

Americans for the Arts 2025 Convention Member Committee FAQs

1. What is the goal of the Member Committee?

The goal of the Member Committee is to inform the programming for Americans for the Arts' 2025 Convention. This will be accomplished by collectively determining alongside Americans for the Arts and ArtsWave staff program tracks, creating a speaker/session application and evaluation rubric, recruiting applicants, assessing proposals, and selecting the final breakout session programming line-up.

2. Why create a Member Committee?

We heard the call from the field in 2020, embraced a path of transformation and began a journey toward our evolution. We heard overwhelmingly that *how* we do our work is as important as *what* we do. We have consistently heard from our members via the Strategic Realignment Process and the Local Arts Engagement Process Plan that they want to convene, and they want to co-create that space. We are excited to implement this element of collaboration in Convention planning.

The Member Committee is committed to reflecting the values of belonging, collaboration, and transparency.

- Belonging – We want everyone to feel welcome at Americans for the Arts. This committee is designed to reflect our constituency's and their community's diversity and to include a wide array of voices in this event's programming.
- Collaboration – Convention is for you! We want members to help us build the kind of convention they want to attend.
- Transparency – We want to be as transparent as possible about the process of planning this event. Including members in the decision-making process increases transparency and access. We want to ensure this process aligns work methods and values with an emphasis on active listening, trust building, and relationship development. Inclusive decision-making and opportunities for connection are key.

3. Who will make up the Member Committee?

The Member Committee will be comprised of Americans for the Arts staff, Arts Wave Cincinnati staff, and up to 12 Americans for the Arts professional members, either individual or through an organization.

4. How will those members be selected?

Applications to serve on the Member Committee open on May 14, 2024, and close on June 14, 2024. Applications will be evaluated by Americans for the Arts and Arts Wave staff, with

an eye towards selecting a group of members that represent the broad spectrum of people working in the local arts ecosystems. We are looking for applicants with a diversity of race, gender, geography, age, occupation, disability status and more. Applicants will be selected by the end of June and hear about their selection by July 2024

5. Who should apply to be on the Member Committee?

Any member of Americans for the Arts who is interested in helping to shape the 2025 Convention programming should apply! (Individual members and employees at organizations with Organizational Members are welcome!) If you are interested in becoming a professional member, please visit

<https://www.americansforthearts.org/membership/member-benefits-and-pricing>

6. What is the time commitment required to serve on the Member Committee?

We anticipate the time commitment to be between 20 and 40 hours of work spread across 12 months. This includes monthly virtual meetings and time spent outside of meetings reviewing speaker proposals. The bulk of the outside time commitment will be in February and March of 2025 as proposals will be due at the beginning of February, and we plan to make final presenter selections in March.

7. Will there be compensation?

Yes! All members serving on the Member Committee will receive a compensation package valued at over \$1,000 including a \$500 cash honorarium and one free Convention registration for the organization.

8. When does the application close?

June 14, 2024.

9. I have a question not answered here. Who should I reach out to?

Please contact Senior Membership Manager, Mandi Lee, at mlee@artsusa.org for any Member Committee-related questions!