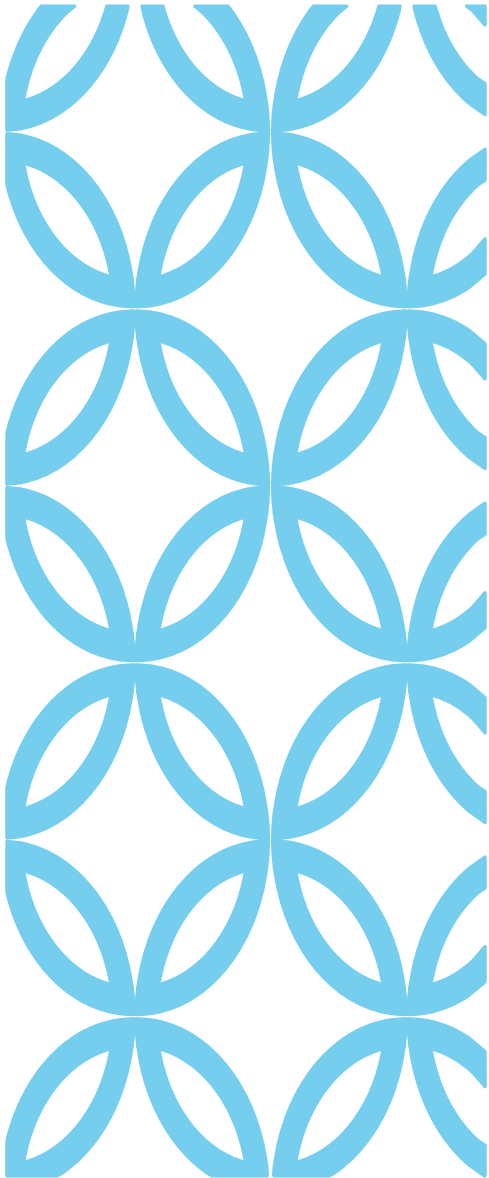




Folk Arts 101: State Folk Arts Programs

AGENDA

1. What the heck are folk arts anyway? A run-through – Annie Hatch
2. Where we're from and where we are now - Components of Folk Arts Programs in State Arts Agencies – Sally Van de Water
3. Meet the Artist: Impact of SAA programs with Starr Chief Eagle

**Make something with your
piece of paper while
Annie talks**

No writing. No drawing. Paper only.

WHAT IS FOLK ARTS TRADITIONAL ARTS FOLKLIFE

CAN THERE BE A QUICK RESPONSE?

THE WORDS

FOLK – people/groups of people that have something in common.

