

## **Convergence: A Creative Community of Faith Artist in Residence Agreement**

In an effort to act as an advocate for the arts in our community, world and church, Convergence: A Creative Community of Faith has committed to an ongoing program of resident artists.

Robert Webber describes a residency program very simply in these terms: *“In return for studio space and appropriate monetary remuneration, the artist-in-residence is available to create visual arts for worship, to instruct worshippers about the nature of visual arts in worship, and to involve members of the congregation in the design and fabrication of the arts in worship.”* These terms can be applied to **artists of all mediums** as well.

This is an effort to move beyond theoretical discussion of the value of arts and artists in the life of the Christian community. This is an attempt to weave the arts into the fabric of our culture as well as engage those who are professionals and students in the arts to educate us as a church in these valuable languages, tools and expressions.

### **Our program is described in this way:**

- A.** A partnership with an artist will be made for a period of anywhere from 3 weeks to 4 months. This artist (writer, painter, musician, photographer, dancer, actor, etc) will agree to spend a specified number of hours each month actively engaged in the ministries of the church. They may participate in worship services; teach classes, offer workshops, lead projects for the congregation, etc. They will be expected to contribute heavily to the development and life of the congregation through their presence. Finally, the artist will be expected to donate a permanent piece of work to the congregation.
- B.** In return the artist will receive a package which may include; space in which to work, materials, housing, and/or stipend. They will most beneficially receive a welcome environment in which to pursue their own work, risk and engage a loving Christian community.
- C.** A council of no less than three people and no more than five will be assembled to determine the selection of artists in residence and the projects to be completed during the agreed time period.

### **Expectations of the Church:**

1. The artist is expected to spend an agreed upon time on site either working in studio space or with congregants and leadership on pre-determined projects.
2. The artist will work with the worship team and arts groups on a consistent basis – recommend books to study, enter discussions.
3. The artist will be available to visitors in the studio as well as commit to discussions with interested parties about the artistic process and the intersection with theology and the church.

4. The artist will serve as a liaison to the community, available to speak about the resident artist program at the request of the arts council.
5. The artist agrees to work on a specified number of projects with the church as outlined in the proposal document.
6. One piece of art, video, performance, etc. will be given to the community by the artist to keep.
7. The artist will be expected to aid in educating the community about art and worship/ art and the life of the church by producing a booklet or video, teaching a workshop or leading a Bible study series. (Other options may be discussed and agreed between the artist and arts council.)

**Expectations of the Artist:**

1. The artist is given space and time to work on their personal projects with the full support and blessing of the congregation and community.
2. Possible stipend
3. Possible housing
4. Private studio space
5. Use of internet connection
6. Use of office equipment
7. Materials for projects related to the church
8. The artist is welcome to use studio and church space for additional hours at their convenience and no additional cost to the church.

The Resident Artist \_\_\_\_\_ will serve from \_\_\_\_\_. The artist is expected to spend \_\_\_\_\_ on site either working in studio space or with congregants and leadership on pre-determined projects. The resident will receive \_\_\_\_\_ total in stipend. The resident will receive \_\_\_\_\_ of housing. The resident will receive studio space in the \_\_\_\_\_ building to be available to the resident at \_\_\_\_\_ times and days.

**Artist Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Arts Council Representative Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Application process:

- 1. Please explain in as much detail as possible your reasons for applying for an artist in residence at Convergence. Please be sure to include project descriptions of what you plan to work on during your time with us as well as your reasons for choosing to work with a Christian organization such as Convergence: A Creative Community of Faith.**
- 2. Please list relevant education and experience. You may attach a resume instead.**

**3. Three References:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

**Agreed upon project description:**