

2012-2015 MICHIGAN ARTS & HUMANITIES

Touring Directory

A P P L I C A T I O N



ENRICHING COMMUNITIES, CULTIVATING IMAGINATIONS

Share Your Talents



DEAR FRIENDS & COLLEAGUES,

Now is the time to begin preparing your application for the 2012–2015 Arts & Humanities Touring Directory. This unique directory represents a partnership between the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Humanities Council. The goal is to connect communities, schools and nonprofits with Michigan’s rich array of talented performers, teaching artists and historians. Whether you excel in the visual or performing arts, storytelling, history, travelling exhibits, folk arts and crafts, or you are a tradition bearer, published poet, author or songwriter and have experience engaging audiences of all ages, we encourage you to apply!

How does the Touring Program work? Interested performers complete the application either online or they can request that a form be mailed to them. The applications and required documentation must be submitted by **December 1, 2011**. Adjudicators comprised of scholars and educators from around the state will review the applications in **January 2012**, taking into consideration expertise, talent, experience, cultural sensitivity and historical accuracy, as well as the ability of the performers to entertain and engage audiences.

Applicants will be notified by **May 15, 2012** as to whether they have been selected for inclusion in the 2012–2015 Touring Directory. The new directory will be available online in **August 2012**, prior to the availability of the September 2012 grant applications and awards. These grant awards assist Michigan nonprofits with Touring Directory performer fees. Printed copies of the Touring Directory will be available upon request once the directory is posted online.

Please make sure you take extra steps to ensure your video, sound track, photo and brief description are professionally prepared and serve as effective marketing tools for showcasing your talent and expertise. Being included in the Touring Directory can be a substantial source of ongoing revenue if your presentation materials are well done and you have developed a professional track record.

We welcome your questions and suggestions regarding the application process. Please call the Michigan Humanities Council office (517-372-7770) or email contact@mihumanities.org if you need assistance. Also, if you know of others who would be great candidates for this program, please help spread the word!

Our best,

A handwritten signature in dark brown ink, appearing to read "John Bracey".

John Bracey
Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts
and Cultural Affairs

A handwritten signature in dark brown ink, appearing to read "Katie Wolf".

Katie Wolf
Executive Director
Michigan Humanities Council

If you are not currently receiving our monthly e-newsletter, *Michigan Stories*, as well as our e-calendar, *Happenings*, please subscribe by visiting our website at www.michiganhumanities.org. Each month we feature people, places, events and programs that we help fund or feature in the Michigan Arts & Humanities Touring Directory, as well as provide notices of upcoming grant opportunities.



Information

KEY DATES

December 1, 2011	Applications due (postmarked) to the Michigan Humanities Council
January 2012	Adjudication process
May 15, 2012	Touring Directory performers announced
June 15, 2012	Proofs for Touring Directory listings must be signed and returned to Michigan Humanities Council
August 2012	New 2012–2015 Touring Directory available online
September 2012	Touring Directory Grant Applications available

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Michigan residents—individuals or groups—who have a high level of mastery in the arts and humanities and a demonstrated ability to engage audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

Students or student groups are not eligible.

Participants selected for the Touring Directory must have the ability to tour and present to communities throughout **all** of Michigan. Those with equipment and exhibits that require shipping must have security, crating, travel and insurance arrangements in place.

APPLICANT CATEGORIES

- I. Visual Artists
- II. Gallery & Museum Exhibits
- III. Performing Artists (Musicians, Theater & Dance Groups or Individuals)
- IV. Storytellers, Historical Re-enactors, Historians
- V. Writers (Authors, Poets & Journalists)
- VI. Tradition Bearers & Folk Artists

APPLICANT FEE

An \$80 non-refundable application fee is required to help cover the adjudication process and publicizing of the Touring Directory. Checks, money orders and Visa/MasterCard credit cards are accepted. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the **Michigan Humanities Council**. *Please do not send cash payments.*

APPLICATION MAILING ADDRESS

Arts & Humanities Touring Program
Michigan Humanities Council
119 Pere Marquette Drive, Suite 3B
Lansing, MI 48912-1270.

