



Regular Meeting of the  
**Cuyahoga Arts & Culture Board of Trustees**  
Virtual Event\*  
Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 4:00 pm

- 1. Call to order, approval of minutes**
  - a. Call to order
  - b. Call the roll
  - c. Swear in new board member Jenita McGowan
  - d. Motion to approve September 9, 2020 minutes
  
- 2. Public Comment on Today's Agenda**
  
- 3. Executive Director's Report**
  
- 4. Action Items and Reports – Grantmaking**
  - a. COVID: 2020 grants
    - i. Action: Update Project Period from 2020 to 2021 due to COVID-19 for 70 grants
  - b. CARES reimbursable grants for arts organizations
    - i. Action: Accept grant from Cuyahoga County for \$2,664,000 from CARES Act Funds
    - ii. Action: Approve CARES guidelines and forthcoming grants ranging from \$3,000 - \$150,000
  - c. Project Support 2021
    - i. Action: Approval of scores and grants
  - d. General Operating Support 2021
    - i. Action: Approval of grants
  
- 5. Action Items and Reports – Finance and General Business**
  - a. **Finance Report**
  - b. **Approval of contracts/policies**
  - c. **Strategic Alliance update**
  
- 6. Adjourn**

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 4 pm Location: TBD

*\*Note: In accordance with [Ohio General Assembly House Bill 197](#), public meetings of Cuyahoga Arts & Culture's Board of Trustees will take place electronically as part of the COVID-19 response. Cuyahoga Arts & Culture will continue to post advance meeting notices and will provide the public access to the discussions and deliberations of its Board of Trustees at [cacgrants.org](http://cacgrants.org).*



**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
Wednesday, September 09, 2020

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A meeting of the Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:13 pm as a Virtual Event in accordance with Ohio General Assembly House Bill 197.

The roll call showed that Trustees Hanson, Mendez, Scott Taylor and Sherman were present. It was determined that there was a quorum.

Also in attendance were: CAC staff: Jill Paulsen, executive director; Luis Gomez; Meg Harris; Cheyanne Jeffries; Heather Johnson-Banks; India Pierre-Ingram; and Jake Sinatra.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Trustee Hanson, seconded by Trustee Scott Taylor, to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2020 Board meeting. Discussion: None. Vote: all ayes. The motion carried.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no public comments on the meeting agenda items.

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Paulsen thanked everyone for joining her and the Board. Ms. Paulsen's remarks can be found [here](#).

**4. FINANCE REPORT**

Ms. Harris' report can be found [here](#).

**5. BOARD ACTION – Finance and General Business**

**Election of Officers**

Approval and vote of the slate of officers for the election for Cuyahoga Arts & Culture Board of Trustees.

Motion by Trustee Mendez, seconded by Hanson, to approve for the election of officers for Cuyahoga Arts & Culture Board of Trustees. Discussion: Vote: all ayes. The motion carried.

**Approve updates to Internal Controls Policies and Procedures**

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Ms. Harris walked through the updates to Internal Controls Policies and Procedures. The updates to the policies will allow for a smoother process of sending out payments. Additionally, there is still a two-person review but online.

Motion by Trustee Hanson, seconded by Scott Taylor, to approve the updates to Internal Controls Policies and Procedures. Discussion: Vote: all ayes. The motion carried.

### **Approval of one-year lease with PSF**

Ms. Paulsen updated Playhouse Square rental of a one-year lease. This will allow for an extension up to one-year but more flexibility to exit contract if need. Paying under market rate for space. Ms. Harris shared that we could exit out of the contract for rent within 7 months.

Motion by Trustee Hanson, seconded by Scott Taylor, to approve the updates to Internal Controls Policies and Procedures. Discussion: Vote: all ayes. The motion carried.

### **Approval of personnel report**

Ms. Harris walked through the appointment of Luis Cartagena to the Audit and Finance Committee.

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Mendez, to approve the updates to Internal Controls Policies and Procedures. Discussion: Vote: all ayes. The motion carried.

## **6. STRATEGIC ALLIANCE UPDATE**

Trustee Sherman updated the Board on the strategic alliance project led by consultant WolfBrown to date. Trustee Sherman shared that that the parties continue to explore ways to collaborate and align work. That it will align our sector and Ms. Paulsen shared that three entities (CAC, Arts Cleveland, and Arts and Culture Action Committee) are working together on how-to best support organizations and partners. Ms. Paulsen shared that in the future there will be opportunity to engage and ask the public what it needs.

Ms. Paulsen shared that she would miss Megan Van Voorhis and working in partnership with her. It has been a process of trust and commitment.

Trustee Mendez shared that this is the time to align our visions for the future and support our arts community.

Motion by Trustee Mendez, seconded by Trustee Hanson, to approve the updates around the Strategic Alliance. Discussion: Trustee Scott Taylor hopes there is more clarity around her questions and gain more insight. Vote: all ayes. The motion carried.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Trustee Mendez, seconded by Trustee Hanson, to adjourn the meeting. Discussion: None. Vote: all ayes. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

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Charna Sherman, President, Board of Trustees

Attest:

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Michele Scott Taylor, Secretary, Board of Trustees

**Executive Director's Report  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
November 10, 2020**

Welcome to our November meeting.

**Today we celebrate our new and returning grant recipients.** At this meeting we will conduct a majority of our 2021 grantmaking. I thank our grant applicants and the CAC staff for the months of work it took to get to today. I continue to be grateful for our team's humble and thoughtful approach to their daily work – something that is even more valued as we slog through our eighth month of the pandemic.

