

For Reference Only: The Missouri Arts Council is not accepting new applications for FY2021. Interested artists should sign up at [MAC website](#) (lower right corner) to receive notification when FY2022 guidelines and application become available.



Owen/Cox Dance Group, a Dance listing

FY2020 Guidelines for the Missouri Touring Performers Directory

Missouri Arts Council is dedicated to providing performance arts experiences for audiences throughout the state to nurture appreciation for Missouri's diverse cultural resources. The **Missouri Touring Performers Directory** is produced to support communities seeking performing artists as well as promote quality performers across the state. The Directory includes over 220 dancers, musicians, theatrical performers, storytellers, and folk artists.

There are multiple benefits for performers accepted into the Missouri Touring Performers Directory.

1. Eligible nonprofit organizations may request funding from the **Missouri Arts Council** and **Mid-America Art Alliance** to present Directory artists to their community.

Through Missouri Arts Council's [Express Touring Grant](#) (Community Touring), applicants may request 60% of the artist fee (\$3,000 maximum). Through Mid-America Art Alliance's [Regional Touring Program](#), applicants may request 50% of the artist fee (\$5,000 maximum).

Organizations may not request funding from both Missouri Arts Council and Mid-America Arts Alliance for the same artist and performance date.

2. Artists may use the Directory as a **marketing tool** to promote themselves to potential booking agents and presenting venues. Organizations looking for quality performing artists in Missouri (like festivals and community arts councils) often use the online **Missouri Touring Performers Directory** as a resource for concerts, workshops, etc.

Please note that acceptance to the Missouri Touring Performers Directory does not guarantee employment and the Missouri Arts Council does not serve as a booking agent for artists listed in the Directory.

Organizations and interested venues can search the online [Missouri Touring Performers Directory](#) by category: Dance, Puppetry, Storytelling, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts. Each Directory listing includes:

- Brief description of the performing artist's programs and biographical information. (75 words minimum; 150 maximum; Ideally 100-125 words.)
- Contact information, including website
- Photo
- Performance Fee Range. Factors include: number and type of performances at a specific location; size and type of audience; distance traveled; block booking; equipment required; and transportation and lodging.
- Technical requirements
- Available times

Eligibility

To be included on the Missouri Touring Performers Directory, artists must be:

- Legal residents of Missouri, 18 years of age or older, for at least one year prior to the application deadline (individual artists). If an artist group, the majority of the members must reside in Missouri. Nonprofit status is not required.
- Professional artist(s) with at least two years of touring experience.
- Available to tour to a minimum of two Missouri communities at least 50 miles outside of the artist's home base annually.

Some types of performances may not be eligible for the Directory. Contact the [program specialist for Missouri Touring Performers Directory](#) before applying.

Evaluation Criteria

A Successful Performer will demonstrate all of the following criteria:

- **High-quality artistic excellence**
We seek high quality artists that are fine arts performers. This is the primary consideration for inclusion in the directory. The panel will determine this by observation of a recorded performance. The artist must provide a quality recording (CD, DVD, or online version) of all the artistic components of their performance.
- **Performance and touring experience**
Presenters expect an experienced and reliable touring performer. Past and future schedules of performances, venues, and presenters will be reviewed.
- **Professionalism in management, marketing/promotion, etc.**
Support materials should be professional and assist the presenter in producing the program.
- **Willingness to tour at least 2 Missouri communities outside of the artist's home base**
- **Contribution to a well-rounded touring directory**
The panel will consider that the artist's program, genre, location, and style enhance the Missouri Touring Performers Directory.

Review Process

Applications for the Missouri Touring Performers Directory will be reviewed by panel members that are knowledgeable in a particular art form, arts presenters, and community arts representatives. The panel recommendations are presented to the Missouri Arts Council board for approval at the June meeting. Performers will be notified of the board's decision in July.

Reevaluation

Artists on the Missouri Touring Performers Directory do *not* reapply each year although they are subject to reevaluation on request or as needed basis. Presenters receiving Missouri Arts Council Touring Grants complete an evaluation of the performers on artistic quality, publicity/marketing, working relationship, and audience response. These evaluations ensure that the Missouri Touring Performers Directory artists continue to meet program requirements.

Performer Application and Support Materials

Applications are completed online.

Support materials are required and must be submitted as an electronic attachment in the online application. Applicants may attach up to **ten (10) files or links**, including up to **three (3) audio and/or video** performance samples.

Consider items that would help the panel members understand the artistic quality, experience, and professionalism. **Support materials must include at least one (1) video sample of their performance to demonstrate artistic excellence.** You may also include the following:

- Marketing: brochure; sample program; sample news release; artist/presenter contract
- Resume(s) of artists/touring manager (2 pages maximum per person)
- Reviews and quotes from previous presenters, audience, and noteworthy individuals (cite source).
- Letters of Recommendation (3 maximum)

Format Requirements for Support Material Attachments

- Audio and video samples should be recent, within the last three years. Video of a staged performance is preferred to a video production. Panelists limit their review to 3-5 minute segments.
- Accepted formats include: .pdf and .doc (documents); .mp3 and .wma (audio/visual); and links to online materials (YouTube, Vimeo, website, etc.) on a document. Maximum file size is 10 MB. **For audio and video, a link to online materials is preferred.**
- Electronic files must be clearly labeled with the artist/artist group's name and content (for example, smith-music.mp3).

For More Information

Artists are encouraged to contact before applying the [program specialist for Missouri Touring Performers Directory](#).

