

**Buncombe County FY2020 Strategic Partnership Grants
Application Summary Sheet**

Project	Buncombe County Partners in Education 2019-2020
Organization	LEAF Community Arts

Amount Requested	\$10,000	Strategic Priority or Sustainability Goal	Arts/Culture/Recreation
New or Renewal Request	New	Commissioner Districts Served	All

Organization Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEAF Community Arts (LEAF) is a non-profit organization, building community, connecting cultures and enriching lives through the arts -- locally and globally -- with festivals, community events, and arts education programs. Well-known for its large-scale, global music and arts festivals, LEAF brings artists from around the world to Western North Carolina and provides a platform for these voices to be heard and in turn, audiences to be exposed to diverse cultures.
Project Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEAF in partnership with the Buncombe County Schools (BCS), has been selected as a Partners in Education program recipient by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. This program is designed to assist arts organizations with educational and platform resources to develop educational partnerships with local school systems (not a financial assistance partnership). LEAF and BCS have developed a program running 2018-2020. This collaborative program provides art and culture focused professional development opportunities, resources and educational opportunities for K-12 teachers. Using LEAF's teaching artist model and artistic resources, BCS teachers will be exposed to and learn unique ways to incorporate diverse world art forms into their classrooms.
People Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LEAF Partners in Education program will serve approximately 450 teachers in their career development as educators. The entire school system is approximately 25,000 students. The teachers participating come from all disciplines and K-12 classrooms. The knowledge, resources, and curriculum derived lesson plans they gain from this program will be implemented in their classrooms and increase the quality and depth of education for their students.
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will use a variety of methods, both quantitative and qualitative to measure the success of the Education in Partners program. Will administer surveys to teachers throughout the program to determine the quality and relevancy of topics and material provided by professional development days. Will track number of teachers involved, grade level taught, and school represented to measure the program's impact, depth and scope. Teachers will administer surveys to and track test scores of their students to determine the growth of their global arts and culture knowledge.

Budget			
Amount Funded FY2019	n/a	Increase Request	n/a
Project Budget	\$27,385	Total Organization Budget	\$2,745,988
Other Funding Sources: corporate donors, individual donors, grants			

Additional Information

Buncombe County Partners in Education 2019-2020

FY2020 Strategic Partnership Grants

LEAF Community Arts

Jennifer Pickering
377 LAKE EDEN RD
Black Mountain, NC 28711-8709

info@theleaf.org
O: 828-686-8742
F: LEAF Community Arts

Amanda Vollrath

377 LAKE EDEN RD
Black Mountain, NC 28711-8709

avollrath@theleaf.org
O: 828-686-8742

Application Form

Question Group

Please complete the form below and upload the required files for your application. Organizations submitting more than one project must complete one submission form for each project. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Priority is given to nonprofit organizations with projects that contribute to Buncombe County's strategic priorities or sustainability goals.

For FY2020, no Strategic Partnership Grant applications will be considered for the strategic priorities "Affordable Housing" or "Early Childhood Education." Funding for affordable housing projects is managed through Buncombe County's Affordable Housing Services Program. Funding for early childhood projects will be managed through the newly forming Early Childhood Education and Development Fund.

Project Name*

Name of Project.

Buncombe County Partners in Education 2019-2020

Amount Requested*

\$10,000.00

Strategic Priority*

Which of the following priorities best reflects the primary goal of your project?

Buncombe County Commissioners are dedicated to strengthening the quality of life for everyone by setting new fiscally, socially and environmentally responsible goals that will guide decisions and improve our community for future generations. The Board has committed to strategic priorities as a guide to shape partnerships and investments of resources to insure a healthy, safe, well-educated, thriving and sustainable community.

Details about the Strategic Priorities are available at [THIS LINK](#).

Diverse Community Workforce

Strategic Priority - Other Sustainability Goal

If you selected "Other Sustainability Goal" from the list of Strategic Priorities, please list it here.

Details about the Sustainability Goals are available at [THIS LINK](#).

[Unanswered]

Organization Description*

Tell us about your organization. What is your mission? Highlight two or three key facts and accomplishments that best define your organization.