In preparation for our meeting, please focus your attention on a slate of Board actions, including the review and approval of **2021 Project Support and 2021 General Operating Support grants.**

As you'll read in the memos that follow, we recommend **295 grants totaling \$12,033,641 for our core grants programs in 2020.**

Additionally, the important work of the strategic alliance continues. An early win for this partnership among CAC, Arts Cleveland and the PAC was the securing of **\$4M in CARES Act funding** to support the local, creative economy. We are grateful to the Country Executive and Council for their support. [CAC will distribute \\$2.64 million](#) of these funds to CAC-funded arts nonprofits. The recommended guidelines are in this packet. Our team is working closely with Arts Cleveland to support their companion CARES grant programs for artists and for-profit performing arts venues.

Finally, I want to make public mention of the passing of Kevin Moore, managing director of Cleveland Play House and all-around arts advocate. We wrap the CPH team, Kevin's husband and family in love as they move through this painful time. This [piece in American Theatre](#) shares more about Kevin's impact on the local and national arts community.

Thanks, as always, for your attention to the matters before the Board today.

## CAC Board Meeting November 10, 2020 Updates from Staff

Each year, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture staff members identify team objectives to guide our work that are mindful of the staff team [agreements](#) that we have made with one another, and grounded in CAC's [Mission, Vision & Values](#). Our team objectives fall into three areas: 1) grantmaking; 2) communication and raising awareness; and 3) effective teamwork and operations.

**What follows is a brief update on the progress made since last the Board met in September.** View a list of our [2020 team objectives](#), which guide our work.

### GRANTMAKING / Connecting with artists and organizations

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**CARES Funding for Nonprofit Arts & Cultural Organizations.** In October, Cuyahoga County approved \$4 million for the arts and culture sector, \$2.64 million of which will be distributed by Cuyahoga Arts & Culture. Nonprofits awarded a 2020 Project Support or General Operating Support grant with a primary mission of arts and culture may be eligible to request CARES funds to reimburse them for expenses related to COVID-19. Per the federal guidance, organizations will need to demonstrate that the expenses were COVID-19 related and provide documentation via receipts, invoices, etc. The remaining funds will be distributed through Arts Cleveland to artists and for-profit performing arts businesses.

At the November 10 meeting, we will ask the Board to accept a grant in the amount of \$2.64 million from Cuyahoga County CARES Act funds and move to approve the related guidelines and forthcoming grants. We are pleased to have worked in partnership with Arts Cleveland, the Arts & Culture Action Committee, and the Northeast Ohio Chapter of the National Independent Venues Association to have secured this funding and appreciate that the County recognizes the important role of the creative economy in our region.

**General Operating Support.** Cuyahoga Arts & Culture's General Operating Support program provides meaningful, multi-year grants to arts and cultural organizations based in Cuyahoga County. In 2019, the current slate of 65 organizations applied and were approved to receive funding. At the November meeting, the Board will approve **65 grants totaling \$10,200,000. These awards are for the second year of this biannual grant program.** As such, the organizations and their grant amounts will remain the same from 2020 to 2021 and range in size from approximately \$13,000 to over \$1.1 million. Given the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, this steady and consistent approach will also offer needed stability to grant recipients.

**Project Grants Moving to 2021.** At the November 10 meeting, CAC will ask the Board to approve moving several 2020 project-based grants to 2021. In response to COVID-19 grant recipients were given the option to extend their grant through the next year to accommodate cancellations and shutdowns due to public health restrictions. In addition to 69 Project Support grants moving to 2021, The Cleveland Orchestra's 2020 Star-Spangled Spectacular grant will also be recommended for 2021 approval. Additional information is available in the corresponding memo.

**Panel Review for 2021 Project Support.** CAC conducted the Project Support I panel on October 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>. Due to the ongoing pandemic the panel was conducted on Zoom and livestreamed via YouTube with nearly 200 viewers in attendance or watching the recordings following the event.

- 9 panelists reviewed 52 applications, 50 of which are recommended for funding.

Once again this year, staff managed the Project Support II panel in an online process.

- 12 panelists reviewed 114 applications. 111 applications are recommended for funding. Panelists shared feedback along with their scores, which will be shared with applicants as an educational tool for future applications.

For more information about our panelists and panel process, please see the corresponding memos.

**Support for Artists.** To date, more than 30 artists have received awards or are participating in artist programs through SPACES, Julia de Burgos, Karamu House and the Center for Performance and Civic Practice's Learning Lab. LAND Studio's *Studio to the Street* professional development series is underway and features studio tours and learning sessions for artists. Cleveland Public Theatre's project has been extended through 2021. CPT recently announced an RFP for artists with applications due in November. Projects are being evaluated on a rolling basis and several are coming to a close. At the next Board meeting, we look forward to bringing grant recommendations to continue this work in 2021.

**Neighborhood Connections Grants.** In addition to CAC's primary grants slated for approval, we're pleased to announce the co-funding of 20 resident-led arts and culture projects through our ongoing partnership with Neighborhood Connections (a program of the Cleveland Foundation). The co-funded projects will support resident-led activities in a variety of neighborhoods in Cleveland and East Cleveland. A sampling of exciting projects from this partnership include:

- **The Salaam Day Committee** will host a series of educational conversations and display artwork from the Sudanese refugee community.
- **The Class Clown Comedy Workshop** will provide an opportunity for creative youth who are interested in comedy and personal expression. They will learn the basics of stand-up comedy from professional comedians. They will demonstrate what they learned by performing an original five to seven-minute routine during their annual festival.
- **Ward 14 Community Garden Leaders** will focus on growing vegetables for residents in Cleveland's Ward 14 to meet the urgent food needs of people during COVID-19 pandemic.

To date, CAC has co-funded 360 projects through its partnership with Neighborhood Connections.

