a phone, computer, or any other easily accessible device, and can be very informal. Please be sure to include your name in your response. Submit your personal introduction video in one of the following ways:

- Option 1 - Upload the work sample file(s) directly to this section in the online form.
- Option 2 - Provide a URL to view the video on a web page or video sharing site such as YouTube or Vimeo. If providing a URL, save the link in a Word or PDF document and upload the document to this section of the online form. The provided web address must lead directly to the page with the work sample being submitted.

[5] Artistic Resume or CV

Upload your Artistic Resume or CV in this section of the online form as a Word (.doc or .docx) or PDF file.

[6] Artistic Work Sample

Provide one sample of your individual artistic work. Do not submit a sample of your teaching work or enhanced promotional materials.

If submitting audio or video, the work sample should be no more than two (2) minutes in length; if submitting digital images, submit no more than four (4) images; if submitting written work, submit no more than five (5) pages.

Complete the work sample description section of the online form and submit your work sample in one of the following ways:

- Option 1 - Upload the work sample file(s) directly to this section in the online form.
- Option 2 - Provide a URL to view the work sample on an existing web page. If providing a URL, save the link in a Word or PDF document and upload the document to this section of the online form. The provided web address must lead directly to the page with the work sample being submitted.

Submitting the Online Application

Once you have completed all sections of the online application and uploaded all application materials, submit your application by **11:59 PM, Thursday, September 14, 2017**. Applicants are solely responsible for ensuring their application is complete before submitting. **After an application has been submitted, no changes can be made.** Once your application is submitted, you will receive a follow-up email confirming the application has been received. This email does not validate that the submitted application is complete or eligible for review, only that it has been received by the online system. Applicants will be notified of their application status on, or after, September 25, 2017.

To allow for uniform review of applications, the Arts Commission will only accept applications to the Teaching Artist Institute submitted via Submittable. If a teaching artist is unable to apply to the Teaching Artist Institute through Submittable as the result of an accessibility issue, the Arts Commission will make reasonable accommodations, provided the request is submitted by 4:59 PM, Thursday, August 31, 2017.

To make a request, contact Lies' Hill at lhill@azarts.gov, 602-771-6523.

SUBMITTABLE FAQ

Q1: I have never used Submittable before. Do I need a user account?

A1: Yes. When you first go to the application submission page (<https://azarts.submittable.com/submit/990d098f-c146-4520-afde-11529c498af7>) you will be prompted to create your user account. Once you enter and submit your user account information, you will be directed to the online application page. Submittable will send you a confirmation email. Follow the instructions in the confirmation email and you will then be able to sign into Submittable and complete your online application.

Q2: I have already made a Submittable account, do I need to make a new account in order to apply?

A2: No, you can use your current Submittable account. When you go to the application submission page you will see a link that says "If you already have a Submittable account, click here to sign in now." Click that link to enter your username and password. Once you sign in, you will be directed to the online application page. *Please Note: If you are using a pre-existing Submittable account, make sure your contact information in Submittable is up-to-date. Notifications will be made using this contact information.*

Q3: Can I save a draft of my online application?

A3: Yes, you can save a draft of your online application and return to your application at a later time. Click the "Save Draft" button at the bottom of the application page. When you return to the application submission page, follow the instructions under Question 2 above. Once you sign you, you will be directed to your saved application.

Q4: How do I submit an online application?

A4: Once your application is complete, click the “Apply Now” button at the bottom of the application page. Once applications are submitted they cannot be edited or changed.

One of 56 state and jurisdictional arts agencies across the United States, the **Arizona Commission on the Arts** is a 49-year-old agency of the State of Arizona and a leading force in the creative and professional development of Arizona’s arts sector. Through robust programs, research initiatives and strategic grantmaking, the Arts Commission catalyzes arts-based partnerships that strengthen Arizona communities through the arts.

We imagine an Arizona where everyone can participate in and experience the arts.

For more information, contact us at (602) 771-6501 or email info@azarts.gov or visit www.azarts.gov. To request this or any other publication in an alternate format, contact the Arts Commission offices. *An equal employment opportunity agency.*