Additional Artist Roster: School Touring Qualified

The benefits of the School Touring Qualified roster is similar to the Missouri Touring Performers Directory. Public and private K-12 schools may request funding from the Missouri Arts Council for a School Touring Qualified artist to perform at their school.

School Touring Qualified artists are evaluated by a panel of arts education professionals. Their performances are observed in classroom situations, classroom teachers are interviewed, and their study guides are part of the application process. School Touring Qualified applications are accepted year-round. For more information, consult the [Guidelines for School Touring Qualified](#) or contact Julie Hale, Arts Education Program Specialist, at julie.hale@ltgov.mo.gov or 314-340-6853.

FY2020 Performer Application for the Missouri Touring Performers Directory

The final deadline for FY2020 applications will be February 25, 2019. Applications will be reviewed in the spring with notification in July 2019. Prospective artists are strongly encouraged to read the [Guidelines](#) and contact the program specialist for Missouri Touring Performers Directory before applying.

To be included as a Missouri Touring Performer, artists must be:

- Legal residents of Missouri, 18 years of age or older, for at least one year prior to the application deadline (individual artists). If an artist group, the majority of the members must reside in Missouri. Nonprofit status is not required.
- Professional artist(s) with at least two years of touring experience.
- Available to tour to a minimum of two Missouri communities at least 50 miles outside of the artist's home base annually
- Provide link to support video showing artistic quality

Applicants will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- **High-quality artistic excellence**
We seek high-quality artists who are fine arts performers. This is the primary consideration for inclusion in the Directory. The panel will determine this by observation of a recorded performance. At a minimum, the artist should provide a link to a quality recording of the artistic components of their performance.
- **Performance and touring experience**
Presenters expect an experienced and reliable touring performer. Past and future schedules of performances, venues, and presenters will be reviewed.
- **Professionalism in management, marketing/promotion, etc.**
Support materials including website and printed brochures should be professional and assist the presenter in producing the program.
- **Willingness to tour at least two Missouri communities outside of the artist's home base**
- **Contribution to a well-rounded Touring Directory.**
The panel will consider that the artist's program, genre, location or style add to the Directory.

Performer Group or Individual

Contact Name

Prefix

First Name

Last Name

Email *

Website

Address *

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

State / Province

Postal / Zip Code

Country

Phone Number *

Area Code

-

Phone Number

Fax Number

Area Code

-

Phone Number

Number of years as a touring artist *

Individual Performers Only: Number of years as a performing artist

Performing Groups Only: Number of members in group

Performing Groups Only: List all group members and city of residence.

Performance Groups Only: % of members residing in Missouri

Choose the arts discipline that best describes your performance. *

- Dance
- Music
- Puppetry
- Storytelling
- Theater
- Other

Touring Area

Performances may be subsidized for eligible presenters at least 50 miles outside of your home area and within Missouri. Therefore, performers must be willing to tour at least 50 miles from their home within Missouri. What area(s) within Missouri can you tour?

Entire state (except within 50 miles)

If not entire state, list areas you can tour

Directory Listing

If selected for the Missouri Touring Performers Directory, the answers in this section may be used to prepare a listing for the directory.

Performance and Artist Description (75 words minimum,;150 maximum; 100-125 ideal) (hover for info) *

Fee range (hover for info) *

Availability (specific touring season or year-round) *

Requirements (hover for info) *

Venues suitable for your performances. Check all that apply.

- Theater/auditorium
- Outdoor Stage
- Community sites (library, museum, etc.)

Other appropriate venues

Experience

Describe your touring performer experience. (hover for info) *

Describe your experience with specific audiences. (hover for info) *

List at least five touring performances within the last two years. (hover for info) *

List touring performances scheduled in the next year. (hover for info) *

How do you market to presenters? Be specific. (hover for info) *

Support Materials

Support materials are required and must be submitted as an electronic attachment within the online application. Applicants may attach up to ten (10) files or links, including up to three (3) audio and/or video performance samples. Consider items that would help the panel members understand the artistic quality, experience, and professionalism. Support materials must include at least one (1) link to video of their performance. You may also include sample marketing materials, reviews, contracts, riders, schedules, letters of support, etc.

Technical Information:

1. All applicants must include at least one (1) video sample of their performance to determine artistic quality. Audio and video samples should be recent, within the last three years. Panelists limit their review to 3-5 minute segments. 2. Accepted formats

include: .pdf and .doc (documents); .and links to mp3 and .wma (audio/visual); and other online materials (YouTube, Vimeo, website, etc.) on a document. For audio and video, a link to online materials is strongly preferred. Maximum file size is 10 GB. 3. Electronic files must be clearly labeled with the artist/artist group's name and content (for example, smith-music.mp3).

Attachment 1 No file chosen

Attachment 2 No file chosen

Attachment 3 No file chosen

Attachment 4 No file chosen

Attachment 5 No file chosen

Attachment 6 No file chosen

Attachment 7 No file chosen

Attachment 8 No file chosen

Attachment 9 No file chosen

Attachment 10 No file chosen

Attach Photo for Directory

Attach a headshot or group photo to be included with the directory listing if selected. (Horizontal or square orientation. 300 dpi resolution) No file chosen

preferred. Maximum
file size is 10 GB.) *

Compliance Statement

By submitting this application you certify that you are a Missouri resident or that the majority of the group's members are Missouri residents and that the statements are true and complete to the best of your knowledge. If accepted as a Missouri Touring Performer you agree to abide by the relevant Missouri Arts Council policies and requirements.

Submit