



Howard County Arts Council **Frequently Asked Questions**

FAQ's

Q. What do HCAC and HCCA stand for?

A. HCAC stands for Howard County Arts Council and HCCA stands for Howard County Center for the Arts. HCAC oversees HCCA, though neither should be confused as being a part of the Howard County Government.

Q. Is HCAC an agency of the Howard County Government?

A. No. The Arts Council is a private non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization governed by a 21-member Board of Directors, which is made up of community volunteers. Although the Arts Council receives funding from both Howard County and the State of Maryland, it is not part of any county or state agency.

Q. Are you a part of the Columbia Association, Columbia Art Center or the Columbia Festival of the Arts?

A. No. They are separate organizations with their own missions, programs, and services.

Q: Do you offer a grant program for individual artists?

A: At this time, the Arts Council offers a grant program for individual choreographers only, The Mark Ryder Original Choreography Grant program, which was established at the bequest of his family. For individual artist grant opportunities in other disciplines, check out the Maryland State Arts Council's website at www.msac.org. MSAC offers grants for different disciplines on a yearly rotating basis.

The Arts Council also sponsors the Rising Star Emerging Performing Artist Award Competition. The award process is modeled after our grant programs, with the final award decision made by popular vote at the annual *Celebration of the Arts in Howard County* gala.

Q: Do you offer classes at the Howard County Center for the Arts?

A: Yes, the Arts Council offers class sessions in the Fall, Winter and Spring for adults and children ages 6 and up. In the summer, we hold Summer Camps for children ages 4-14. At this time, we do not have the facilities or equipment to offer photography darkroom or ceramics courses.

FAQ's continued

Several of our resident artists and freelance artists also teach classes, lessons, and workshops in both visual and performing arts.

Q: Do you have rental space available at the Howard County Center for the Arts?

A: Yes. The HCCA has classroom, meeting, performance and rehearsal space available for arts-related activities.

Q: I have a program I'd like the HCAC to sponsor. Will you?

A: The Arts Council rarely sponsors unsolicited programs, activities or events proposed by individuals or groups. Instead, we offer grants and affordable rental space to enable individuals and groups to create or expand their own programs.

Q: Do you have studio space available?

A: From time to time, studios become available at the Howard County Center for the Arts. Currently, we do not have studio space available, however. We encourage you to submit an application if you wish to be on the waiting list for consideration when space does become available.