**Arts & Culture Network Night.** On November 19, CAC will host its first virtual [Arts and Culture Network Night](#) with Neighborhood Connections via Zoom. Earlier this year we hosted multiple Community of Practice sessions that focused on the arts sector, we are now shifting back to the Network Night format which will allow for attendees to have more influence over the topics discussed and provide a more interactive format. Interested in participating? Please register at the link above. All are welcome!

**Racial Equity – Moving from Learning to Action.** Working with Equius, CAC's series of online [racial equity workshops](#) continues through December 4. Each session aligns with the racial equity commitments that GOS grant recipients submitted with their 2020 goals and cover topics including recruiting a diverse board, equity in decision making, and evaluating your organization for racial equity. Each session has the capacity for 50 participants. The sessions are sold out through the end of the year.

CAC also continues its offer to cover the cost for our grant recipients to attend the Racial Equity Institute through ThirdSpace Action Lab. Organizations receiving CAC funding can send up to 5 staff, board members, or volunteers to the half day virtual Groundwater training.

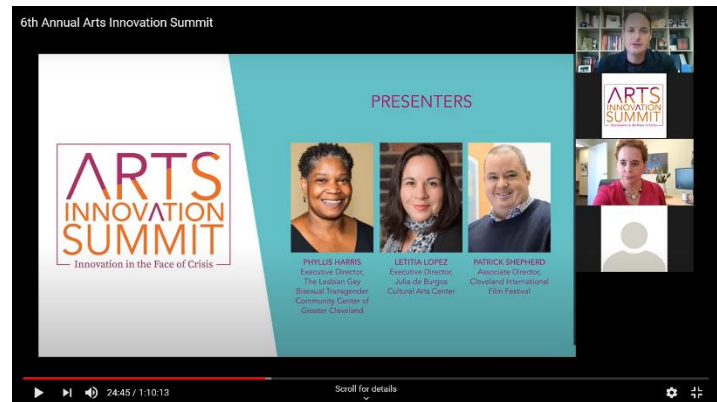
## **RAISING AWARENESS / Connecting with residents**

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**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Partnership Event Highlights CAC Grantees Responding Creatively to COVID-19.** On October 13, CAC partnered with Baldwin Wallace University, a longtime Project Support grant recipient, to host a panel discussion centered on CAC grant recipient's response to the pandemic.

With opening remarks from Jill Paulsen, the event featured four dynamic CAC grantees who shared inspiring stories of leadership, despite the difficult circumstances: the LGBT Center of Greater Cleveland, Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center and Cleveland International Film Festival. Together, the panel highlighted ways that innovation can help the arts and cultural community to think differently to overcome the challenges of the current time. The gathering was attended virtually by more than 150 students and community members.

You can view the recording of the session on CAC's [YouTube page](#).



**Media Placements.** In addition to consistent crediting for Cuyahoga Arts & Culture in the media by our partners, below is a sampling of recent media clips focused on CAC's work:

- **Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Receives Auditor Of State Award** “For the 13th straight year, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) has received a "clean" audit report from the Ohio Auditor of State.” (October 28, 2020) – *Broadway World Cleveland*
- **Cuyahoga County Announces \$4 Million In COVID Relief For Arts Programs** “Two-thirds of the money will go to Cuyahoga Arts and Culture (CAC), which would be distributed to the area's arts and culture nonprofits.” (October 16, 2020) – *ideastream*
- **Cuyahoga County supports art during COVID-19** “Cuyahoga Arts & Culture in Cleveland will receive two-thirds of the funds to distribute to arts and culture nonprofit organizations.” (October 16, 2020) – *Cleveland Jewish News*
- **New data show Cuyahoga County's nonprofit arts and culture sector is taking a huge financial hit from pandemic** “65 recipients of CAC operating support had to lay off, furlough or reduce hours for 2,533 full- and part-time employees and contractors.” (September 16, 2020) – *Cleveland.com*

See a [full list of media placements](#) since CAC's last Board meeting.

## **BUILDING INTERNAL CAPACITY / Continuous Improvement & Commitment to Learning**

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**Welcome, Julia!** On November 16, Julia Murphy will join Luis, Heather and India as a member of the program team as grant programs manager. She will oversee a portfolio of organizations that receive funding through CAC's General Operating Support or Project Support grant programs. Julia will work to build relationships with and provide technical assistance, guidance and support to grant recipients and applicants. Julia brings experience working in government and nonprofit organizations large and small and comes to CAC most recently from the Cleveland Institute of Art.

**Racial Equity Institute Phase One.** CAC's Cleveland Foundation Public Service Fellow, Cheyanne, attended the Phase One workshop presented by the Racial Equity Institute and hosted by ThirdSpace Action Lab. To date, the entire CAC team (staff and board) has participated in this learning opportunity. The two-day session presented a race analysis that focused on structural and systemic racism and allowed Cheyanne to learn, participate and bring back a historical context of institutional inequities to apply to her work with CAC.

**Ohio Government Finance Officers Association.** Meg attended the annual conference of [OHGFOA](#) which provided two days of online training opportunities. Through this training she was able to earn her annual Center for Public Investment Management (CPIM) certification, which is required for governmental agencies with investments outside of Star Ohio. She also attended two sessions offered by the Ohio History Connection on different issues related to record retention.

**Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) Membership.** In late September, CAC applied to become a GARE member. The Government Alliance on Race and Equity is a national network of government agencies working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all. By becoming members, we will learn from our peers on how to advance racial equity within government institutions. We will update the Board on the status of our application at the December the meeting.



## FINANCIAL UPDATE

**Revenue.** Revenue through October was \$10,595,047. This is \$409,223 (4%) above forecast and \$28,245 (.3%) below revenue for the same period in 2019. Interest revenue through October was \$248,164, 9.6% below forecast, which is due the decline in interest rates.