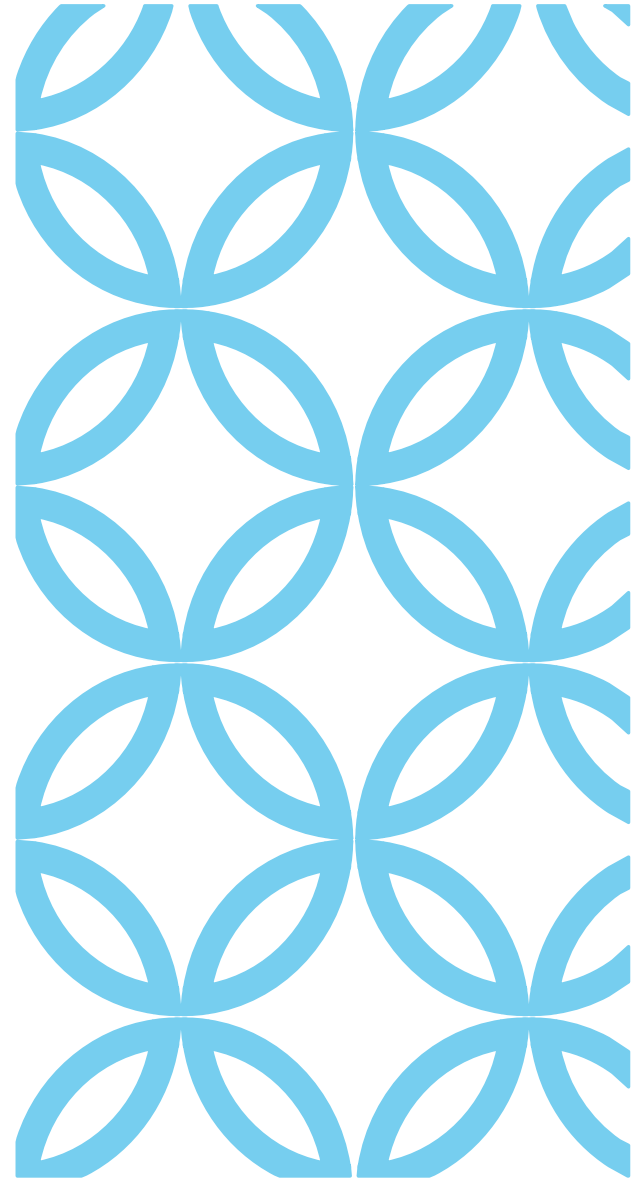
LIFE – activities done every day

ARTS – creative expressions

FOLKLIFE/FOLK ARTS

The creative expressions made by artists that reinforce shared cultural belief, values and practices.

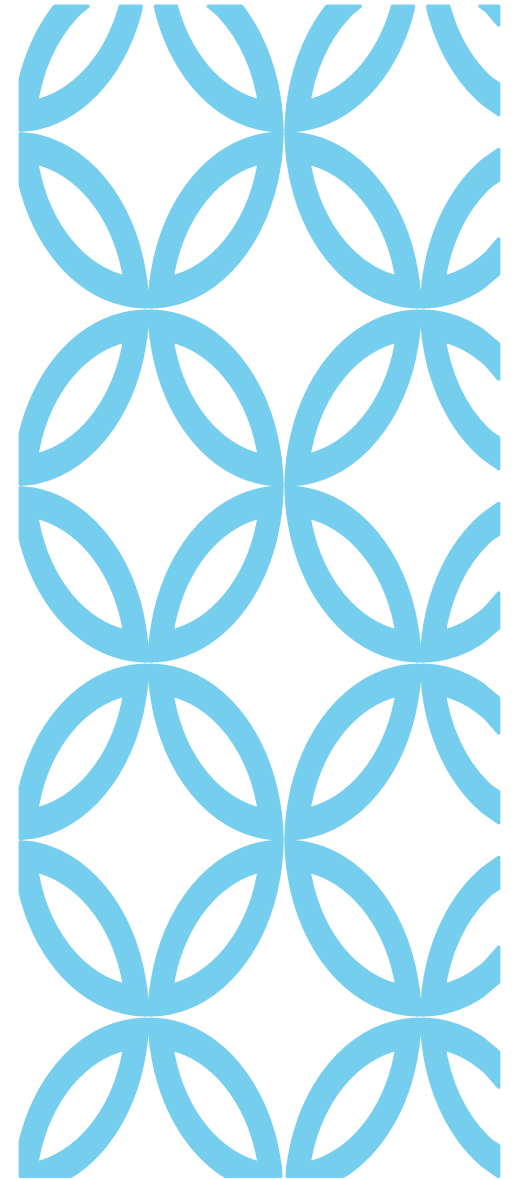
OR TRADITIONAL ARTS?

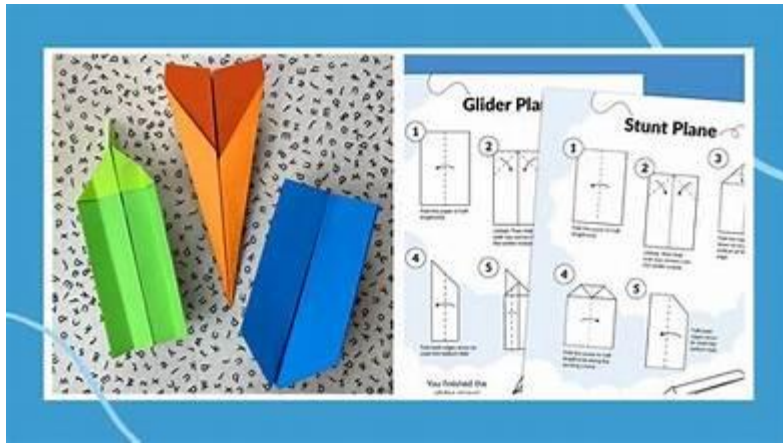


PAPER ARTS - Ice Breaker

Hold up your paper art and introduce yourself! Where are you from?

In the chat: please share your organization, how long you have been in the position, and what inspired you to come today.