LEAF Community Arts (LEAF) is a non-profit organization, building community, connecting cultures and enriching lives through the arts -- locally and globally -- with festivals, community events, and arts education programs. Well-known for its large-scale, global music and arts festivals, LEAF brings artists from around the world to Western North Carolina and provides a platform for these voices to be heard and in turn, audiences to be exposed to diverse cultures. Through its core events and programs, LEAF serves approximately 50,000 adults and youth, annually. Of those, its local arts education program, LEAF Schools and Streets serves 9,000 Buncombe County youth, making it the largest provider of arts education in the county. Internationally, LEAF has 11 programs in ten different countries. LEAF collaborates with communities to support culture keepers who teach local youth their own traditional arts. Since its inception in 2006, LEAF has served 2,600+ youth across the world.

Project Description

What do you propose to do? What is your plan? What are your goals?

LEAF Community Arts (LEAF) in partnership with the Buncombe County Schools (BCS), has been selected as a Partners in Education program recipient by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. This program is designed to assist arts organizations with educational and platform resources to develop educational partnerships with local school systems (not a financial assistance partnership). LEAF and BCS have developed a program running 2018-2020. This collaborative program provides art and culture focused professional development opportunities, resources and educational opportunities for Buncombe County School K-12 teachers. Using LEAF's teaching artist model and artistic resources, BCS teachers will be exposed to and learn unique ways to incorporate diverse world art forms into their classrooms.

Key Steps*

How will the project work? What are specific activities and milestones that your project entails?

The Partners in Education program launched during the 2018-19 school year and has been extremely successful and well received by BCS administrators and teachers. LEAF in partnership with the BCS will offer a series of professional development (PD) opportunities as well as additional artistic resources to implement arts integrated curriculum into their classrooms. Through this program, teachers will be expected to take part in three professional development opportunities and check-ins throughout in order to "graduate." These offerings will inspire and invigorate teachers as they discover ways to enhance the artistic and creative for their students while improving skills that impact standardized test scores. LEAF Teaching Artists will complement the learning of teachers and engage in residencies within classrooms, to create equitable access to the arts. In addition, teachers will be able to participate in Kennedy Center training and assistance, when possible.

Area Served*

Which areas of the County will be served by this project? Which Commissioner District(s) will be served?

A Buncombe County Commissioner district map is available at [THIS LINK](#).

This project serves all Buncombe County Public Schools and therefore all areas and Commissioner Districts will be served.

People Served*

Who are the members of our community this project will serve? How many people will be served? Include demographics, including age, area median income, race, neighborhood and/or school.

The LEAF Partners in Education program will serve approximately 450 Buncombe County Public School teachers in their career development as educators. The entire school system is approximately 25,000 students. The teachers participating come from all disciplines and K-12 classrooms. The knowledge, resources, and curriculum derived lesson plans they gain from this program will be implemented in their classrooms and increase the quality and depth of education for their students. Based on NC Public School System statistics, 55% of students in Buncombe County are on the free or reduced lunch program. This program will enhance the overall education of Buncombe County Public Schools and therefore serve the overall demographics of Buncombe County, at large.

Partners*

Which other organizations are you working with to reach your goals? What other local organizations provide similar services or serve similar beneficiaries, and how do you work together?

Organizational partnerships are a foundation of LEAF's success and impact in the community. For the Buncombe County Partners in Education program, LEAF has established an official partnership with Buncombe County Schools and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C.

Personnel*

Who is responsible for the project? Briefly describe project leaders and the role each will play in the project. How do these leaders reflect the population or community that you serve?

For this project, there are three main project leaders: Laura Mitchell and Cheri Boone from BCS and Erinn Hartley from LEAF. Erinn Hartley is LEAF's Education Director and is directly responsible for managing this program. She develops all the professional development days and is the point person for the JFK Center for the Performing Arts. Laura Mitchell is the Arts Education Specialist for Buncombe County Schools. Laura provides professional development opportunities based on the latest research and teaching practices in the arts including arts integration and global education. As the specialist, she plans all-county performances, shares opportunities for professional growth in the arts while promoting the county arts program through building community partnerships and making them visible. Cheri Boone is a district representative from the Curriculum and Instructional Services Department of BCS. She works in tandem with curriculum directors, specialists, principals, and teachers.