**Expenditure.** The majority of CAC's budget is comprised of grants which were approved in 2019. These grants are accrued at the beginning of the year and recognized on the balance sheet. Non-grant expenditures through October were \$800,791 and are tracking \$289,955 below budget primarily due open staff positions and modified communications and panel expenses because COVID-19.

**Investments.** As of October 31, CAC inactive monies are invested as follows:

- Red Tree Investment Group: \$12,738,655 (avg. yield at cost: 1.54%; avg. maturity 1.68 years)
- STAR Ohio: \$3,948,661 (overnight yield .20%)

### **Budget Projections at Year End**

It is projected that CAC will end 2020 with tax receipts of approximately \$12.5 million, which will flat year over year rather than the budgeted \$500,000 decrease.

Expenditures are under budget due to several factors including open staff positions and the shift of 70 grants totaling \$600,000 from 2020 to 2021 due to COVID-19. Additionally, with revenue higher than forecast we anticipate ending the year drawing \$100,000 from the reserve rather than the budgeted draw of \$1.6million.

### **2021 Budget Preview**

At the November 10 meeting the Board will be asked to approve the majority of grants for 2021. With these approvals, CAC will have the foundation for its 2021 budget, with grants comprising over 90% of its annual budget. By December, staff will finalize its team goals and objectives for 2021. This work will help us build the 2021 budget, which will be presented to the Board for approval on December 9.

With relatively level funding of CAC's two primary grant programs, we anticipate the 2021 budget will be very similar to the 2020 budget on the expense side. The Project Support grant program will be higher than budgeted for 2020, but less than actual, because we are shifting 69 grants from the 2020 to 2021 budget due to COVID-19. Regarding financial considerations for the emerging strategic alliance work, 2021 will be a year of planning with outputs of that planning likely represented in our budget for 2022.

<b>Cuyahoga Arts &amp; Culture</b>				
<b>Through 10/31/2020</b>				
	<b>Actual YTD</b>	<b>Budget YTD</b>	<b>\$ Over/Under Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<b>Ordinary Revenue/Expenditures</b>				
<b>Revenue</b>				
Excise Tax (through Sept.)	\$ 10,595,047	\$ 10,185,824	\$ 409,223	104.02%
Interest	\$ 248,164	\$ 274,500	\$ (26,336)	90.41%
Other revenue	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 10,893,211</b>	<b>\$ 10,460,324</b>	<b>\$ 432,887</b>	<b>104.1%</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
<b>Arts &amp; Cultural Programming</b>				
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	\$ 295,478	\$ 382,172	\$ (86,694)	77.3%
Grant Panel Expenses	\$ 7,600	\$ 24,000	\$ (16,400)	
Grant Management Expenses	\$ 45,909	\$ 85,400	\$ (39,491)	53.8%
Awareness Activities	\$ 25,488	\$ 58,000	\$ (32,512)	43.9%
Grants**	\$ 11,732,467	\$ 12,632,899	\$ (900,432)	92.9%
<b>Total A&amp;C Exenditures</b>	<b>\$ 12,106,942</b>	<b>\$ 13,182,471</b>	<b>\$ (1,075,529)</b>	<b>91.8%</b>
<b>General &amp; Administrative</b>				
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	\$ 250,411	\$ 333,397	\$ (82,986)	75.1%
Facilities, Supplies, Equipment	\$ 64,716	\$ 72,745	\$ (8,029)	89.0%
Professional Fees	\$ 111,190	\$ 135,033	\$ (23,843)	82.3%
Depreciation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Total G&amp;A Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 426,316</b>	<b>\$ 541,175</b>	<b>\$ (114,858)</b>	<b>78.8%</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 12,533,258</b>	<b>\$ 13,723,645</b>	<b>\$ (1,190,387)</b>	<b>91.3%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Revenue</b>	<b>\$ (1,640,048)</b>	<b>\$ (3,263,321)</b>	<b>\$ 1,623,274</b>	

\*\* Outstanding 2019 and 2020 grant obligations are on the balance sheet.

<b>Non-grant cash disbursements YTD</b>	\$ 800,791	\$ 1,090,746	\$ (289,955)
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Cuyahoga Arts & Culture  
Balance Sheet as of

**Oct 31, 20**

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

**Checking/Savings**

KeyBank

92,877

RedTree (U.S.Bank)