SHARED COMMUNITY

- Ethnic heritage
- Cultural mores
- Language
- Religion
- Occupation
- Geographic region





CROSSES ARTISTIC GENRES

music, dance, crafts, and
oral expression

LEARNED

- Demonstration
- Conversation
- Practice
- Imitation



ENDURE

Passed on through
generations



ROOTED IN COMMUNITY, OR FAMILY CULTURAL LIFE

Reflective of the
cultural life of a
community.



PERSIST

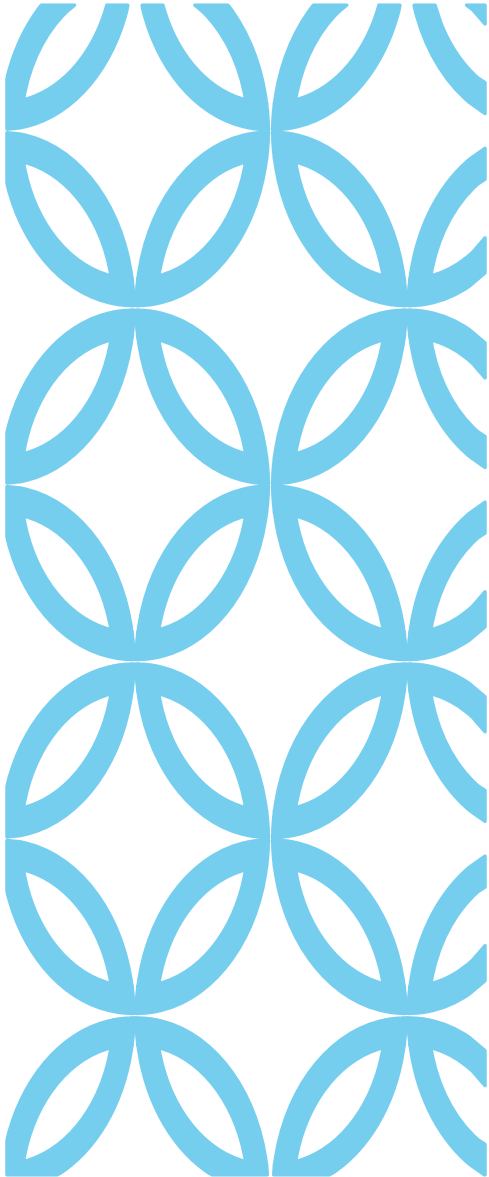
- Constantly reinvigorated



RESIST

Constantly
reimagined





HISTORY OF WHAT WE DO and program options

(6) that it is in the interest of the general welfare of the Nation to preserve, support, revitalize, and disseminate American folk-life traditions and arts.

(b) It is therefore the purpose of this Act to establish in the Library of Congress an American Folklife Center to preserve and present American folklife.

DEFINITIONS

SEC. 3. As used in this Act—

20 USC 2102.

(1) the term "American folklife" means the traditional expressive culture shared within the various groups in the United States: familial, ethnic, occupational, religious, regional; expressive culture includes a wide range of creative and symbolic forms such as custom, belief, technical skill, language, literature, art, architecture, music, play, dance, drama, ritual, pageantry, handicraft; these expressions are mainly learned orally, by imitation, or in performance, and are generally maintained without benefit of formal instruction or institutional direction;

(2) the term "Board" means the Board of Trustees of the Center;

(3) the term "Center" means the American Folklife Center established under this Act;

TELL A STORY ABOUT YOUR WORK

The best explanation is a personal story that draws an audience in and creates a space for questions.

- IDENTIFY

- Fieldwork Documentation

- SUPPORT

- Apprenticeship Grants
- Project Grants
- Professional Services
- Community Scholar Programs

