

Arts for All Summary Report

Information about the Applicant

Founded in 1985 as Very Special Arts Wisconsin, the mission of ARTS for ALL Wisconsin (AFA) is to expand the capabilities, confidence, and quality of life for children and adults with disabilities by providing programs in the arts. We believe that experiences in the arts are a universal language that challenge people to respond to the world, look beyond themselves, and celebrate diversity by building bridges between people, across cultures, and through generations. The arts also enhance personal growth, promote acceptance and inclusion, increase educational achievement, and enable career success. AFA historically serves thousands of people each year through statewide programs focused on creative expression and opportunities for personal, academic, and professional success. Those served include people across the age spectrum and across all disability categories.

Statement of Need

In the coming year we will have five choirs: Appleton, Eau Claire, Madison, Milwaukee, and Wisconsin Rapids. We are also working to re-open the Oshkosh Choir and start a new choir in Green Bay. In the 2021-22 season we 81 active choir members, with over 70 eligible for Wispact funds. We anticipate more than 100 choir members in the coming 2022-23 year with the majority qualifying for Wispact funding. Fees for participation in Arts Classes and Choirs are nominal and cover about a third of the program costs. Funding for Arts Classes comes from various sources, including state funding, private foundations, corporate support, and individual donors.

Project Goals and Expected Benefits

Our goals for our Arts Classes in Madison and statewide Choir programs focus on provide accessible opportunities in the arts that contribute to a sense of well-being, fulfillment, and accomplishment, and create opportunities to develop independent living or personal skills as appropriate to each individual. These goals may include sensory awareness and integration, attention or memory skills, fine or gross motor skills, listening and responding, career-building skills could lead to income, good work habits, building self-esteem, increasing self-awareness and regulation, developing social skills, offering opportunities for engagement and group participation, promoting critical or creative thinking, and encouraging personal expression and enjoyment.

Project Implementation Plan

All AFA programs are organized using an online registration system that collects information about participants, including self-reported data on disability, age, gender identity, race, location, and whether they are recipients of Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, SSI or Medicaid based on disability, or participants in the Children's Long- Term Support Waiver, Family Care, IRIS or Partnership programs. Fees for participation in Arts Classes and Choirs are nominal and cover about a third of the program costs. Funding for Arts Classes comes from various sources, including state funding, private foundations, corporate support, and individual donors. Full information on income sources can be found in the attached budget. Because of the specific population of adults with disabilities that we serve through these programs and the goals of the Wispact Foundation, especially concerning inclusive educational programming, we believe it is a good funding match that will directly benefit people in need. Our request would assist with about 15% of the overall expenses of our Arts Classes and Choir programs.

Evaluation Plan

Success of the programs is measured through regular assessment of enrollment and survey responses collected from teaching artists, participants, and care partners for each class session. Teaching artists are asked to complete a basic set of questions for each class they teach that includes the stated

objectives, if those objectives were “very” or “somewhat” successful, neutral, or “very” or “somewhat” unsuccessful. They also are asked to write about the challenges, successes, and learning moments of the classes. All metrics help us provide better programming, at times eliminating or changing certain aspects of classes.

Budget

Expenses	Budget	Wispatch Funds
Admin Staff	\$16,150.00	
Program Staff	\$18,288.00	
Professional Services	\$10,500.00	
Accessibility Tools & Service	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Supplies & Equipment	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Facility phone internet	\$15,812.00	\$3,000.00
Public Awareness/Postage	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Total	\$67,750.00	\$10,000.00

Staff Recommendation

The Grant application can be approved with a slight modification to the budget. The proposal to allocate \$3,000.00 to operational expenses cannot be approved. We can provide for the accessibility tools and service, supplies and equipment, and public awareness for a total of \$7,000.00