12,738,655

Star Ohio

3,948,661

**Total Checking/Savings**

16,780,194

**Accounts Receivable**

11000 · Accounts Receivable

1,067,270

**Total Accounts Receivable**

1,067,270

**Total Current Assets**

17,847,464

**Fixed Assets**

15000 · Furniture and Equipment

75,223

15001 · Software and Webdesign

10,000

17000 · Accumulated Depreciation

-82,219

**Total Fixed Assets**

3,004

**TOTAL ASSETS**

17,850,468

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Liabilities**

**Current Liabilities**

**Accounts Payable**

20000 · Accounts Payable

9,500

**Total Accounts Payable**

9,500

**Other Current Liabilities**

24000 · Payroll Liabilities

1,337

24200 · GOS Grants

92,625

24300 · Project Support Grants

657,900

**Total Other Current Liabilities**

751,862

**Total Current Liabilities**

761,362

**Total Liabilities**

761,362

**Equity**

32000 · Retained Earnings

18,729,154

Net Income

-1,640,048

**Total Equity**

17,089,106

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

17,850,468

<b>CIGARETTE TAX RECEIPTS FY 19 VS FY 20 YTD</b>				
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>\$VAR</b>	<b>19-20%VAR</b>
JANUARY	\$ 937,849.45	\$ 1,076,305.39	\$ 138,455.94	15%
FEBRUARY	\$ 911,499.85	\$ 994,450.54	\$ 82,950.69	9%
MARCH	\$ 998,471.61	\$ 1,061,588.50	\$ 63,116.89	6%
APRIL	\$ 1,091,847.74	\$ 984,297.91	\$ (107,549.83)	-10%
MAY	\$ 1,178,936.37	\$ 857,554.60	\$ (321,381.77)	-27%
JUNE	\$ 1,896,350.82	\$ 1,974,335.05	\$ 77,984.23	4%
JULY	\$ 189,281.14	\$ 264,637.95	\$ 75,356.81	40%
AUGUST	\$ 1,112,511.45	\$ 1,110,212.04	\$ (2,299.41)	0%
SEPTEMBER	\$ 1,221,169.15	\$ 1,204,394.78	\$ (16,774.37)	-1%
OCTOBER	\$ 1,085,374.60	\$ 1,067,270.43	\$ (18,104.17)	-2%
NOVEMBER	\$ 1,058,425.84			
DECEMBER	\$ 871,071.50			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 12,552,789.52</b>	<b>\$ 10,595,047.19</b>	<b>\$ (28,244.99)</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>



**MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** November 10, 2020  
**To:** CAC Board of Trustees  
**From:** CAC Program Staff: Heather Johnson-Banks, Luis Gomez, India Pierre-Ingram  
**Re:** Updating Project Period from 2020 to 2021 Due to COVID-19 for 70 Grants

**Summary:** As it became clear that many projects could not take place in 2020 due to COVID-19, CAC permitted grantees to move projects and grants from this year to 2021. In response, 70 grantees opted to move their projects. These grant amounts are listed below for approval.

**Board Action:** Approve moving the project period from Jan. 1 – Dec 31, 2020 to Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2021 for the grantee and award amounts listed below.

The organizations listed within this memo were previously approved by the Board to receive a grant in 2020. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the response measures approved by the Board at its April meeting, all 2020 grant recipients were given the option to move their 2020 grant and project to 2021. As a result, 69 Project Support grant recipients and The Cleveland Orchestra, for the Star Spangled Spectacular, chose to move their projects and thus were not required to go through this year’s application process to receive a grant in 2021. By moving these projects to 2021, the grantees were afforded additional time to adjust their projects in order to incorporate public health mandates into the planning and execution of their projects. The sum of these grants is as follows:

- 69 Project Support grants totaling \$480,149
- 1 Public Performance Grant totaling \$125,000

**We ask the Board to approve the following grants for the period of January 1 – December 31, 2021:**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Grant</b>
PS I	American Hungarian Friends of Scouting	\$8,883
PS I	Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland	\$21,400
PS I	Cavani String Quartet	\$10,682
PS I	ChamberFest Cleveland	\$20,550
PS I	Cleveland Contemporary Chinese Culture Association	\$14,006
PS I	Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation	\$11,144
PS I	Jewish Federation of Cleveland	\$20,350
PS I	Jones Road Family Development Corporation	\$13,225
PS I	Judson	\$21,400
PS I	Lakewood Historical Society	\$12,674
PS I	Lexington-Bell Community Center	\$15,160
PS I	Mercury Theatre Company	\$22,400

PS I	NewBridge Cleveland Center for Arts & Technology	\$22,750
PS I	Shore Cultural Centre	\$7,264
PS I	Slavic Village Development	\$11,497
PS I	University Hospitals	\$20,800
PS II	Art Song Festival	\$4,000
PS II	Arts in Strongsville	\$5,000
PS II	Arts Renaissance Tremont (ART)	\$4,000
PS II	ATNSC: Center for Healing & Creative Leadership	\$4,000
PS II	Bay Village Community Band	\$2,800
PS II	Big Creek Connects	\$2,000
PS II	BorderLight	\$4,000
PS II	Brooklyn Heights Service Clubs	\$4,000
PS II	Burten, Bell, Carr Development	\$4,000
PS II	Case Western Reserve University	\$5,000
PS II	Catholic Charities Diocese of Cleveland	\$4,000
PS II	Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District	\$5,000
PS II	Choral Arts Cleveland	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Grays Armory Museum	\$4,000
PS II	Cleveland Kids' Book Bank	\$3,000
PS II	Cleveland Uncommon Sound Project	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Women's Orchestra	\$4,000
PS II	CollectivExpress	\$4,000
PS II	Eliza Bryant Village	\$5,000
PS II	Euclid Beach Park Now	\$4,000
PS II	FrontLine Service	\$4,980
PS II	FutureHeights	\$5,000
PS II	Good Company: A Vocal Ensemble	\$5,000
PS II	Graffiti HeArt	\$4,000
PS II	Hispanic Business Center	\$4,000
PS II	International Community Council	\$5,000
PS II	Italian Cultural Garden	\$4,000
PS II	Lake Erie Native American Council	\$5,000
PS II	Lake View Cemetery Foundation	\$4,000
PS II	Larchmere PorchFest	\$5,000
PS II	Little Italy Redevelopment Corporation	\$3,600
PS II	Merrick House	\$4,000
PS II	Mt. Pleasant NOW Development Corporation	\$5,000
PS II	New Avenues to Independence	\$4,354
PS II	North Union Farmers Market	\$5,000
PS II	Northeast Ohio Alliance for Hope (NOAH)	\$4,000
PS II	Ohio City Incorporated	\$4,000
PS II	Parma Area Fine Arts Council	\$2,000
PS II	Parma Heights Historical Society	\$4,000
PS II	Polish Village Parma	\$5,000

