



Alaska State Council on the Arts: HOW ARE YOU CREATIVE? Coordinator Contract Available

Project Start Date: April 1, 2025

Project End date: December 31, 2026

DEADLINE TO RESPOND: March 7, 2025

The Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA) has a contractual position available for a *How Are You Creative?* Coordinator. The contractor will work flexible hours between April 2025 and December 2026. Compensation is commensurate with experience, includes some travel, and is not to exceed \$52,000 USD for this period of work.

Project Description

The *How Are You Creative?* (HAYC?) initiative is based in collective approaches to increasing access and engagement with teaching and learning in and through arts and cultures of Alaska. More information about HAYC is included in the Background information and at <https://howareyoucreative.org/>.

The Coordinator will work with ASCA's existing networks to increase connections and advance the HAYC?'s goals through:

1. identifying a statewide cohort of regional artists, culture bearers and teachers (called ambassadors) who are currently practicing within their Alaskan communities, and inviting them to apply for small grants to support their activities,
2. designing and implementing the processes through which ambassador awards are administered,
3. facilitating meetings and networking opportunities and supporting collective activities among the cohort to advance shared learning and arts and cultural access,
4. complete a final impact report including a series of stories from ambassadors to share about this project, to understand statewide arts and cultural integration initiatives.

Required qualifications:

1. Knowledge of Alaskan arts and cultural sector; knowledge of Alaskan education systems.
2. Experience coordinating and facilitating conversations for the purpose of supporting group learning amongst Alaskan artists, culture bearers, and educators.
3. Excellent communication skills, community outreach and engagement, and networking skills to make regional contacts and build statewide relationships in support of growing *the How Are You Creative?* Movement.
4. General knowledge of grant making processes, ability to research and identify a list of potential small grant ambassador awardees, and offer ongoing support for ambassadors.
5. Ability to contract with the State of Alaska as a business owner/contractor.

Application

To apply for this opportunity, submit materials to ASCA Arts Education Program Director, Laura Forbes, by email at laura.forbes@alaska.gov. Contact Laura Forbes via this email, or by phone at 907-269-6682, with questions. To respond, applicants must provide a resume, three references including name, relationship, email and phone number information, and letter of interest of no more than two pages in length that addresses the required qualifications in addition to other experience relevant to the scope of work. The deadline for submission of materials is March 1, 2025. Candidates may be requested to interview in early March.



Background Information

How Are You Creative? (HAYC) began as a discussion of collective approaches to teaching and learning in and through arts and cultures of Alaska. Since 2017, groups of arts and cultural advocates, educators, and community leaders from across Alaska have been sharing and learning artistic, cultural, and creative experiences with one another.

In early 2018, the Alaska State Council on the Arts - Arts Education Advisory Committee (AEAC) worked to develop the HAYC framework, reflecting a desire to “weave networks, align policies, and increase involvement in Alaska arts and cultures.” The AEAC developed initial goals serving as long-term markers of success for the HAYC? movement. One asset/strategy developed by this process is an online container at howareyoucreative.org, which is meant to connect Alaskans to the HAYC. In 2023, the ASCA Arts Education Program adopted the HAYC framework of goals as a guide our work in support of teaching and learning in and through the arts and cultures of Alaska.

Currently, the *How Are You Creative?* framework has identified a series of long-term goals:

- Individual: Through participation in arts and cultural experiences, Alaskans will feel more connected, respected, seen, and heard. This results in a greater sense of well-being and community. People actively seek out arts learning opportunities, and feel comfortable participating regardless of skill or experience.
- Community: Creativity is a sought after community asset. Artists are valued and serve unique advisory and leadership roles in the inclusion of arts and cultures in community development. Education standards and practices that fully integrate arts and culturally relevant materials are implemented at the local level and reflect place. Teachers and students have support and growing capacity to teach and learn in and through the arts and cultures in their classrooms.
- State: Alaska’s governing entities recognize, value, actively research, and invest in the ongoing development of Alaska’s complex creative industries. Alaska’s education sector actively integrates community-based experiential teaching and learning in and through the arts and cultures as essential to a well-rounded education for Alaskan students.

Core Values

We seek to approach these goals through the following values:

- Inclusion: We recognize and honor the diversity in our state striving to increase equity, inclusion, and access for all Alaskans to learn and engage in the arts.
- Collaboration: Local, regional, and state level collaboration is necessary to achieve our shared vision.
- Learning: We value iterative and culturally responsive data collection, co-created with community over time, to guide decisions and priorities.
- Connection: Arts and cultures are connected, fostering transformative opportunities for Alaskans.