



DURANGO ARTS CENTER & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

802 East 2nd Avenue | Durango, CO 81301 | PH (970) 259-2606 | www.DurangoArts.org

Code of Ethics

Board of Directors Policy Statement

MISSION

The Durango Arts Center (DAC) provides Durango and surrounding communities opportunities to create, to promote, and to participate in diverse arts experiences. The DAC brings people together to explore and engage in arts and culture by fostering creative expression through in-house exhibitions, performances, and educational programs for all ages and abilities.

VISION

The DAC strives to support a creative dialogue among community members, ensuring that culture informs local decision-making and enriches our lives.

CODE OF ETHICS

Given its mission, the Durango Arts Center has adopted a code of ethics to guide its board members, committee members and staff in their conduct when acting on behalf of the DAC. The Code contains broad principles reflecting the types of behavior the DAC expects towards constituents, donors, employees, peers and the public.

This policy is not intended as a stand-alone policy. It does not embody the totality of the DAC ethical standards, nor does it answer every ethical question or issue that might arise. Rather, it is one element of a broader effort to create and maintain a quality organization that gives ethical conduct the highest priority. This Code will be reviewed annually.

Board members, committee members and staff should:

1. Listen to our stakeholders and make all reasonable efforts to satisfy their needs and concerns within the scope of our mission, and to strive for excellence and innovation and demonstrate professional respect and responsiveness to constituents, donors and others.
2. Make an effort to understand, respect and support our constituents from other cultures, exemplified by the contributions of our staff and executive leadership, and to contribute to an organizational culture that respects the diverse, individual contributions of staff and leadership.
3. Comply with applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and fiduciary responsibilities in an effort to create transparency in all of our operations.
4. For the board of directors, provide credible and effective oversight to the organization's work without personal bias.
5. Not accept commissions, gifts, payments, loans, promises of future benefits or other items of value from anyone who has or may seek some benefit from the DAC in



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return, other than occasional gifts of nominal value that are in keeping with good business ethics.

6. Abide by the governing documents and policies of the DAC.
7. Be accountable for adhering to this Code of Ethics.
8. Implement and follow a Conflict of Interest Policy.
9. Act at all times in accordance with the highest ethical standards and in the best interest of the DAC, its members, constituents, donors and reputation.
10. Openly and honestly tell the truth.
11. Honor our commitments and promises to the best of our abilities.
12. Appropriately acknowledge contributions from other individuals and organizations that help facilitate our goals.
13. Not be deceptive in our fundraising activities or in prospecting for new members to join the DAC.
14. Advocate for all nonprofit organizations, but not for any specific initiative - being respectful to the sector as a whole.
15. Not lobby with the intent to influence individual political representatives or candidates.

COMPLIANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING

The Durango Arts Center management is responsible for communicating this Code of Ethics to all members of the board of directors, standing committee members, as well as staff, interns and staff volunteers and for ensuring its adherence at all times.

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