

Arts & Science Council (ASC) and Foundation For The Carolinas (FFTC) Partnership FAQs

- 1. Why is the Arts & Science Council merging with the Foundation For The Carolinas? ASC has joined with FFTC as a supporting organization to enhance its sustainability and amplify its impact. This partnership will allow us to continue creating and sustaining a vibrant cultural ecosystem in Charlotte-Mecklenburg by combining resources and streamlining operations for greater community benefit.
- 2. How will this partnership affect ASC's mission, commitment to equity and programs? The partnership will strengthen ASC's ability to support the cultural community. We continue to believe that arts, culture and creativity play a critical role in creating a sense of belonging to a community. Our mission to drive community retention, promote equity, and foster community engagement through arts and culture remains unchanged. ASC remains fully committed to providing equitable opportunities for all Charlotte-Mecklenburg residents which will continue to be a guiding principle in our work. The partnership will increase our capacity to fund and sustain programs that support local artists, community initiatives, and cultural experiences.
- 3. Will the partnership create staff changes or affect how ASC operates? While ASC will continue its work, the supporting organization structure allows us to operate under FFTC's umbrella, benefiting from shared resources, improved operational efficiencies, and broader philanthropic reach. Our programs, including grants, public art, workshops, and community events, will continue as planned. Our current team remains intact, and we will have new positions opening in the future to further optimize our efficiencies.
- 4. Will the ASC brand change as a result? ASC's brand will remain intact, and there will be cobranding opportunities. Our identity as the cultural catalyst in Charlotte-Mecklenburg continues to guide everything we do. FFTC will provide a supportive framework while ASC's unique voice, mission, and programs will stay the same. While we continue to operate under the Arts & Science Council name, our legal name has changed to Arts, Sciences and Cultural Council of Charlotte/Mecklenburg, and you may see this name on written documents such as grant agreements.

- 5. What does this mean for ASC's donors and supporters? Donors can continue supporting the Arts & Science Council as they always have. We will continue to ensure that donor contributions are managed with the highest level of accountability, transparency, and efficiency. The partnership allows us to enhance the impact of every dollar invested in our cultural ecosystem.
- 6. Will this affect the grants or grant process that ASC offers to artists and organizations? No, ASC's commitment to funding local artists and cultural organizations remains strong. Our grant programs will continue, and the partnership provides additional stability to ensure long-term support for the arts community in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Funding opportunities will continue as planned and announcements will be made via email, social media, and local media outlets.
- 7. How will this partnership benefit the local arts community? By partnering with FFTC, ASC gains greater financial and operational stability, allowing us to expand our impact. This collaboration will help attract more donors, enhance community engagement, and ensure that artists and cultural organizations have the resources they need to thrive.
- 8. What changes should Culture Blocks participants expect? Culture Blocks programming will continue without disruption. We remain committed to providing accessible cultural experiences in neighborhoods across Charlotte-Mecklenburg, and the partnership will only strengthen our ability to deliver these programs.
- 9. I'm an artist/creative. How will this impact my relationship with ASC? Artists and creatives will continue to receive the same level of support from ASC. Our resources, grants, and platforms for creatives to grow and share their work remain central to our mission. The partnership simply provides additional stability and long-term investment in supporting the creative community.
- 10. Will ASC's philanthropic efforts be affected? ASC's fundraising efforts will continue, and the partnership will provide a stronger foundation for us to drive more impactful fundraising initiatives. Donors can expect greater transparency and efficiency in how funds are managed, ultimately benefiting the cultural ecosystem we are committed to building.
- **11. Will ASC continue to manage the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Art Program?** Yes, ASC will proudly continue its 20+ years of managing the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Art Program. This partnership will not impact our leadership of this important community initiative.



- **12.** How will this partnership affect current, in-progress public art projects managed by ASC? There will be no interruptions, and ASC's public art team will continue managing the 32 City/County public art projects that are currently in progress.
- **13.** Is the Public Art Commission still involved in the Public Art Program? Yes, the Public Art Commission will remain a vital partner in the Public Art Program, helping ensure community involvement and the success of public art initiatives.
- 14. How can I participate in the Grants, Culture Blocks and Public Art
 Programs? ASC regularly hosts public art presentations, workshops, Culture Block
 events and posts funding opportunities for individuals and organizations on our
 website, artsandscience.org. You can also follow us on social media
 @ASCCharlotte for the latest updates and events.
- **15. Who should I contact if I have more questions?** If you have further questions, please reach out to Adam Santalla Pierce at adam.santalla@artsandscience.org and we will be happy to provide any additional information.