CHECKLIST OF APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Completed 2012–2015 original application **plus** three (3) copies.
- \$80 non-refundable application fee.
- Proof of Michigan residency (i.e., copy of *current* driver's license, Michigan ID or voter registration card.)
- DVD (10-minute portion) of a recent performance, class or session that highlights your artistic abilities, art or craft,

and/or expertise as well as interaction with audiences or students; for visual artists, museums or galleries that are submitting an exhibit for consideration, a minimum of three (3) photos can be substituted for, or along with, a DVD.

- Black & white or color 5" x 7" vertical photograph (digital image) of professional quality for use online in the directory listing and in printed materials. The photograph should be provided as a high resolution (300 DPI) digital image saved as a JPG or EPS file.
- Publicity materials: provide four (4) sets of materials, maximum 10 items per set.
- Biography that includes experience, education, training, awards, publications and any other credentials relevant to your professional arts and humanities background.

Incomplete applications are ineligible for adjudication so please make sure you double check your application packet for completeness before mailing it.

ADJUDICATION

Panels of scholars and experts from humanities and arts disciplines evaluate application packets and make recommendations to the Michigan Humanities Council for inclusion in the directory. Each performer must score in the 80th percentile or above to be listed in the directory.

All decisions are final; there is no appeal process.

Notification of adjudication results will be mailed by May 15, 2012. If accepted, applicants will receive a proof for their 2012–2015 Touring Directory entry for approval. The proof must be signed, returned and postmarked by June 15, 2012. Only those who return the signed proof sheet will be listed in the directory. All responses must be in writing; no telephone or email confirmations please.

GENERAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

Preference is given to applicants that incorporate both the arts and humanities in their performance, program, work or exhibit and foster a greater understanding of Michigan's cultural heritage.

- Overall quality
- Quality of content
- Technique
- Significance (artistic and/or historic depending on the discipline)
- Style
- Audience appeal
- Cultural sensitivity
- Originality and uniqueness
- Creativity
- Authenticity
- Articulation/projection/presence
- Technical quality of performance, presentation or work(s)
- Quality of application materials
- Feedback from references

IMPORTANT NOTE TO APPLICANTS

It is to your advantage to provide the best possible representation of your talent and skills on your DVD. If the sound quality is not to your standards, you may also send a supplemental CD. DVDs and CDs become the property of the Michigan Humanities Council for the sole purpose of promoting the Arts & Humanities Touring Program.

How many years have you been performing, presenting or exhibiting? _____

How many performances in the last 12 months were in Michigan? _____

How many times during the past 12 months have you presented, performed or shown your exhibition(s) outside a 50-mile radius of your home base? _____

If applicable, how many engagements in the past 12 months do you attribute to being listed in the 2009–2012 *Arts & Humanities Touring Directory*? _____

REFERENCES

List the last three *Michigan* sites where you performed, presented or exhibited. Adjudicators will be contacting the references. If an adjudicator is unable to reach contact persons provided, it could affect your overall rating and whether you or your group is included in the directory.

Contact Person/Organization 1

Street Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone (Day)

Telephone (Evening)

Fax

E-mail

Contact Person/Organization 2

Street Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone (Day)

Telephone (Evening)

Fax

E-mail

Contact Person/Organization 3

Street Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone (Day)

Telephone (Evening)

Fax

E-mail

HISTORY OF FUNDING SUPPORT

Have you or are you currently receiving funding from the Michigan Humanities Council, the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs, or other agencies for arts and/or humanities? Yes No

If yes, give details.

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that all statements in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that all questions must be answered so that the Arts & Humanities Touring Program can properly evaluate the application. Submission of this application signifies intention to comply with all general and specific guidelines of the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Humanities Council, restrictions imposed by the Councils, and where applicable, the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Name (type your name)

Title

Signature

Date

APPLICATION FEE \$80

Check/Money Order Visa/MasterCard

Name as it appears on Credit Card

Card Number

Expiration Date

Card Holder's Signature

Mail to:

Arts & Humanities Touring Program
Michigan Humanities Council,
119 Pere Marquette Drive, Suite 3B
Lansing, MI 48912-1270.

