THE PROJECT

Since 1984, the Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program has worked with some of the state’s finest master folk artists to keep Missouri’s artistic heritage alive and well. The Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program funds teams of master artists and apprentices who are committed to sustaining their artistic traditions and cultural heritage. Priority is given to teams who share the same cultural community. Priority is also given to living art forms with few remaining practitioners. The Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program seeks new applicants each year to better represent the spectrum of cultural communities across the state.

Missouri’s Traditional Apprenticeship Program (TAAP), funded by the National Endowment for the Arts since inception, is coordinated by the Missouri Folk Arts Program with support from the Missouri Arts Council, a division of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, and the Museum of Art and Archaeology at the University of Missouri.
KEY DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please read carefully before filling out the application.

I. KEY DEFINITIONS

Traditional arts: Also called folk arts, traditional arts are learned and passed on to the next generation informally by word of mouth, imitation and observation within cultural communities (family, ethnic, regional, religious, or occupational groups) rather than in formal academic settings. Traditional arts encompass many forms including crafts, music, dance, verbal arts and foodways.

Cultural community: A group sharing cultural, regional, ethnic, racial, religious, gender, age, and/or occupational bonds. Such groups share customs, heritage, and artistic expressions, which include the traditional arts.

Master artists: A traditional artist who is regarded by his or her cultural community and peers as a highly skilled and knowledgeable practitioner of that groups’ traditional arts.

Apprentice: An apprentice possesses intermediate experience in the tradition (or a related art form), a strong desire to advance knowledge and skills in the art form, and commitment to its continuity.

II. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. The master artist and apprentice must complete the attached application form. SECTION B is for the master artist, SECTION C is for the apprentice, and SECTION D is for both master artist and apprentice. Design the work plan to occur between October 1, 2020 and May 30, 2021.

2. Both master artist and apprentice must submit work samples with the three-part application, or the application is incomplete. Beginning in 2020, panelists will review all materials online. Contact the Folk Arts Specialist to coordinate delivery via online storage, email, or postal service.

Please note the requirements for work samples.

- Visual Art/Crafts teams should provide FIVE digital images each (JPEG format) with brief descriptions. Artists may submit prints on photo paper by mail.
- Music/Storytelling teams should provide up to FIVE minutes each of audio recording (in common formats like mp3, wav, or mpeg4). Links to video from YouTube or Vimeo are acceptable. All recording descriptions should include time cues for reviewers.
- Dance teams should provide up to FIVE minutes of video recordings each (in common formats like mp4, mov, or mpeg4). Links to video from YouTube or Vimeo are acceptable. All recording descriptions should include time cues for reviewers.

III. APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

Applicants should contact Folk Arts Specialist Deb Bailey to discuss their proposals, work samples, and questions. Bailey is available through July 23, 2020 to advise teams as they draft applications, and then to help coordinate delivery of materials through the August 10, 2020 deadline.

Call (573) 882-3653 or email at baileyda@missouri.edu

IV. ELIGIBILITY AND REVIEW CRITERIA

- The art to be learned must be a traditional art as defined in this application.
- The apprentice must be a resident of Missouri.
- The master artist must demonstrate artistic excellence, cultural knowledge and teaching ability.
- The apprentice must demonstrate intermediate experience and commitment.
- The budget and study plan should be appropriate to the project and the traditional art form.
- Priority is given to masters and apprentices who share cultural communities.
- Priority is given to living traditional art forms with few practitioners left in the local community.

NOTE: Panelists also apply a criteria called “program needs” to ensure that a spectrum of traditional art forms, cultural communities, as well as new and repeat master artists are represented in the final selection of applicants.

V. REVIEW PANEL AND NOTIFICATION

A rotating independent panel of traditional arts specialists convenes to review applications and choose apprenticeship teams. A letter or email informing the master artists of the panel’s decision will be delivered in late September 2020.

NOTE: Only one application per master artist will be accepted. The master artist may teach more than one apprentice.
MASTER ARTIST APPLICATION

I. Name of Master Artist ______________________________________________________________________________________

FIRST MI LAST

Mailing address __________________________________________________ City ____________________________

Zip Code ________________________ County ____________________________ Birthplace _____________________________

Phone numbers/email _________________________________________________________________________________________

PLEASE REFER TO THE KEY DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (SECTION A) WHILE ANSWERING QUESTIONS.

II. PLEASE TYPE OR NEATLY PRINT YOUR ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ON SEPARATE PAGES, NOT IN THE SPACES BELOW.

