



## **The Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County**

### **Membership Policy & Standards**

#### **Policy**

It is the policy of The Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, as stated in Article II of its Bylaws, to be a membership organization. All members shall meet the following criteria:

- will be a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization; and
- have missions that are primarily arts or cultural.

Organizational membership is defined by The Arts Council's Standards of Membership.

\*Please note that an individual 501(c)(3) IRS designation and a separate governing board are required for members to qualify for Organizational Support funding.

#### **Standards of Membership**

- Member status is assigned to an organization at the discretion of The Arts Council's Board of Trustees.
- The Arts Council serves organizations in the greater Winston-Salem area and Forsyth County (the "community"). Exceptions will be at the discretion of The Arts Council's Board of Trustees. Furthermore, the organization must serve the purpose of coordination, promotion and development of arts related educational and cultural activities, including all means of self-expression in performing, visual, creative and instructional arts.
- Members must demonstrate in the initial application and on an annual basis the following:
  1. Consistent efforts to achieve excellence in programs and services to the Community.
  2. Strong contribution to The Arts Council's own fund raising capability.
- Maintain responsible management with a governing committee or Board of Directors or Trustees that meet at least twice a year.
- Submit a list of the organization's staff and governing body, including officers, to The Arts Council at the beginning of the organization's fiscal year and as changes are made. Staff and governing body lists should include each individual's name, position and demographics.
- Work to raise the standards of the organization, including quality of performance, efficiency of operation, and cooperation with other organizations to meet the educational and cultural needs of the Community.
- Each membership will be reviewed every year for compliance with The Arts Council's policy and standards of membership. The Arts Council reserves the right to change the status of a member with proper notice.
- Submit to The Arts Council at the beginning of the organization's fiscal year the following documents :
  1. IRS Form 990—Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
  2. Report of past year's activities of coordination, promotion and development of arts related educational and cultural activities including all means of self-expression in performing, visual, creative and instructional arts.