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**CONTACT:** Rebecca Cruse, Assistant Director, SDAC



***NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR TEACHING ARTISTS: APRIL 15 DEADLINE***

PIERRE, S.D. – Artists who are interested in becoming involved in the South Dakota Arts Council’s Artists in Schools and Communities (AISC) program have a new opportunity to apply with a new spring grant deadline. The Council is now accepting applications through April 15.

The Arts Council has traditionally only accepted applications for the program once a year, in September, but a new policy is allowing for multiple artist application deadlines throughout the year.

The Artists in Schools and Communities program provides intensive, hands-on training in all arts disciplines to students of all ages across the state by providing funds to schools and nonprofit organizations that bring in groups and individuals for residencies. The artists are responsible for developing their residency lesson plans. Residencies are coordinated through the South Dakota Arts Council office as part of its Arts in Education programming.

Applicants should give themselves plenty of time to prepare materials. The application process is somewhat involved, requiring completion of an applicant profile, an artist statement, resume/biography, a residency outline, references, and letters of support. Artist documentation or work samples are also required.

Artists interested in applying for the Artists in Schools and Communities program must apply through the SDAC’s online e-grant process. Hard copies of the applications will not be accepted. For more information and a link to the e-grant system, visit [www.artsCouncil.sd.gov/grants/aiscartist.aspx](http://www.artsCouncil.sd.gov/grants/aiscartist.aspx). Contact Rebecca Cruse, SDAC assistant director at 605-773-3301 or [rebecca.cruse@state.sd.us](mailto:rebecca.cruse@state.sd.us) with questions regarding the AISC program.

An office of the South Dakota Department of Tourism, the South Dakota Arts Council’s mission is to provide grants and services to artists, arts organizations and schools across the state, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and South Dakota state government.

The South Dakota Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism, the South Dakota Arts Council and the South Dakota State Historical Society. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen.