

Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program

Mentor Artist

Town/City

Art Form

Ethnicity or
Cultural Community

Apprentice
(on application)

Funded FY23 (2022 – 23)

Kripa Baskaran	Brookfield	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Navya Francis (Brookfield) Reva Hegde (Brookfield) Anushka Guru (Brookfield)
Nels Diller	Madison	Traditional Norwegian Architecture	Norwegian	Lauren Newby (Madison)
Andrea Herkert	Belleville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Lisa Anderson (Nelsonville)
Steve Meisner	Whitewater	Piano Accordion Polka	Slovenian	Theodore Ceplina (Madison)
Nancy Odalen	Stoughton	Norwegian Rosemaling	Norwegian	Ella Beckler (Edgerton)
Pamela Rucinski	Oshkosh	Norwegian Rosemaling	Norwegian	Heather Clark (Sparta)
April Stone	Odanah	Black Ash Basketry	Ojibwe and Oneida	Rae Skenandore (Green Bay)
Lavanyaa Surendar	Brookfield	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Nivedha Nandhagopalan (Brookfield) Sanjana Vasireddy (Mequon) Joshitha Senthil (Brookfield)
Vanitha Suresh	Middleton	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	Indian	Joshitha Senthil (Middleton) Kaushal Yelgapuri (Middleton)
Sidonka Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting and egg decorating	Slovakian	Elizabeth Beunaiche (Genoa City)

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Mentor Artist	Town/City	Art Form	Ethnicity or Cultural Community	Apprentice (on application)
Eric Anang	Madison	Wood carving / design coffin carving (Abebuam Adeka)	Ghanaian	Frank Nortey (Richland Center)
Koffi Zoe Dogbevi	Madison	West African drumming and dance	Ewe (Togo)	Koffi Adanhou (Fitchburg)
Meenakshi Ganesan	Verona	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Sneha L Chandrashekar (Middleton) Sumathi Nagaraj (Madison) Ishika Pulimamidi (Middleton) Sowmya Venkat (Bloomington, IL)
Andrea Herkert	Belleville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Jill Willems (Iola)
Steve Meisner	Whitewater	Piano accordion Polka	Slovenian	Theodore Ceplina (Madison)
SeonJoo Oh	Shorewood	Korean folk paper crafts (Jong-le Jup-Ki)	Korean	Johanna Huges (Brookfield)
Vanitha Suresh	Middleton	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	Indian	Shreya Ramesh (Madison) Maya MahalRavi (Madison)
Djam Vivie	Madison	Djembe construction and drumming	Ghanaian	Joseph Kwame Gefia (Madison)
Sidonka Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting and egg decorating	Slovakian	Elizabeth Beunaiche (Genoa City)
Julia Weaver	Madison	Traditional handweaving	German American	Lisa Davidson (Middleton)
Vesile Yilmaz	Brookfield	Ebru, traditional Turkish paper-marbling – working on new surfaces, such as ceramics, wood, fiber, and leather	Turkish	Aycha Kaya (Elm Grove) Harika Aktepe (Franklin)

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Dana Warrington	Keshena	Traditional Woodland Porcupine Quillwork	Menominee	Iris Carufel (Stevens Point)

Funded FY21 (2020 – 21)

Kripa Baskaran	Brookfield	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Akshaya Ganesan (Brookfield) Maanya Sumali Shetty (Mequon) Samyukta Munagavalasa (Mt Pleasant)
Koffi Zoe Dogbevi	Madison	West African drumming and singing	Ewe (Togo)	Eva Akpandja (Madison)
Meenakshi Ganesan	Verona	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Saanvi Kondoju (Middleton) Ananya Cintham (Middleton) Aurodyuti Dutta (Naperville, IL)
Dylan Jennings	Odanah	Drum making and hide working	Ojibwe	Bryce Ekholm (Washburn)
Georgianne Liesch	Sheboygan Falls	Wood Type Production (for letterpress printing)	Occupational	Jennifer Anne (Manitowoc)
Jan Norsetter	Verona	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Jorunn (Dodie) Davies (Neenah)
Nancy Odalen	Stoughton	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Kathy Julseth (Edgerton)
Angela Smith	Milwaukee	Rootwork, traditional African American arts and medicine	African American	Naya Jones (Milwaukee)
Dennis White	Hayward	Traditional Ojibwe Finger Weaving	Ojibwe	Clarissa Bressette (Ashland) Edward Bressette (Bayfield)

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Vesile Yilmaz	Brookfield	Ebru, traditional Turkish paper-marbling	Turkish	Aycha Kaya (Elm Grove) Harika Aktepe (Franklin)

Funded FY20 (2019 – 20)

Kripa Baskaran	Brookfield	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Alexandra Mueller (Brookfield)
Meenakshi A. Ganesan	Verona	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Saathvika Gadi (Verona) Yogitha Rajkumar (Sun Prairie) Anoushka Kuckreja (Middleton) Jahnvi Datta (Verona)
Andrea Herkert	Belleville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Linda Schoenleben (Marshfield)
Steve Meisner	Whitewater	Polka music on accordion	Slovenian	Jakob Gmur (Whitewater)
Vanitha Suresh	Middleton	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	Indian	Nihaarika Mohanarangan (Madison)
Djam Vivie	Madison	Djembe drum making	Ghanaian	Cassanova Wimbish (Windsor)

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Funded FY19 (2018 – 19)

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Eric Anang	Madison	Wood carving (design coffins)	Ghanaian	Djam Vivie (Madison)
Kripa Baskaran	Brookfield	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Shreya Madhudi (Greenfield) Meera Joshi (New Berlin) Venika Vulpal (Madison) Neha Kulkarni (Madison)
Jarrod Dahl	Ashland	Green Woodworking	Scandinavian	Jonah Lindsley (Washburn)
Koffi Zoe Dogbevi	Madison	West African drumming	Ewe (Togo)	Othniel Messan (Madison)
Reva Fuhrman	Gresham	Raised beadwork	Mohican	Patricia Williams (Bowler) Monique Tyndall (Gresham) Jasmine Williams (Keshena)
Ivan Heller	West Allis	Klapa (traditional Croatian multipart singing)	Croatian	Ann Lebar (Milwaukee)
Andrea Herkert	Belleville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Nancy Odalen (Stoughton)
Ann Lebar	Milwaukee	Traditional Croatian singing	Croatian	Sima Susac-Heller (West Allis)
Steve Meisner	Whitewater	Polka music on accordion	Slovenian	Derrick Ziegenbein (De Pere)
Lois Mueller	Platteville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Jane Rux (Mount Horeb)
Vanitha Suresh	Middleton	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	Indian	Srihari Gopalan (Verona) Anaka Srinivas (Middleton) Abhishek Charan Jerome (Sun Prairie) Raghav Gopalakrishnan (Middleton)
Djam Vivie	Madison	Djembe drum making	Ghanaian	Mason Merline (Madison)
Sidonka Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting and egg decorating	Slovakian	Kathleen Zielinski (Milwaukee)

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Funded FY18 (2017 – 18)

Saehee Chang	Milwaukee	Pungmul (Korean traditional drumming)	Korean	Brooke Thiele (Milwaukee) Andrew Thiele (Milwaukee)
Vijaya Desikan	Madison	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	Indian	Ardra J Charath (Madison)
Reva Fuhrman	Gresham	Raised beadwork	Mohican	Wendel Waukau (Schofield) Patricia Williams (Bowler) Wendy Oleson (Wausau)
Meenakshi A. Ganesan	Verona	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Saivarshini Rishi (Madison) Esha Mahalingam (Middleton) Thejasshri Vembakkam (Madison)
Andrea Herkert	Belleville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Tara L. Austin (Madison)
Steve Meisner	Whitewater	Polka music on accordion	Slovenian	Derrick Ziegenbein (De Pere)
Frank Montano	Bayfield	Woodland Indian flute making and playing	Ojibwe	Clarence D. Pratt III (Bayfield)
Kim Robertson	Glendale	Irish harp music	Irish	Rosemarie I. Fortney (Milwaukee)
Vanitha Suresh	Middleton	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	Indian	Kavya N. Suravajhela (Madison) Nihaarika Mohanarangan (Madison)
Sidonka Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting and egg decorating	Slovakian	Kathleen Zielinski (Milwaukee)

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Funded FY17 (2016 – 17)

Kripa Baskaran	Brookfield	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Anusha Barath Kumar (Germantown) Madhavi Mani (Brookfield) Vibhusha Kolli (Brookfield) Smrithi Chanjeevaram (Brookfield)
Vijaya Desikan	Madison	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	Indian	Nikitha Balijepalli (Madison) Sai Varshini Rishi (Madison)
Tani Diakite	Madison	String instrument making	Malian	Djam Vivie (Madison)
Nels B. Diller	Madison	Woodworking and traditional architecture	Norwegian	Alex M Aakre (Onalaska)
Koffi Zoe Dogbevi	Madison	West African drumming	Ewe (Togo)	Jean Messan (Madison) Michel Toupotou (Madison)
Reva Fuhrman	Wausau	Raised beadwork	Mohican	Karmen Mason (Bowler)
Meenakshi A. Ganesan	Verona	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Meera Manoharan (Verona) Shriya Kata (Waunakee)
Dylan R. Jennings	Odanah	Drum making and hide preparation	Ojibwe	Joseph Cadotte (Odanah)
Lois J. Mueller	Platteville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Kathryn Ann Hartmann (Neenah)
Pamela I. Rucinski	Oshkosh	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Linda Kay Schoenleben (Marshfield) Carol Jane Bender (WI Rapids)
April L. Stone Dahl	Odanah	Black Ash basketry	Ojibwe	Joseph F. Cadotte (Saxon)
Djam Vivie	Madison	Drum making	Ghanaian	Maurice Bell (Madison)

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Willie W. Weaver-Bey	Milwaukee	Painting	African American	Qian Collins (Milwaukee) Melony Lawrence (Milwaukee)

Funded FY16 (2015 – 16)

Kripa Baskaran	Brookfield	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Aiesha Anchan (Waukesha) Diya Ramanathan (Hartland) Srimayi Mylavarapu (Brookfield)
Malia Lani Chow	Milwaukee	Hula Kahiko and 'Oli (dance and chant)	Hawaiian	Xiara Palos (Milwaukee) Angel Cara Cuevas (Wauwatosa) Melissa Nakama-Rasque (Milwaukee) Koryn Schulz (Lisbon)
Roberto Franco	Greendale	Mexica dance	Mexica	Jesús Castellón (Greenfield) Reina Esteves (Milwaukee)
Meenakshi Ganesan	Verona	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Apurupa Ballamudi (Verona) Meghna Datta (Verona)
Andrea L. Herkert	Belleville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Jane Rux (Mt. Horeb)
Karen Ann Hoffman	Stevens Point	Haudenosaunee raised beadwork	Oneida	Stefanie Sikowski (West Bend)
Dylan R. Jennings	Odanah	Drum making and hide preparation	Ojibwe	Russ Denomie (Odanah)
Vahan Kamalian	Franklin	Oud music	Armenian	Ari Souren Antreassian (Racine)
Daniel Lippitt	Madison	Silversmithing		James Peyton (Madison)
Steve Meisner	Whitewater	Polka music on accordion	Slovenian	Derrick Ziegenbein (De Pere)

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Lois Mueller	Platteville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Kathryn Hartmann (Neenah)
Pamela I. Rucinski	Oshkosh	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Linda Schoenleben (Marshfield) Carol Bender (Wisconsin Rapids)
Robert Schulz	Hillsboro	Blacksmithing: hand-forged hunting knives		Aaron Larson (La Farge)
Vanitha Suresh	Middleton	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	Indian	Kavya Suravajhela (Madison) Shruti Subramanian (Madison)
Sidonka Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting	Slovakian	Kathleen Zielinski (Milwaukee)
Vong Yang	Sheboygan	Qeej music and performance	Hmong	Ma Xiong (Sheboygan) Lilly Kue (Sheboygan)

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Funded FY15 (2014 – 15)

Kripa Baskaran	Brookfield	Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance)	Indian	Drisya Reghuram (New Berlin) Priyanka Iyer (Franklin)
J. Alberto Cardenas	Milwaukee	Mariachi music	Mexican	Margarita Sandoval Skare (Milwaukee)
Mardell M. Doubek	Two Rivers	Cutting wood type for letterpress printing	Occupational	Georgianne B Liesch (Burlington)
Andrea L. Herkert	Belleville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Patricia S Wade (Ferryville)
Dylan R. Jennings	Odanah	Drum making and hide preparation	Ojibwe	Russ Denomie (Odanah) Nizhoo Sullivan (Hayward)
Pamela I. Rucinski	Oshkosh	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Jan Norsetter (Verona)
Vanitha Suresh	Middleton	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	Indian	Anaka Srinivas (Middleton) Meera Manoharan (Verona) Shreya Seshadri (Madison) Mihika Sivakumar (Madison)
Sidonka J. Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting	Slovakian	Kathleen Zielinski (Milwaukee)

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Funded FY14 (2013 – 14)

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Florian Bieschke	Arbor Vitae	Book binding	European	Emily Umentum (Woodruff)
Zoe Koffi Dogbevi	Madison	Drumming, dancing, singing	Ewe (Togo)	Homnaka M. Akpandsa (Madison) Komi Wodeke (Madison)
Patricia Ehrenberg	Ripon	Quilting	German American	Laura Wild (Ripon)
Edward Kwasi Gbordzi	Fond du Lac	West African drumming and dancing	Ewe (Ghana)	Lindsay Adjavor (Madison) Delphine B. Vakunta (Madison) Maria Alice Jesson (Middleton)
Andrea Herkert	Belleville	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Nancy Odalen (Stoughton)
Karen Ann Hoffman	Stevens Point	Haudenosaunee raised beadwork	Oneida	Rodrick Elm (Stevens Point)
Vanitha Suresh	Middleton	Carnatic (South Indian classical) vocal music	South- Indian	Amit Rajesh (Madison) Srihari S. Gopalan (Madison)
Frank Montano	Bayfield	Woodland Indian flute making and playing	Ojibwe	Richard J. LaFernier (Bayfield)
Sidonka Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting	Slovakian	Germaine Bilicki (Richfield) Kathleen Zielinski (Milwaukee) Kate Bilicki (Richfield)
Vong Yang	Sheboygan	Qeej music and performance	Hmong	Jason Yang (Sheboygan) Meng Yang (Sheboygan)

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Funded FY13 (2012 – 13)

J. Alberto Cardenas	Milwaukee	Mariachi music	Mexican	Margarita Sandoval Skare (Milwaukee)
Roberto Franco	Greendale	Mexica ceremonial regalia	Mexican	Atzin Garcia (Milwaukee)
Karl Hartwich	Trempealeau	Dutchman-style polka	German American	John Sheehan (Huntley, IL)
Judy Ritger	River Falls	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Pat Wade (Ferryville)
Chong Vang	La Crosse	Storytelling	Hmong	Xong Xiong (Onalaska)
Tong Khai Vang	La Crosse	Blacksmithing	Hmong	Kong Mong Yang (La Crosse) Chong Pao Xiong (Onalaska)
Gina Yang	La Crosse	Sewing	Hmong	Pa Houa Vang (Onalaska) Shoua Thao (La Crosse) Jason Yang (La Crosse)

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Funded FY12 (2011 – 12)

Jose Chavez	Milwaukee	Cartonería (papier mâché sculptures)	Mexican	Armand Ibarra (Milwaukee)
Koffi Zoe Dogbevi	Madison	West African drumming	Ewe (Togo)	Marc K. Mlatawou (Madison) Toussaint Mlatawou (Madison)
Mona Kochendorfer	Bruce	Hindeloopen	Dutch	Rose Anderson (Bruce)
Roberto Franco	Greendale	Mexica ceremonial regalia	Mexican	Brenda Garcia (Milwaukee)
Sandra Peterson	Lac du Flambeau	Birch bark baskets	Ojibwe	Jason Peterson (Lac du Flambeau)
April Stone Dahl	Odanah	Black ash baskets	Ojibwe	Muriel Walker (Lac du Flambeau)
Sidonka Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting	Slovakian	Katie Bilicki (Richfield) Germaine Bilicki (Richfield)

