Annual Application Deadline: July 1st

Contact: folklife@dos.myflorida.com or 850.245.6780

PURPOSE

The **Florida Folklife Apprenticeship Program** supports the preservation of folklife and traditional arts through one-on-one apprenticeships. These awards fund three-, six-, or eight-month periods of study between a master artist and apprentice, recognizing the value of folklife and traditional arts in Florida while enabling participants to work together to maintain and share traditional knowledge, skills, and techniques.

Master artists should be among the finest practitioners of the tradition in their cultural community. Apprentices must have experience in the tradition they wish to study, and make a commitment to learn it thoroughly. The underlying purpose of the Folklife Apprenticeship Program is to reinforce traditions within cultural communities, preference is therefore given to those who study traditions within their own group.

The Florida Folklife Program welcomes applications for apprenticeships in all forms of Florida folklife. Since 1984, the program has supported apprenticeships for boat making, fly tying, fiddling, Afro-Caribbean percussion, African American gospel steel guitar, Greek *bouzouki*, Nicaraguan festival arts, Japanese dance, steel drum making, Seminole basketry, and much more.

The Folklife Apprenticeship Program is a component of the Florida Folklife Program, Division of Arts and Culture, Florida Department of State and is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Florida ARTS & CULTURE

FLORIDA Folklife

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS arts.gov

DEFINITIONS

Folklife: Also known as traditional arts, includes a variety of art forms such as music, dance, verbal arts, and crafts that are learned and passed down informally by word of mouth, imitation, and observation within cultural communities (family, ethnic, regional, religious, or occupational groups) rather than in formal academic settings.

Cultural community: A group sharing cultural, racial, religious, gender, age, and/or occupational bonds. These groups share customs, heritage, and artistic expressions.

Master artist: A traditional artist who is regarded by their cultural community and peers as a highly skilled and knowledgeable practitioner of that groups' traditional arts.

Apprentice: Someone who wishes to learn from a particular master artist. Apprentices must have prior experience in the traditional art form, a strong desire to advance their knowledge and skills in that art form, and commitment to its continuity.

AWARD & TIME FRAME

Awards cover master artist honorarium, program expenses (except musical instruments, personal clothing, and costumes), and travel necessary to complete the apprenticeship.

Participants receive payments at regular intervals based on the recommended duration, funding level, and completion of apprenticeship objectives including but not limited to:

- Agreement to terms and conditions
- Submission of logs showing work plan progress
- Successful site visit by a program representative
- Presentation at the Florida Folk Festival

*Actual awards dependent on available funding and Florida Folklife Council and Florida Secretary of State recommendation and approval.

DURATION	MASTER	APPRENTICE
3 months	$1,000	$250
6 months	$2,000	$400
8 months	4000	$500

When apprenticeships are awarded to immediate family members (parents, siblings, spouses, or children), only the master artist will be eligible for funding.

Funded apprenticeships can begin after contracts are completed by Florida Folklife Program, but not before **October 1** of the application year. All apprenticeships must conclude by **May 31** the following year.

HOW TO APPLY

Eligibility

The art to be learned must be a traditional art as defined by this application. Participants must be permanent Florida residents. Master folk artists must be considered exemplary practitioners of traditional arts by their peers and cultural community. Apprentices must be selected by the master artist, and should demonstrate experience with, and commitment to advancing the art form. It is preferred that masters and apprentices belong to the same cultural community. Master Artists may apply in consecutive years, will not be funded for more than two consecutive years in a row.

For information on whether your art form is considered a Florida traditional art, call the Florida Folklife Program at 850.245.6482 or 850.274.8930 prior to applying.

Completing the Forms

Interested master/apprentice teams must submit a joint application. Before completing the application, the team should discuss their ideas for the apprenticeship and come to a shared understanding of what will take place and why. Prospective teams should discuss the pre-requisite level of skill, frequency and location of meetings, the work plan, goals, and agree on training expectations.

Part 1 is to be completed by the master.

Part 2 is to be completed by the apprentice.

Part 3 is to be completed by both master and apprentice.

Answer all questions as thoroughly as possible and **use additional pages as needed**. Applications do not have to be typed, but should be legible.

Work Samples & Support Materials

Applications must include work samples and written support materials for both master and apprentice. These materials form an important part of the application package and will be evaluated by the Florida Folklife Council. Professional recordings and videos are not necessary.

Media materials of applicants chosen to participate in the program will be deposited in the State Archives of Florida. Upon submission to the Florida Folklife Program, all materials become public information, and will not be returned to the applicant. Support materials should be appropriate for the cultural tradition per the following guidelines:

Audio-Visual Work Samples Requirements

- ***Visual Arts & Crafts*****:** 6 to 10 high quality digital images that show both whole objects and examples of detail.
- ***Oral Traditions, Music, & Dance*****:** audio and/or video samples up to 10 minutes in length. Samples can feature a single work or selections from multiple works, but cannot exceed 10 minutes. Links to YouTube, and recordings of unaccompanied performances are preferred.

Written Support Material Requirements

- 2 to 5 letters of support are required attesting to the quality of the master artist's skills. Letters should be from community leaders, colleagues, peers, cultural specialists, or other individuals who can confirm the details of the application and the master artist's qualifications.
- 1 to 2 letters of support are required attesting to the apprentice's qualification and commitment to the apprenticeship.
- No more than 10 general support materials such as press clippings, certificates, performance programs, flyers, etc.

