



Request for Proposals

Howard County Arts Council (HCAC) is seeking artists to conduct residencies in the Ellicott City Head Start Center during the 2011-2012 school year.

Program Background

In FY2000, the Howard County Arts Council developed a partnership with the Ellicott City Head Start Center to establish an artist in residence program for children, ages 3-5, who are enrolled in Head Start. This partnership, *Head StART in ART*, provides the children with an in-depth, hands-on artistic experience they might otherwise never have and ensures them access to the arts. Many are introduced to the arts for the first time and experience the joy and wonder that artistic expression can awaken. The opportunity for such an experience during these formative years can have a key impact on the children's future appreciation of and involvement in the arts.

The federally funded Head Start Program has been helping low-income families and pre-school children across the country since 1965. The mission of the Ellicott City Head Start Program is to bring together like-minded individuals who are capable of creating an integrated, comprehensive organization with systems that support positive child and family development in Howard County. They offer pre-school programs for 3, 4, and 5 year-old children from low-income families to provide them with a stimulating and educational experience in a group setting. This worthwhile program gives these children a "head start" towards a successful future.

The goal of the Head StART in ART program is to engage young children in developmentally appropriate hands-on arts activities that are designed to support early childhood curriculum and develop core life, social and learning skills. Through generous funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Horizon Foundation, this year's program will be expanded to a full year and include 6-8 artists of different disciplines, offering a wide variety of new experiences for the children of the Ellicott City Head Start Center.

Program Description

All activities take place in the building shared by the two organizations. The Howard County Arts Council coordinates, administers, and funds the project. HCAC begins by selecting an artist who is experienced in conducting school residency programs, particularly for young children, and then works closely with the artist and the Head Start staff to create a thematic program that is both enriching and developmentally appropriate. The children work with the artist and create something that they, and their parents and teachers, can be proud of.

Information

Classes: The exact number of students in the program is fluid, not only year-to-year but also within the school year. The following numbers are presented to give performers an idea of group sizes. For the 2010-2011 school year, there were 6 classes in the Head Start program, with a maximum of 25 students per class.

Hours: Head Start is currently a half-day program that begins at 10AM and ends at 2PM with a half-hour break from 12-12:30PM for lunch.

Flexibility: Individual classes may be combined, depending on enrollment totals for each classroom.

Requirements

- Selected artists must have experience working with children, pre-K experience preferred.
- The residency will involve all the children (class by class) in the activities, not just a select group. The number of students may range from 80-120.
- The residency will be geared toward pre-school age (3-5 year old) children.
- The performing artist residency will conclude with performances by the Head Start children (in our black box theatre). The residency will not require an assembly by the performer.
- The visual artist residency will conclude with a finished art project for display at the Head Start Center.

HOWARD COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL
In Partnership with the
ELLCOTT CITY HEAD START CENTER

HEAD START IN ART
Visual and Performing Artists-in-Residence Program

2011-2012 Artist Proposal

Please return the completed form **no later than August 17, 2011** to Howard County Arts Council, 8510 High Ridge Road, Ellicott City, MD 21043. If you have any questions, please call Dan Vellucci at 410-313-2787 or e-mail grantsandprojects@hocoarts.org.

Name of Artist/Group: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Organization (if applicable): _____

Contact Mailing Address: _____

Contact Telephone: _____ Contact Fax: _____

Contact E-mail: _____

Discipline/Media: _____

Number of Days Required for Residency: _____

Availability for 2011-2012 School Year: _____

Fee Structure: _____

Brief Description of Residency (please do not exceed the space provided): **Please include the Perceived Outcomes and Goals as related to ELO's.**

Please attach a resume (highlighting residency experience), 3 references, sample(s) of student work in previously completed residencies/workshops, and a syllabus or lesson plan (including a materials list) for the proposed residency.