Success*

How will you measure results? What will success look like? How will you document the impact of your project? Include whether there is a model that serves as basis for project design.

LEAF in partnership with Buncombe County Schools will use a variety of methods, both quantitative and qualitative to measure the success of the Education in Partners program. LEAF will administer surveys to teachers throughout the program to determine the quality and relevancy of topics and material provided by professional development days. LEAF will track number of teachers involved, grade level taught, and school

represented to measure the program's impact, depth and scope. Teachers will administer surveys to and track test scores of their students to determine the growth of their global arts and culture knowledge. Increased creativity, sense of oneself and global citizenship by students will be recorded qualitatively by teachers to report back on in various professional development days. During the 2018-19 school year, many teachers and administrators have already expressed a large value added to their classrooms as part of this program offering.

Funding*

What is your plan for finding the balance of the project budget? What is your funding timeline and what are your other sources of support?

The total project cost of the Buncombe County Partners in Education program during the 2019-2020 school year is \$27,385. During the 2018-19 year, LEAF is requesting funding from several foundations and corporations whose giving priorities align to support the program. In addition, LEAF has secured a \$1,000 gift from an individual donor stated with her gift, "I am aware as a 25 year volunteer in the Buncombe County school system that more and more kids have less and less exposure to music and dance that can make them feel good. Those kids need this in their life." LEAF will continue to identify and cultivate relationships with prospective funders. LEAF has directly met with BCS administrators and the Buncombe County Schools Foundation to discuss potential funding partners. This program is in direct correlation with and actualizes LEAF's mission and therefore, has allocated a portion of its general operating budget to pay for the administrative staff needed to run this program.

Sustainability*

How will this project be maintained? Please describe funding sources and how you plan to sustain the project in future years.

Discussions between LEAF and BCS have shown a desire to continue this program past 2020, which was its original conclusion based on the project agreement. The Kennedy Center partnership continues as long as the program continues. Many teachers and administrators have expressed a large value added to their classrooms as part of this program offering. In addition, LEAF and BCS have been inspired to use this partnership as a model for other school systems in the surrounding area to see how arts organizations can work to support both educators and students. LEAF will continue to seek, cultivate and strengthen relationships with individual donors, corporations and foundations in order to continue sustainable funding for this valuable program.

ATTACHMENTS

Project Budget*

Download the budget form at **THIS LINK**.

Complete the budget form for this project and the overall organization.

Save it to your computer, then upload it.

strategic-partnership-grants-FY2020-budget-template.xlsx

Financial Statements

Upload a copy of the most recently completed financial statements.

All financial statements must be audited, reviewed or compiled by a certified public accountant and include a full balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

If your organization does not have financial statements, briefly state the reason.

December 31 2016 LEAF Reviewed Financial Statements.pdf

IRS Form 990

Upload a copy of the 990 nonprofit tax reporting form that you most recently completed.

If your organization does not have a 990, briefly state the reason.

LEAF F-990 2017.pdf

Board of Directors List

Upload a current list of your organization's Board of Directors.

If your organization does not have a board of directors, briefly state the reason.

BoardListforGrants18.pdf

Authorized Signatory

By typing in below the name of the authorized signatory and date of submittal, you acknowledge that your governing body has authorized this application, that it is true and current to your knowledge. As a condition of any grant awarded, this organization will provide all information in the manner described in the contract to be executed between the organization and Buncombe County or its designee, including program and financial reporting.

Name & Date

Amanda Vollrath 2/5/2019

Other attachments or supplemental information may be submitted to Rachael Nygaard at rachael.nygaard@buncombecounty.org

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- strategic-partnership-grants-FY2020-budget-template.xlsx
- December 31 2016 LEAF Reviewed Financial Statements.pdf
- LEAF F-990 2017.pdf
- BoardListforGrants18.pdf