Submission & Deadline

Applications must be submitted by email or postmarked by **July 1st.** Applicants are encouraged to submit applications before the deadline. If June 1st falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the deadline date will be the next business day.

Send completed applications to: folklife@dos.myflorida.com or Florida Folklife Program, 500 S Bronough st, Tallahassee Fl 32399.

If you have questions about the application or need assistance call 850.245.6780 or 850.274.8930.

REVIEW CITERIA & SELECTION

Eligible applications are reviewed by the Florida Folklife Council according to the following unranked criteria:

Excellence of the Master Artist

- Master artist learned the traditional art in their specific cultural community.
- Master artist demonstrates artistic excellence and cultural knowledge as defined by that community.
- Master artist is capable of teaching the knowledge, techniques, and stories associated with the art form.

Commitment of the Apprentice

- Current skill level of the apprentice is adequate and skills were learned in their specific cultural community.
- Capacity of the apprentice to share the traditional art.
- Demonstrated association of master and apprentice within a shared folk group.

Work Plan and Impact

- Work plan and schedule is effective and will advance the apprentice toward mastery.
- Budget is appropriate.
- Chosen traditional art is relevant to the cultural history of Florida.
- Apprenticeship is important to the vitality of the tradition.

The Florida Folklife Council ranks applications and recommends funding levels and any appropriate special conditions. Recommendations are submitted to the Florida Secretary of State for review and approval and applicants will be notified thereafter.

PART 1: MASTER ARTIST

Name: Click here to enter text.	Date of birth: Click here to enter text.
Address: Click here to enter text. City: Click here to enter text. State: Choose state Zip: Click or tap here to enter text.	Tradition you wish to teach: Click here to enter text.
Email: Click here to enter text.	Are you a Florida resident? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone: Click here to enter text.	Are you a U.S. citizen? Yes ☐ No ☐

Answer questions thoroughly. Use additional pages if necessary.

1. Provide a brief bio: ethnicity, birthplace, schooling, occupation(s), how many years in Florida, etc.

Click here to enter text.

2. Describe your background and experience in this tradition. How, when, where, and from whom did you learn this tradition? Have you taught this tradition to others? When and for whom do you do this tradition? Have you practiced it continually since you learned it? Have you received any fellowships, apprenticeships, or grants? Is there a website where samples of your work are available for review?

Click here to enter text.

3. Explain the significance and history of this tradition in your life and that of your family or community.

Click here to enter text.

4. Describe the proposed apprenticeship. How long have you known the apprentice? Have you worked together before in this tradition? How much does the apprentice already know about this tradition? Why do you wish to work with this particular apprentice? What techniques or forms will you teach? What do you hope to accomplish during the apprenticeship period?

Click here to enter text.

I am willing to work with Name of apprentice(s) according to the plan outlined in this application. I will allow this apprenticeship to be documented for the purpose of preserving Florida folklife.

Master Artist Signature: _____ Date: _____

PART 2: APPRENTICE

Name: Click here to enter text.	Date of birth: Click here to enter text.
Address: Click here to enter text. City: Click here to enter text. State: Choose state Zip: Click or tap here to enter text.	Tradition you wish to learn: Click here to enter text.
Email: Click here to enter text.	Are you a Florida resident? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone: Click here to enter text.	Are you a U.S. citizen? Yes ☐ No ☐

Answer questions thoroughly. Use additional pages if necessary.

1. Provide a brief bio: ethnicity, birthplace, schooling, occupation(s), how many years in Florida, etc.

Click here to enter text.

2. How, when, where, and from whom did you learn this tradition? What is the current level of your skill? How long have you known the master artist? Have you and the master artist worked together before? How did you become acquainted with him or her?

Click here to enter text.

3. Why do you wish to learn this tradition and participate in the Florida Folklife Apprenticeship Program?

Click here to enter text.

4. What do you hope to accomplish during the apprenticeship? What do you plan to do with the skills you learn? How do you plan to help preserve this tradition?

Click here to enter text.

I am willing to work with Name of master according to the plan outlined in this application. I will allow this apprenticeship to be documented for the purpose of preserving Florida folklife.

Apprentice Signature: _____ Date: _____

PART 3: WORK PLAN

Answer questions thoroughly. Use additional pages if necessary

1. List the skills and techniques that will be taught during the apprenticeship. What tunes or styles do you want the apprentice(s) to learn, or what objects do you want them to make? What will the apprentice(s) be expected to do between meetings? Please be specific.

Click here to enter text.

2. State the goals that you expect the apprentice to achieve. Examples might include: make six baskets; develop a repertory of twenty tunes; sew five pieces of clothing; learn two complete dances.

Click here to enter text.

3. How often will you meet, where, and for how long? A typical schedule might be: once a week, for four hours, at the master's home.

Click here to enter text.

4. What length of apprenticeship do you prefer? (check one)

   3 months ☐ 6 months ☐ 8 months ☐

5. List the materials and supplies, including itemized costs, which the apprentice will need to complete the apprenticeship. If you do not know the exact cost, give your most accurate estimate. Funds **are not** available for the purchase of musical instruments, personal clothing, or costumes.

Click here to enter text.

Master Artist Signature **Date:**

Apprentice Signature **Date:**