PS II	Reaching Heights	\$5,000
PS II	Roberto Ocasio Foundation	\$4,000
PS II	Rollin' Buckeye	\$5,000
PS II	Sankofa	\$5,000
PS II	Suburban Symphony Orchestra	\$4,000
PS II	Symphony West Orchestra	\$4,000
PS II	Thea Bowman Center	\$5,000
PS II	Underground Classical	\$5,000
PS II	West Creek Conservancy	\$4,000
PS II	West Shore Chorale	\$5,000
PS II	Westlake-Westshore Arts Council	\$2,230
PS II	Westown Community Development Corporation	\$5,000
PS II	Woodland Cemetery Foundation of Cleveland	\$4,000
PS II	Woodland Cemetery Foundation of Cleveland	\$4,000
Other	The Cleveland Orchestra Star Spangled Spectacular	\$125,000



## **Cuyahoga Arts & Culture and Cuyahoga County CARES Arts and Cultural Organizations Relief Program**

Many nonprofit arts and cultural organizations had to cease operations or had their operations severely constricted due to Ohio's mandated closures because of COVID-19. Cuyahoga County has granted \$2.66 million of its CARES Act funding to [Cuyahoga Arts & Culture](#) (CAC) to help provide relief to nonprofit arts and cultural organizations impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. The fund distribution to nonprofit arts organizations will be administered by CAC. For-profit performing arts businesses and artists are also being supported through additional funding of \$1.34 million through [Arts Cleveland](#).

CARES Act funding can only be used to cover costs of necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. In addition, costs must be incurred between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020. All costs must comply with any Guidance, Frequently Asked Questions and Answers issued by the federal government or Cuyahoga County, which includes without limitation, U.S. Treasury, Office of Inspector General and the Ohio Auditor of State.

Awards will be processed and made available to awardees in early December. Pursuant to federal law, all funds must be expended by CAC by December 30, 2020.

Due to the nature of the funds, federal restrictions limit the types of expenses that are eligible to be covered by CARES Act funding. In addition, CARES Act funding is subject to federal audit, with documentation required to be retained for five years.

For Assistance, US Department of Treasury's guidance on the Coronavirus Relief Fund can be found as follows:

[Treasury Guidance to State and Local Governments](#)  
[U.S. Treasury Guidance Frequently Asked Questions and Answers](#)

**Questions?** If you need assistance or have questions about CARES funding, please contact your program manager or email us at [info@cacgrants.org](mailto:info@cacgrants.org).



## Eligibility

In order to apply for funding from the Program, arts and cultural organizations must meet all the following eligibility criteria:

1. Was awarded a General Operating or Project Support grant from CAC for 2020.
2. Has a primary mission to provide arts and cultural programming that is open and accessible to the general public as previously determined by CAC.
3. Had paid staff and/or rents/owns office or program space in Cuyahoga County.
4. Is currently in compliance with all state laws and treasury regulations, including those applicable to its status as an organization recognized as a tax exempt entity under I.R.C. 501(c)(3) and a nonprofit organization under Ohio law.
5. Has the ability to demonstrate and document that from March 1, 2020 to December 30, 2020, it has incurred costs or will incur costs due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19.
6. Will not use Cuyahoga County CARES funding in place of or instead of local, state, federal, or other government funds already designated or used for that expense or activity.

## Funding Amounts and Payment

Reimbursable grant amounts will be based on the amount of CARES eligible expenses for each organization. Grant amounts will vary by organization; organizational budget and CAC grant program (general operating support or project support) are two of the factors used to determine the amount you may receive.

Nonprofit arts organizations receiving 2020 **General Operating Support** program grants may be eligible for reimbursable CARES grants ranging from \$10,000 - \$150,000.

Nonprofit arts organizations receiving 2020 **Project Support** program grants may be eligible for reimbursable CARES grants ranging from \$3,000 - \$7,500.

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, at all times, reserves the right to amend funding levels based on applications received and to extend any deadlines.

## Required Documentation

1. **Proof of Business Address:** This will be evidenced by your Form 990 from FY2019.
2. **CARES Eligible Expense Form:** which breaks down expenses between those incurred before the time of the application and any prepaid for qualified expenses prior to December 30, 2020.
3. **Source Documentation:** This is a reimbursement-based grant, all source documentation for expenses that have been incurred at the time of the application must be submitted as a part of the application process. **Please include all expenses that have not been reimbursed through another CARES Act or COVID Relief program to date.** Prepaid expenses through December 30, 2020, may be included with proper documentation.
  - a. For all expenses, source documentation shall be in the form of paid invoices and canceled checks, bank statements, or similar documentation that evidences payment of

CARES Eligible Expenses, as described below. All source documentation must be maintained by organization for at least five (5) years.

4. **Profit and Loss Statement:** a year over year 2020 and 2019 report for the period from March 1 through the date of application.

Note: If the organization cannot properly substantiate its Eligible Expenses or has received funding for an ineligible expense, the organization will be required to repay the undocumented or ineligible expense, as the case may be.

### **Eligible Expenses**

Organizations shall only submit for reimbursement those costs and expenses that comply with any Guidance, Frequently Asked Questions and Answers issued by the federal government, which includes without limitation, U.S. Treasury, Office of Inspector General, the Ohio Auditor of State, and Cuyahoga County. Organizations are cautioned that guidance changes frequently and later versions may become available.

**Please include all expenses that have not been reimbursed through another CARES Act or COVID Relief program to date.**

Under all circumstances, organizations are ultimately responsible for the determination of the eligibility of expenses that it submits for reimbursement.