- PRESENT

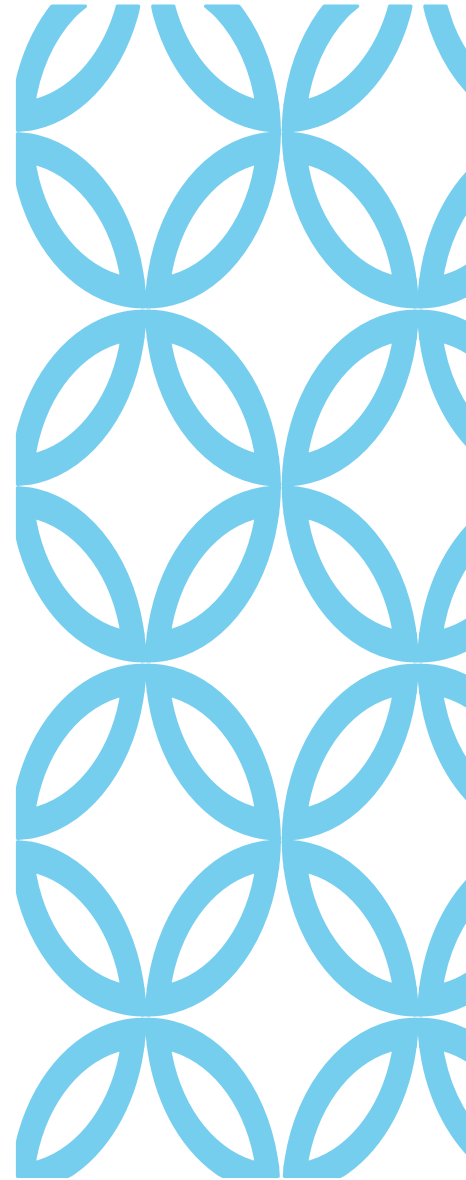
- Exhibits
- Publications
- Websites
- Podcasts
- Social Media
- Documentaries



GRANTS & SERVICES

● Apprenticeship Grants

- Master and Apprentice apply together
- 100 instruction hours over 6 months to one year
- Grant Review Criteria
 - Traditional Art
 - Quality of the Artists
 - Share Cultural Heritage
 - Reasonable Work Plan
 - Commitment to Continue



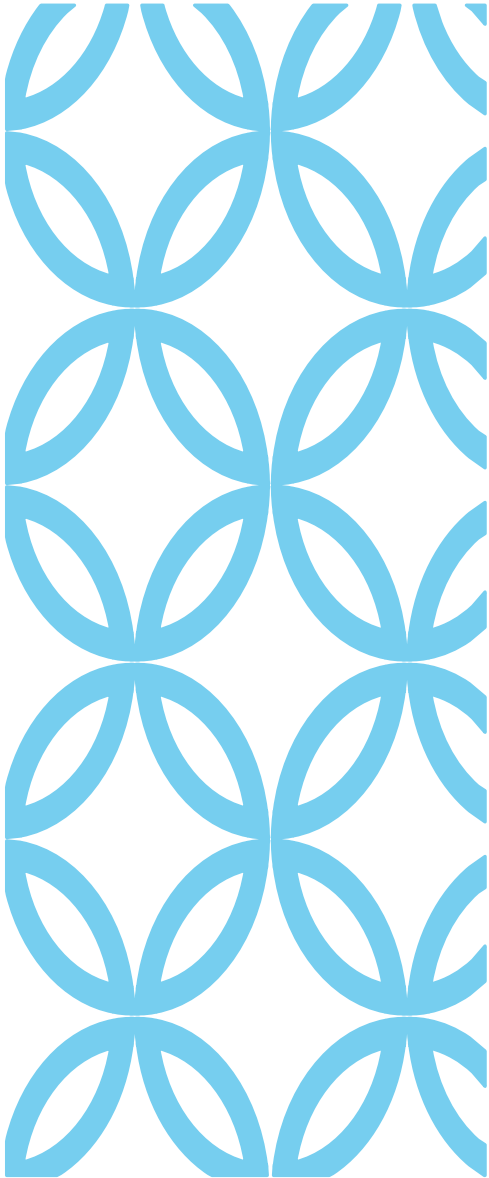


PRODUCTS OF OUR WORK

- Fieldwork

- Recordings
- Images
- Fieldnotes
- Collected materials
- Objects
- Ephemera
- Release Forms
- Donated items
- Miscelania
- Program documents
- Mail lists





Thank you!
Have fun with it!

On the Horizon

- **Shop Talk: Carrying the Folklife Torch Amidst Shifting Organizational Landscapes** with Libby Barbee (Colorado), Meagan Dion (Nebraska), Jamie Marshall (Minnesota), and Kate Van Steenhuyse on June 23, 2026 from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. ET
- **“My ‘Archive’ Is A Box Under My Desk”: Doable Archival Engagement for Folk Arts Partners** on July 8, 2026 from 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ET
- **Coffee Chat: Public Programs Section** with Ellie Dassler & Tour of the FAP PDI Resource Hub on July 22 from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ET

Stay tuned for more 2026 Hive programming & follow up with us with your feedback!
pro.dev@afsnet.org