



ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL

2021-2021 Overview & FAQs **Deadline: June 18, 2021 @ 5:00PM**

Have you ever considered how serving on the board of a nonprofit organization enhances your job skills while helping the community? Professionals like you serve on the boards of hundreds of Charlotte-area arts and cultural organizations, and many more boards are in serious need of your services.

By serving on a non-profit board of directors, you learn to:

- Lead and influence people without having formal authority over them.
- Take risks at a level not necessarily open to you in your job.
- Discover multiple solutions to a problem.
- Resolve conflicts with other team members.
- Get opportunities to practice creative decision-making.
- Take an active part in the cultural life of the region.
- Work in a visible role with other community leaders.

At the same time, you will help the arts and cultural organizations you care about thrive and grow. Your work will be deeply appreciated. And you won't need a big bank account or social connections to be warmly welcomed.

CLT, an initiative of the Arts & Science Council of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Inc. (ASC), coaches emerging leaders with a strong desire to transfer their leadership skills and business savvy to service on boards of directors of nonprofit cultural organizations. Through CLT, these individuals gain a deeper understanding of the cultural community and their own talents and skills. They also become more effective collaborators and leaders, learn how to turn limited resources into successful outcomes and become enthusiastic advocates.

Eligibility:

- Participants must live or work in Mecklenburg County, NC
- Current or prior members of boards of directors for Charlotte-area nonprofit arts, science and history organizations are not eligible for this program.*
- Current staff members of nonprofit arts, science and history organizations are not eligible for this program.*

**ASC provides other training opportunities for existing board and staff members serving area arts, science and history organizations. Please check www.artsandscience.org for upcoming programs.*

Selection Process & Criteria: Class members are chosen by the CLT Selection Committee, which seeks participants representing a wide range of diverse backgrounds, perspectives, experiences and geographic distribution across Mecklenburg County. Committee members review and score all paper applications and then schedule interviews with finalists. You will be notified in early July whether or not you have been selected as a finalist. The Committee will choose up to 30 participants for the class, and all finalists will receive written notification of the Committee's decision by mid-August.

The Selection Committee is ultimately looking for individuals who are prepared to accept *leadership* roles as volunteers within arts and cultural organizations. As such, criteria for admission to CLT include demonstrated leadership abilities, strong personal initiative and motivation, and the ability to work well on teams that include varying viewpoints. Candidates should also have a strong commitment to the arts and/or other cultural disciplines.

Time Commitment: Approximately 32 hours over 9 educational sessions held at arts and cultural venues; board observations; social gatherings; and a culminating graduation event. At the end of the program, ASC facilitates placement for graduates on a board of directors as either an apprentice (typically a one-year term), committee member or as a full-term board member, personally working to find a good fit of interests and skills.

Program Fees: \$1,500 for corporate professionals - \$1,000 for nonprofit professionals or full-time volunteers. A limited number of partial scholarships are available and will be awarded based on need.

Class Selection & Program Timeline

- April:** Applications available on www.artsandscience.org
- until June 11:** Review of draft applications by ASC staff (optional but encouraged)
- June 18:** Application deadline – by 5:00 PM
- July:** Selection Committee reviews applications and identifies finalists by early July
Selection Committee schedules interviews with finalists
- August:** Selection Committee meets to deliberate and makes class recommendation
Finalists receive written notification of Committee decision by mid-August
- Sept – May:** Class programs
- June:** Class graduation (TBD)

2021-2021 Program Dates (tentative):

Session One/Orientation – Thursday, Sept. 30th (3-7pm)	
Session Two – Thursday, Oct. 28 (3:00-6:30pm)	Session Six – Thursday, February 17 (3:00-5:30pm)
Session Three – Thursday, Nov. 18 (3:00-6:30pm)	Session Seven – Thursday, March 17 (3:00-6:30pm)
Session Four – Thursday, Dec. 16 (3:00-6:30pm)	Session Eight – Thursday, April 21 (3:00-6:30pm)
Session Five – Thursday, Jan. 20 (3:00-6:30pm)	Session Nine – Thursday, May 19 (3:00-6:30pm)

*Dates/times may change slightly in some cases.

Additional Events (dates TBD):

CLT Graduation – June 2022 – TBD

FAQ's about the CLT program:

How does the CLT program work?

The curriculum includes nine educational sessions led by local nonprofit experts in partnership with cultural organizations. Sessions are held at different arts and cultural venues and usually incorporate a site tour or experiential activity and guided discussions/Q&A about key issues facing the nonprofit cultural field. Most sessions are designed to showcase a discipline (visual art, history, dance, performing arts), exploring the depth of program offerings in our community, and deliver content about key roles, responsibilities and challenges of board members. (NOTE: If meeting in person continues to be a challenge due to COVID-19, sessions will be delivered virtually.) At the end of the program, ASC places graduates with a board of directors as either a committee member, board apprentice (typically a one-year term) or as a full-term board member (typically a three-year term). CLT alumni also receive continued mentoring and support from ASC staff.

What do the training sessions cover? The program provides thorough training with a limited number of participants to promote more effective learning. Sample topics include: an overview of the cultural sector, legal and fiduciary obligations of the board, managing risk, crash course in fundraising, nonprofit financial statements, community engagement, board/staff relations, advocacy, and finding the right fit for your own board service.

Which organizations will accept CLT graduates on their boards? Participating organizations vary year by year, but CLT alumni have joined organizations like ASC, Blumenthal Performing Arts, Children's Theatre, Clayworks, Carolina Raptor Center, McColl Center for Art + Innovation, Festival in the Park, Jazz Arts Charlotte, Charlotte Ballet, Bechtler Museum of Modern Art, Arts+, Sustain Charlotte, Actor's Theatre of Charlotte and more.

Questions?

Please contact Katherine Mooring at katherine.mooring@artsandscience.org.

Learn More Online?

www.artsandscience.org/cultural-leadership-training-program