By way of example only, the following may constitute Eligible Expenses:

1. **Business Interruption Costs:** Support to cover general operating expenses related directly to required closures due to COVID-19 such as utilities, security, rent or mortgage payments, and personnel costs.
2. **Mitigation Expenses for Re-opening:** Expenses incurred directly in response to COVID-19 related to re-opening of facilities and offering of public activities. Costs related to preparations for re-opening may include:
  - i. COVID-19 training and health testing of staff (including W-2 employees and 1099 independent contractors); Additional personnel required to manage re-opening health and safety requirements (such as professional cleaning companies, pandemic rules enforcement, etc.);
  - ii. Communications and marketing efforts specifically to address compliance with COVID-19 requirements;
  - iii. Purchase of materials including personal protection equipment (PPE), disinfecting supplies, hand sanitizer, and signage production; and
  - iv. Purchase and implementation of physical accommodations that are mitigation measures specifically in response to COVID-19. The costs for these accommodations (physical barriers and plexiglass protective screens, touchless fixtures and equipment such as faucets, toilets and water fountains, markers for social distancing) are considered eligible

expenses but the related construction or installation costs are not eligible for reimbursement under this program.

- 3. Program Transition Support:** Expenses incurred to transition to virtual programming. Costs may include: transitioning to an online platform; equipment, systems, and devices purchased specifically to facilitate the COVID-19 related move to virtual programming, including computers, tablets, and video cameras; increased broadband capability/speed (communications services), software apps like (Zoom, GoToMeetings), monthly charges streaming services, etc.). Note that monthly subscription charges can only be reimbursed from March 1 – December 30, 2020.

### **Ineligible Expenses**

- Expenses already reimbursed via other CARES Act funding (e.g., from a local, county, state, or federal source, including the National Endowment for the Arts), including for staff members who collected unemployment during the affected timeframe
- Expenses covered by business interruption insurance or reimbursed via other federal aid received in response to COVID-19 or any other federal program
- Expenses already paid for via other CAC funding
- Expenses incurred outside the March 1, 2020 - December 30, 2020 timeframe (including prepayments for goods or services)
- Revenue replacement;
- Construction costs;
- Any tax, license or fee obligations payable to any governmental entity businesses;
- Costs for political activity, including lobbying;
- For Mitigation Expenses for Re-opening and Program Transition Support – costs that were accounted in the organization’s most recently approved budget as of March 27, 2020;
- Fundraising;
- Damages covered by insurance;
- Reimbursement to donors for donated items or services;
- Workforce bonuses;
- Severance pay;
- Legal settlements;
- **All costs which are ineligible per the most recent U.S. Treasury guidance and Frequently Asked Questions:**
  - <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Coronavirus-Relief-Fund-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf>.
  - <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Coronavirus-Relief-Fund-Guidance-for-State-Territorial-Local-and-Tribal-Governments.pdf>
- Any cost or expense not permitted by any state or federal guidance or information.

**Application Process**

Applications and all Required Documentation must be submitted online through CAC's online application and reporting system. [Login here](#).

**Applications and required documentation are due by November 23, 2020 by 11:59 pm ET.**

**Completing an application does not guarantee funding.**

A team consisting of CAC employees will review and verify the applications and documentation to ensure the eligibility criteria are met. Recommendations will be made to CAC's Board for its approval. All grant applications and documentation are considered public records.

**Approval Process**

Once approved for funding, the organization must sign and return the Grant Agreement within ten (10) calendar days of receipt. Upon receipt of the agreement Cuyahoga Arts & Culture will issue payment for qualified expenses up to the eligible grant amount assigned to your organization.



## MEMORANDUM

Date: November 10, 2020  
To: CAC Board of Trustees  
From: CAC Program Staff: Luis Gomez, Heather Johnson-Banks, India Pierre-Ingram  
Re: 2021 Project Support: approval of panel scores and grant amounts

### SUMMARY

The goal of CAC's Project Support (PS) grant program is to *promote public access and encourage the breadth of arts and/or cultural programming in our community*. In 2021, the program's purpose, eligibility criteria and general structure is the same as last years. Staff is pleased to recommend to the Board a **portfolio of 161 grants** that where reviewed by panelist **totaling \$1,355,492**.

### BOARD ACTION

At the November 10 meeting, we recommend that the Board approve the results of the 2021 Project Support panel, including panel scores and grant amounts.

## I. BACKGROUND

### *What stayed the same this cycle?*

2021 marks the thirteenth time CAC is offering its annual Project Support grant program, committed to connecting residents throughout the county to arts and cultural *activities*. Project Support-funded projects occur in diverse locations such as senior centers and homeless shelters, as well as street festivals and more traditional performance venues. Each year the program further sharpens its focus on the goal of connecting residents to a full ecosystem of arts and culture events in their own backyards and across Cuyahoga County.

For Project Support I the maximum grant amount was \$25,000 and \$5,000 for Project Support II. Once again, the applicants grant amount may not be more than 50% of the proposed project's total expenses.

Public Benefit continues to be the primary lens through which panelists assess all applications, and this was well-reflected in panelists' scores and comments.

Just like last year our panel review for Project Support II was conducted online; however, due to the ongoing pandemic our Project Support I review was unable to happen in person.