PLEASE NOTE: Before mailing, please review the checklist provided on page 3 and make sure you are sending a complete packet of information that includes one original and 3 copies of the application.

Thank you for submitting your application and supporting the Michigan Arts & Humanities Touring Program!

Glossary



Articulation/Presence: Vocal expression; the quality of self-assurance and effectiveness that permits a performer to achieve a rapport with the audience.

Articulation/Projection: Vocal expression, utterance or enunciation; control of the volume, clarity, and distinctness of a voice to gain greater audibility.

Artistic Significance: Showing imagination, skill and sensitivity to art and its influence.

Audience Appeal: The degree of interest or attraction for a performer or performance by the assembled spectators.

Authenticity: The quality or condition of being authentic, real, trustworthy or genuine.

Creativity: Extent to which new ideas, forms, methods, interpretations, etc., are used.

Historical Re-enactor: First-person historical portrayals by trained humanities professional.

Historic Significance: The impact historic events, people and places have had on people and society as a whole.

Humanities: The degree that the disciplines concerned with human thought, history and culture are included in the performance or presentation.

Originality: Fresh and unusual.

Presentation Format of Work(s): The formal presentation or general appearance of the style and arrangement of the artist's work.

Presentation Style: The way something is formally presented through spoken word, action, expression or performance.

Quality of Application Materials: The degree of excellence demonstrated in the form and presentation of materials submitted for inclusion in the directory.

Quality of Content and Subject: The degree of mastery demonstrated in a subject matter or art form as reflected in the performance and/or submitted work(s) of art.

Quality of Performance: Having a high degree of excellence in the act or style of performing a work or role before an audience.

Storyteller: A person skilled in telling meaningful stories by voice, gesture, and story.

Style: The unique way or manner of expressing oneself and/or his or her work or subject matter.

Technical Quality of Performance: The proficiency and degree of excellence in the act or style of performing a work or role before an audience.

Technical Quality of Presentation: The proficiency and degree of excellence in the act of formally presenting something before an audience.

Technical Quality of Work(s): The degree of excellence in the technique or proficiency of the artist's practical skill of doing, making, or performing.

Technique: The way in which the fundamentals, as of an artistic work, are handled.

Tradition Bearers: Those who practice the living traditional arts, skills and expressions of everyday life, learned from older community members of a particular ethnicity, region, neighborhood, religion or family. They pass on from person to person the music, dance, traditional arts, healing arts, foodways, games, stories, cultural heritage and other forms of expression that ensure continuity for the group as a whole.

Uniqueness of Approach: The quality of being one of a kind in the chosen method used in presenting.

Presented by



119 Pere Marquette Drive, Suite 3B
Lansing, MI 48912-1270
T: 517-372-7770 • F: 517-372-0027
Email: contact@mihumanities.org
www.michiganhumanities.org

The Michigan Humanities Council connects people, communities, students and scholars by supporting high-quality cultural experiences. As Michigan's nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Michigan Humanities Council strives to build a greater understanding of Michigan's rich cultural heritage, and each other, through special programs and grants to community nonprofits. Since 1974, millions of Michiganians have participated in live school performances, family reading programs, national touring exhibits hosted by local libraries and museums, book and film discussions, author tours, and community conversations with scholars on timely and historical topics.



300 North Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913
T: 517-241-4011 • F: 517-241-3979
www.michiganadvantage.org/arts

The Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs serves to encourage, develop and facilitate an enriched environment of artistic, creative and cultural activity in Michigan. It is Michigan's affiliate of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs was created in 1991 by Executive Order as the state agency that administers arts and cultural grants appropriations, sets arts and cultural goals, and establishes and facilitates communication networks.

