

## Co-Op Market Lend A Hand Application Questions for Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival

### 1. Please provide your mission statement and a brief summary of your organization's work.

Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival's mission is to awaken your inner artist by connecting world-class professionals to aspiring artists, and giving people who are enthusiastic about the fine arts an outlet to pursue their passions.

The Festival was founded in 1980 by Jo Ryman Scott and Edward Madden, originally as a Jazz Festival. In 1981 they added classical music and in 1982, with other fine art genres incorporated, the community study-performance event officially became the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival. After continued growth, Winter Edition began in the early 2000s and a new opportunity for community arts became available. The Festival continues to add more disciplines based on requests from participants, including our popular culinary arts classes. Festival is recognized nationally, attracting artists from across the globe to the Interior.

Now, in a typical year, 10,000 people come together at the Festival every July to study, perform and engage their spirit in an empowering way. Offering 200 workshops and over 100 events, our multidisciplinary, study-performance Festival provides opportunities for both personal growth and arts appreciation in a variety of genres including music, dance, visual arts, healing arts, culinary arts, creative writing, and theatre. Especially as we emerge from the height of the pandemic, and plan for a more typical season, we look forward to renewing a spirit of unity in the community.

### 2. How does your work align with Co-op Market's mission and values?

The work of FSAF aligns with the mission and values of the Co-Op Market in our mutual focus on supporting the community through education, health, and support of local suppliers.

Education is at the heart of Festival! Through many disciplines, participants can learn a new skill or enhance their current practice through new information AND participation. In 2019, our last "typical year", the Festival had 17 culinary arts workshops and over 250 culinary participants. Guest chef Mario Giragosian, of The Four Seasons Resort in Santa Barbara, taught courses on Armenian cuisine and risotto. In 2022 FSAF continued a steady increase from the worst of the pandemic years and hosted 6 culinary workshops and had 98 registrants. In past years, local instructors taught workshops on topics including weekly meal planning, Polynesian cuisine, farm to table salads, restricted diets, and many more. We are proud to have such talented community members educating about cultural food, local ingredients, and healthy cooking. What a great partnership between the Co-Op Market providing diverse and local foods and the FSAF courses showing people what you can do with those foods.

Second, the arts contribute to a person's overall health, via their mind and soul, just as good food contributes to a healthy body. Gathering together as a community of volunteers, visitors, and participants at Festival events promotes understanding, well-being, mental and emotional health for everyone involved. People have a great time learning, serving, practicing and performing! We feel strongly about arts education in part because it promotes health and community feeling among the group members.

Finally, Festival values align with Co-Op values in supporting local suppliers and the economic health of the community. For Festival events we partner with local businesses in advertising, printing, event production, hospitality, tourism, and venue space. We support local artists, programs and farms by raising awareness of their work. Calypso Farm & Ecology Center, UAF/CTC Culinary Arts, ARTISTS? XX

### 3. How will the Lend a Hand funds be used?

If chosen, Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival would use the funds to lower the registration cost of up to 10 culinary arts workshops by \$15 per registrant during the 2023 summer festival, July 17- 31. This discount increases the appeal and affordability of the culinary courses, lowering the barrier to learning new culinary skills. Then, FSAF and instructors would use those Lend A Hand funds to purchase ingredients and supplies locally. In the cooking courses, participants can see how to use locally available foods. The funds benefit the community twice: once for course participants, and again by helping us continue to purchase ingredients locally. A couple instructors even cruise the Farmer's Market for fresh produce, benefiting farms directly.

At a typical course maximum of 15 people, with a \$10 reduction each, for 10 courses, we would expect to use \$2,250. Funds over \$2,250 would go toward printing materials and advertising costs, which get the word out about Festival dates, course offerings, and exciting updates to this 2023 season. If selected for May, June, or July, course catalogs can be made available at the Co-Op.

### 4. If your organization has received funding from Co-op Market in the past, please describe how this funding supported your organization and mission.

FSAF has not been awarded Lend A Hand funds before.

### 5. What is your elevator pitch? Cashiers usually have about 10 seconds to describe our monthly recipient to a shopper. Please describe your organization and how the funds will be used in 100 words or less.

Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival offers workshops and performances for two fabulous weeks each year. The multidisciplinary, study-performance Festival offers opportunities for both personal growth and arts appreciation in music, dance, visual arts, healing arts, culinary arts, creative writing, theatre, and more. Lend A Hand funds will be used to provide a \$10 registration discount for up to 150 cooking class participants.