New Artist Roster – Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between the Arts Directory and the Teaching Artist Certification?
Artists and Teaching Artists are not one and the same. While many artists are exceptional teaching artists, many do not have an interest in teaching – and both of those are just fine! The Arts Directory serves as a digital directory for individual artists and arts organizations. The Teaching Artist Certification serves to identify and certify Teaching Artists. For the sake of S.C. Arts Commission Arts in Education grants (ABC Advancement, Arts Education Partnerships, and Teacher Standards Implementation), members of the Arts Directory can offer group lectures, demonstrations, and performances. Additionally, certified teaching artists can offer classroom residencies and short-term classroom arts teaching for SCAC grant recipients.

Why did you replace the Roster of Approved Artists?
In 2016, the S.C. Arts Commission facilitated an extensive survey of artists, teaching artists, arts organizations, and schools who utilize the Roster of Approved Artists. The areas identified as benefits were marketing/networking and the prestige/quality of a juried process. But with no real mechanism for ensuring teaching quality and with no reapplication process, the Roster became outdated and needed to be revisited.

Will the panels for the Arts Directory and Teaching Artist Certification be the same?
No. These will be two different panels, both with top quality panelists who represent various arts areas and geographic regions. Both panels will take place in January – exact dates will be forthcoming.

Will current Roster artists be grandfathered into the new system?
Current Roster artists will be granted courtesy extensions into the new Arts Directory for one cycle (three years), but still must apply. These artists will **not** be required to submit resumes, work samples, or letters of support for **this** year's application. After the one cycle courtesy extension, all current Roster artists will be expected to submit a full application. Roster artists will not be "grandfathered" into the Teaching Artist Certification.

When will grantees have to begin using members of the Arts Directory and Certified Teaching Artists?
The first round of Arts in Education grants that will fully implement the new system will be fiscal year 2021. Guidelines for these grants will be published in the fall of 2019, deadlines will be in January 2020, and the fiscal year will begin in July 2020.

Do SC Department of Education grants require the use of members of the Arts Directory or certified Teaching Artists?
It is not required, but you are strongly encouraged to use members of the Arts Directory or Certified Teaching Artists for SC Department of Education Arts Curricular Innovation grants, which include the Innovative Arts Works grant and the Distinguished Arts Programs grant.

Do ABC sites have to use the new system?
Yes. Starting in fiscal year 2021, recipients of all S.C. Arts Commission Arts in Education grants (ABC Advancement, Arts Education Partnerships, and Teacher Standards Implementation) must use Arts Directory members or Certified Teaching Artists for expenses aligned with these entities.

What kind of professional learning opportunities will be available for members of the Arts Directory and Certified Teaching Artists?
Digital and in-person learning opportunities will be offered regularly. Examples of digital learning may include *How to Build a Website* and examples of in-person learning opportunities may include *Collaborative Planning*.

Do I have to be a South Carolina resident to be a member of the Arts Directory or a Certified Teaching Artist?
No. While you will not be connected to the Google map, artists and teaching artists outside of South Carolina may apply for both the Arts Directory and to become a Certified Teaching Artist. We are working on a reciprocity system for states that have a similar comprehensive program – stay tuned!

What does the "accessibility" tag mean?
This tag will identify artists and arts organizations who are qualified to work with distinct populations. Examples of this could include (but are not limited to): elderly populations, students with autism, students with physical challenges, etc. A comprehensive list of accessibility tags will be forthcoming.

What are the different tags, and can I apply for the Arts Directory under multiple art forms?
A comprehensive list of tags will be forthcoming. Any applicant can apply for membership on the Arts Directory in multiple categories.

What does renewal look like for the Arts Directory and the Teaching Artist Certification?
Details of recertification will be forthcoming but will include participation in digital and in-person professional learning.

What about the current Roster?
The timeline for this transition is posted on the S.C. Arts Commission's website. Until the new system is published, the current Roster will exist as a PDF on our website.

I have more questions – who should I contact?
All questions regarding this transition can be emailed to Arts Education Director Ashley Brown, cabrown@arts.sc.gov.