About Performing Arts Discovery: American Sounds

Performing Arts Discovery: American Sounds (PAD: American Sounds) introduces presenters from outside the United States to artists representing quintessentially American music – traditional/folk, Native American, jazz, blues, Gospel, zydeco, country, bluegrass and more.

- A cohort of invited presenters from abroad will attend showcase and festival performances in the South Arts region in spring 2019. From April 8-15, 2019, programmers will participate in the French Quarter Jazz Fest in New Orleans, Louisiana, and the Baton Rouge (LA) Blues Festival. Presentations by music scholars and field trips to culturally significant sites will also be on the program. During these multi-day, immersive visits, presenters will meet and experience the work of traditional and jazz musicians and their management, talk with scholars and folklorists about these unique musical forms, engage with other U.S. presenters, and share their own programming visions.

- To date, PAD: American Sounds has hosted three cohorts of international programmers from festivals and concert series in Australia, Ireland, Switzerland, France, Belgium, the U.K., Serbia, Hong Kong, Lebanon, Mexico, Hungary, Armenia, Scotland and Bulgaria. Programmers have visited Merlefest (NC), World of Bluegrass (NC), a curated tour of Nashville (TN), and attended curated PADAS showcases and other conference activities at the Performing Arts Exchange (PAE) in Orlando, FL. Artists and guest programmers have one-on-one opportunities to discuss artistic vision, touring/presenting goals, and begin to build relationships.

- The goal of Performing Arts Discovery: American Sounds is to build and expand relationships that result in new opportunities for American musicians to tour abroad.

Participation in this project is by invitation.

South Arts, a regional arts organization, advances Southern vitality through the arts.

Programmers invited to participate receive:

- Travel stipend to assist with international airfare to the U.S.
- All lodging and travel expenses within the U.S.
- Access to all festival/showcase performances, including VIP access when possible.
- Connection to other PADAS programmers to assist with international networking and touring opportunities

Generally, programmers to be considered for this program should have a history or strong interest in presenting American traditional music, jazz and/or blues, and have previously had few or no opportunities to visit the U.S. to experience the work of American musicians.


The PAD: American Sounds Team:

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Programmers
Interested in American jazz and blues? To be considered for PADAS Spring 2019, please contact Lucas Knoflach, Sound Diplomacy, at lucas@sounddiplomacy.com.

If you have presenting colleagues outside of the U.S. who may be interested in these American musical genres, please visit http://www.southarts.org/touring-arts/padamerican-sounds/ and submit the Presenter Referral form.

Alternate formats of this publication may be obtained by contacting South Arts at (404) 874-7244 x 31.