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## APPLICATIONS FOR MASTER ARTIST / APPRENTICE PROGRAM NOW OPEN

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (Aug. 3, 2015) –Tennessee Craft (formerly TACA), in partnership with the Tennessee Arts Commission, is offering an opportunity for emerging makers to learn traditional and contemporary craft skills from master-level craftsmen.

Now entering its seventh year, the 2015-2016 Master Artist / Apprentice Program (MAAP) opens the door for emerging artists to take their craft to the next level using relevant and alternative educational experiences. During a six month, one-on-one mentorship, MAAP ensures that the skills and knowledge needed to continue our state's craft heritage live on.

Applications, to be completed together by master and artist, are available until October 31, 2015. After this date a jury panel will select program participants. Eligible craft media includes basketry, clay, fiber/textiles, furniture, glass, jewelry, metal, 2D and 3D mixed media, paper, printmaking, sculpture and wood.

Apprenticeships will last from December 1 through June 15 with a final exhibit to be held at the Tennessee Arts Commission Gallery.

“Passing down this knowledge will ensure that craft is a continued part of our community,” Teri Alea, executive director of Tennessee Craft said. “Learning these skills allows artists to move to the next step in their career,” she said, “and ultimately we are helping more artists see craft as a viable career path.”

Interested artists are encouraged to review the guidelines and application available on the Tennessee Craft website, [www.tennesseecraft.org/programs/maap](http://www.tennesseecraft.org/programs/maap).

For more information please visit [www.tennesseecraft.org/programs/maap](http://www.tennesseecraft.org/programs/maap).

### About Tennessee Craft

The Tennessee Association of Craft Artists (TACA) is now Tennessee Craft. Since 1965 the organization has worked to continue and create Tennessee's fine craft tradition. With more than 600 members throughout the state, Tennessee Craft serves as the premiere connecting point for local, independent makers and their audiences through craft fairs, exhibitions and educational programs.

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