1. Describe the traditional art form you wish to teach.

2. What are your background and experiences in this traditional art form? When did you start and how long have you been practicing your traditional art?

3. How, when, and where did you learn this traditional art? Who are the people you observed, imitated, and interacted with? Who influenced you in this traditional art form?

4. What is the role and importance of this traditional art in your cultural community? Who else participates with you and/or comes to listen or watch you?

5. Have you ever taught and/or helped someone learn this traditional art? If so, describe the circumstances.

6. How long have you known your apprentice? Have you worked together previously on this traditional art?

7. Why do you wish to work with this particular apprentice in the apprenticeship program?

III. I am willing to take _________________________________ as an apprentice as described in the work plan of this application. I will allow this apprenticeship to be documented by the Missouri Folk Arts Program via audio/video recording and photographs for the purposes of encouraging and sustaining Missouri’s traditional arts.

Signed ____________________________________________ Date ____________________________
APPRENTICE APPLICATION

I. Name of Apprentice ________________________________________________________________________________________

FIRST MI LAST

Mailing address __________________________________________ City _______________________________________

Zip Code ________________________ County ____________________________ Birthplace ____________________________

Phone numbers/email _________________________________________________________________________________________

PLEASE REFER TO THE KEY DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (SECTION A) WHILE ANSWERING QUESTIONS.

II. PLEASE TYPE OR NEATLY PRINT YOUR ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ON SEPARATE PAGES, NOT IN THE SPACES BELOW.

1. Describe the traditional art form you wish to learn.

2. How, when, and where did you start to learn this traditional art form? Who are the people you observed, imitated, and interacted with? Who influenced you in this traditional art form?

3. How long have you been practicing your traditional art? How much skill do you presently have in this traditional art?

4. What is the role and importance of this traditional art in your cultural community? Who else participates with you and/or comes to listen or watch you?

5. Why have you chosen to work with this master artist? What do you hope to accomplish?

6. What are your plans for working with this traditional art form after the apprenticeship is finished?

7. What cultural communities do you share with the master artist? Some possibilities might include, but aren’t limited to, family, geographic region, ethnic group, neighborhood, social club, racial group, town, occupation, and religion.

III. I am willing to work as an apprentice with master artist __________________________________________ as described in this application. I will allow this apprenticeship to be documented by the Missouri Folk Arts Program via audio/video recording and photographs for the purposes of encouraging and sustaining Missouri’s traditional arts.

Signed _____________________________________________________________________ Date ___________________________

NOTE: If the apprentice is under the age of 17, a parent’s signature is required.

Parent’s signature __________________________________________ Date ___________________________
PROPOSED PLAN AND BUDGET

I. APPRENTICESHIP WORK PLAN

PLEASE TYPE OR NEATLY PRINT YOUR ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS 1-4 ON SEPARATE PAGES, NOT IN THE SPACES BELOW.

1. Describe exactly what will be taught during the course of the apprenticeship. What do you want the apprentice to know about this traditional art?

2. What specific skills and/or techniques do you want the apprentice to learn?

3. What goals do you want the apprentice to meet (tunes learned, objects made, techniques practiced)? Be specific.

4. Number of Meetings? ______  Length of Meetings? ______  Meeting Place? ____________________________

II. APPRENTICESHIP BUDGET

Please read carefully: We are able to provide SOME funds for ESSENTIAL apprenticeship supplies, materials, backup musicians, and limited mileage reimbursement. Mileage may be reimbursed to master artists or apprentices at .40 cents per mile starting AFTER 60 MILES OF TRAVEL ROUND TRIP PER TRIP. Requests for supplies or mileage funds are limited to apprenticeship related expenses ONLY. Contact Deb Bailey, Folk Arts Specialist (573) 882-3653 with any questions BEFORE submitting your application budget.

Budget:

a. Master artist's honorarium (fixed amount)................................................................. $2,750.00

b. Materials and miscellaneous expenses:
   (Be specific and list supplies, materials, backup musicians, and costs etc.)......... $_______

c. Mileage: (exceeding 60 miles round trip per trip @ .40 cents/mile)

   - 60 =
   
   round trip reimbursable
   miles per trip miles per trip

   x ________ x .40 = ..................................................................................................... $_______
   reimbursable total # of trips
   miles per trip

d. Total request (add a, b, and c) .................................................................................. $_______

e. List any specific supplies, materials, or expenses to be donated (optional) .............. $_______