2019-2020 PROGRAM SUPPORT 1
UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

raleigh arts
COMMISSION

Applicant Name: _____

Disability is not a 'brave struggle' or 'courage in the face of adversity'... Disability is an art. It's an ingenious way to live.
- Neil Marcus, Actor, Playwright, Performance Artist

The Universal Accessibility Checklist is one tool used by the Raleigh Arts Commission to enable applicants to show how successfully their organizations engage people with disabilities in their programming and activities. Inclusion is the act of creating environments in which someone with a disability is and feels welcomed, respected, supported, and valued to fully participate. A universally accessible program is one that a person with a disability can not only attend, but one where they can enjoy the same high quality experience as other participants. The focus is not on the minimum standards set out by the Americans with Disabilities Act, but on the use of best practices with a goal of full inclusion, which is at the core of "universal accessibility". The Commission understands that most organizations are not currently universally accessible, but it is interested in learning how applicants are moving toward that goal.

Please indicate the accessibility accommodations and services your organization provides for the proposed project or program by selecting a choice from the drop-down menu that appears when you click in each box:

PLANNING FOR UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY
How will your organization approach engaging people with disabilities in this project?

Accessibility for this project focuses primarily on providing accommodations/services for participants	
Project incorporates Deaf and/or disability culture into content	
Project is primarily for people with disabilities	
People with disabilities provided advice and/or support in planning project and/or accessible accommodations/services	
People with disabilities led project development and implementation	

PLANNED ACCOMMODATIONS/SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
For People with Mobility Issues

Has the federal government's *ADA Checklist for Existing Facilities* been completed for the location(s)?	
Designated Accessible Parking Spaces, with a Clear and Accessible Path of Entry to Facility	
Ground Level or Ramped Entrance to Facility	
Exterior Signage with Directions to Accessible Entrance(s)	
Elevators for Multi-Level Facilities	
Integrated and Dispersed Seating in Assembly Areas for People with Mobility Issues	
Accessible Restrooms (doorways, door handles, sinks, soap, paper dispensers, stall size, door swing, water fountains)	
Accessible Emergency Exits and Audio/Visual Emergency Alarms	
Accessible Box Office, Stage, Dressing Rooms, Exhibit Areas, Display Cases, and Counters	
Accessible Administrative Offices	

For People Who Have Low Vision or Are Blind:

Large Print Materials	
Appropriate Interior Signage for People with Low Vision/ Who Are Blind (large print with high contrast and braille)	
Braille Materials	
Verbal Descriptions of Artwork/Exhibitions	
Tactile Tours	
Audio Description	

For People Who Are Hard of Hearing or Deaf:

Assistive Listening Devices	
Real Time Captioning	
Sign Language Interpreters	
Scripts and Text of Verbal Presentations	
Open or Closed Captioned Audio-Visual Presentations	
TTY/TDD	

For People Who Have Autism and/or Sensory Disorders:

Relaxed Performances/Programs	
Sensory Kits	
Quiet Space	
Social Narratives/Visual Schedules	

ACCESS TO COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICITY

How will your organization communicate this project's accessibility?

Post Access Information/Accommodations on Website	
Include Access Information/Accommodations in ALL Marketing Collateral (i.e. newsletters, brochures, flyers, posters, emails)	
Appropriate Disability Symbols Used in All Marketing Collateral (both print and electronic)	
Publicize Accessibility through media (press releases, calendar listings, etc.)	
Publicize Accessibility through Partnerships with Disability Organizations	

Describe any other ways that your project or program will be inclusive of people with disabilities:

Who is your organization's accessibility coordinator?

Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

This checklist was created with assistance from the Arts & Science Council of Charlotte/Mecklenburg (ASC), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and the North Carolina Arts Council (NCAC).

UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST - PROGRAM SUPPORT 1
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

With the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act on July 16, 1990, public and private institutions must be in compliance with legislation designed to reduce the physical and social barriers facing over 49 million disabled Americans. Assessing your present <u>facility, programs, and operations</u> is the first step and will help your organization identify any changes needed. This checklist will help determine your organization's accessibility. It does not include the specifications for physical accessibility that are part of the ADA, and we do not use this information to ensure your compliance. That is your responsibility.

Q: How can I get an ADA Checklist for Existing Facilities?
> *A: The checklist can be downloaded from the following website: www.ada.gov/racheck.pdf*

Q: Should the Universal Accessibility Checklist be answered in regards to the specific project, or the organization as a whole?
A: The checklist should be focused on the project in the application. If the application is for an entire year, all venues/ facilities utilized in the year should be considered. If the location of the project takes place on a larger campus/facility, focus your responses on the project's location.

Q: Can I complete this form if I do not know the venue of my project?
A: Please complete as much as you can at the time of submission. You will be asked to update this checklist once you have chosen a location.

Q: Is "No" an acceptable answer?
A: Yes. This checklist lists the variety of accommodations or considerations that should be part of the planning process for any program. While you may not be able to answer "Yes" to every question, your Accessibility Plan should address the procedures and timeline to include this in the future.