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Funded FY11 (2010 – 11)

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Jose Chavez	Milwaukee	Cartonería (papier mâché sculptures)	Mexican	Emiliano Lake-Herrera (Milwaukee)
Tsyosha'aht C. Delgado	Oneida	Black ash baskets	Oneida	Matthew Cornelius (Oneida) Norma Metoxen-Rammer (Appleton) Kathleen Thomas (Milwaukee)
Roberto Franco	Greendale	Mexica dance	Mexica	Brenda Garcia (Milwaukee) Jose Luis Matamoros (Milwaukee) Daisy Perez (Milwaukee)
Elena Greendeer	Black River Falls	Moccasins	Ho Chunk	Marian Hungary (La Crosse)
Bobby Bullet St. Germaine	Iron River, MI	Songwriting	Ojibwe	Bill Chosa (Lac du Flambeau)
Tejumola Ologboni	Milwaukee	Storytelling	African American	Benjamin Watson (Milwaukee)
Nancy Schmidt	Waukesha	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Andrea Herkert (Belleville)
Evelyn Schultz	Ladysmith	Ceremonial pipes	Oglala Lakota	Denise Knott (Webster)
Jarrod Stone Dahl	Odanah	Birch bark canoes	Scandinavian	Patrick Mayotte (Ashland)
Djam Vivie	Madison	Drum building	Ghanaian	Joseph Schreiber Poznik (Madison) Tamaya Schreiber Poznik (Madison)
Sidonka Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting	Slovakian	Katie Bilicki (Richfield)
Ethel White	Milwaukee	Quilting	African American	Pinkie Williams (Milwaukee)

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Funded FY10 (2009 - 10)

Tani Diakite	Madison	Kamalin'goni making and tuning	Malian	Mustapha Bobson Dauda (Madison)
Wade Fernandez, Sr.	Keshena	Woodland flute music	Menominee	Menominee Tribal School Native Flute students (Keshena)
Roberto Franco	Greendale	Mexica dance	Mexican	Brenda Garcia (Milwaukee) Jose Luis Matamora (Mlwk)
Djam Vivie	Madison	Drum making	Ewe (Ghana)	Nicolas Ansah (Madison)

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Funded FY09 (2008 - 09)

Else Bigton	Barronett	Furniture making/ decorative carving	Norwegian	Colby Booth (Prescott)
Colleen Bins	Egg Harbor	Silverwork	Iroquois	Gabrielle Metoxen (De Pere) Schuyler Metoxen (Green Bay) Mercy Metoxen (Green Bay)
Alvin Briggs	Algoma	Blacksmithing	NA	Heather Gozdziwski (Kewaunee)
Pat Ehrenberg	Green Lake	Quilting	NA	Jill Koopman
Karen Ann Hoffman	Stevens Point	Haudenosaunee raised beadwork	Oneida	Chris Greendeer (Stevens Point)
Wyona Jack	Lac du Flambeau	Birch bark baskets	Ojibwe	Patty Philemon (Lac du Flambeau)
Gregory Johnson	Lac du Flambeau	Split toe moccasins	Ojibwe	Aaron Christensen (Lac du Flambeau)
Mona Kochendorfer	Kenosha	Hindeloopen decorative painting	Dutch	Rita Harmeling (Oostburg)
Frank Montano	Bayfield	Woodland flute making	Ojibwe	Neil McClelland (Herbster)
Christine Okerlund	Wittenberg	Quill embroidered birch bark baskets	Ojibwe	Sande Roth (Shawano)

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Funded FY09 (2008 - 09) Continued				
Nancy Schmidt	Waukesha	Rosemaling	Norwegian	Jeneva Lehmkuhl (Menomonee Falls)
Robert Siegel, Jr.	Mequon	Hand carved wooden shoes	Dutch	Luke Traver (Port Washington)
April Stone Dahl	Odanah	Black ash baskets	Ojibwe	Jenny Mayotte (Ashland)
Sidonka Wadina	Lyons	Straw plaiting and egg decorating	Slovakian	Barbara Jo Day (Burlington) Katie Bilicki (Richfield)
Dana Warrington	Keshena	Regalia	Menominee	Melinda Bain (Oneida)