### *What's new this cycle and why?*

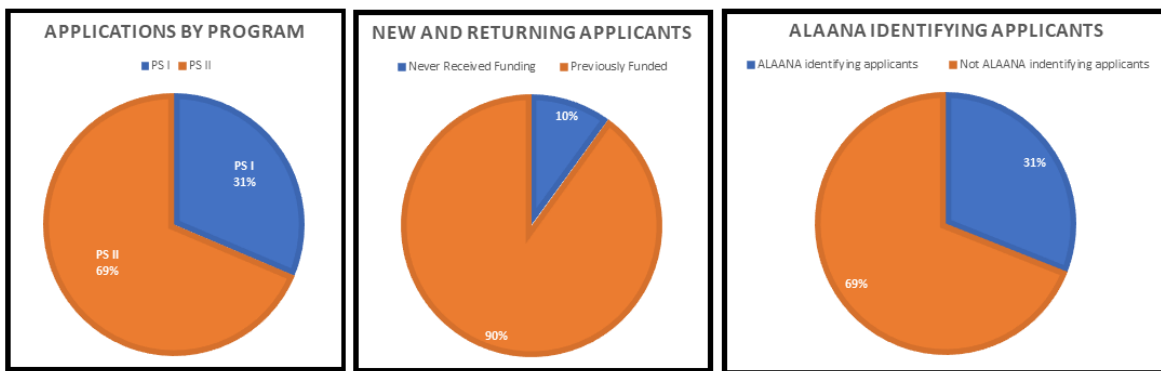
Due to the ongoing pandemic our panel review for Project Support I was moved to online. In previous years the panel review was in person and audio was livestreamed via our website and applicants had the opportunity to attend the panel review. This year PS I panelist reviewed all PS I applications via Zoom. The review was livestreamed via YouTube which was also posted on our website. CAC staff divided the panel review into 4 sub-panel reviews. This was done in order to prevent Zoom fatigue. This format also gave back time to our panelists who originally reserved the whole day for the panel review. The review went great with little to no issues.

## II. APPLICANT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Recognizing that our applicants have differing levels of grant-seeking capacity, staff sought to maximize the impact of the training opportunities this year. Due to the ongoing pandemic all our technical assistance was conducted online or over the phone. Staff provided personalized technical assistance to applicants by hosting two online workshops, online Q&A sessions, one-on-one virtual meetings, phone calls, and regular emails leading up to the deadline. Total attendance/views for the two online workshops: 45/124. The total attendance for the four Q&A sessions: 32

Not all applicants, especially those who are volunteers, can attend live online, daytime trainings. To ensure every applicant gets the help they need, the team recorded all of their online workshops which can be found on [CAC's YouTube channel](#). Some Q&A sessions were hosted in the evening or during lunch time to remedy this barrier.

## III. APPLICANT POOL OVERVIEW



166 organizations submitted eligible applications that were reviewed by the panels. 69% of the applications received were for the PS II program. 16 applicants had never received a grant from CAC (10% of the pool). The geographic distribution of applicant organizations remains in line with past years, with the majority of all applicants based in the City of Cleveland.

Of note, 50 applicant organizations identified as ALAANA (African, Latinx, Asian, Arab and Native American)-led and serving organizations. Applicants had the opportunity to self-identify the leadership and communities that their programming primarily serves. This is the second time that CAC has gathered this type of demographic information about its Project Support grantees.

## IV. PANEL REVIEW PROCESSES

Twenty-one qualified arts and culture professionals served as 2021 Project Support panelists. They represented a cross-section of individuals with expert knowledge of specific arts or cultural disciplines, management/financial experience, as well as prior panel experience. The recruitment process prioritized panelist diversity. CAC staff worked to ensure that a panel diverse in race, gender and age would review all applicants.

Race/Ethnicity		Gender		Age	
Asian	10%	Female	57%	20-29	14%

Black/African American	48%
Caucasian	38%
Two or more	4%

Male	43%
------	-----

30-39	29%
40-49	38%
50 and above	19%

Panelists reviewed 114 PS II applications online in October, and an additional 52 PS I applications during a public online review which was conducted via Zoom on October 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. Panelists deliberated and scored each application in accordance with the funding criteria in the 2021 Project Support grant program guidelines. CAC livestreamed the public review for PS I through YouTube. The livestream had 200 unique visitors and recordings of the reviews are available on [CAC's YouTube page](#). CAC distributed an [audience guide](#) to help all online observers understand the panel review process. For PS I applicants were able to submit public comments and information correction forms online. We included a similar [panel guide](#) along with the feedback forms distributed to PS II applicants.

***Using panel as an educational tool***

The 2021 PS I panel review meetings were recorded for the public record and are accessible on our website. All applicants will receive their scores (PS I), funding recommendations (PS II), and comments (PS II). The panelists' comments and feedback are represented in the scores each organization received.

Video from both days of the panel review meetings and all 114 PS II feedback forms are posted on CAC's website. The audio clips and feedback forms serve as educational tools. CAC staff encourages all applicants, whether or not they are funded, to share the links with their staff and boards.

***Seeking feedback***

At the conclusion of the PS I panel review meeting (October 6<sup>th</sup>), CAC invited panelists to participate in an informal public comment session. That discussion is recorded on its own track and will also be accessible on our website. Staff uses this feedback to inform our future work. In addition, CAC surveyed all panelists and will soon have an applicant survey out in the field. This feedback will be helpful as we look ahead to the next cycle.

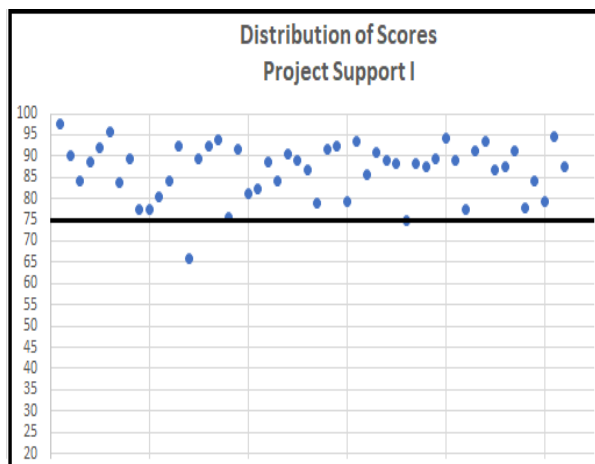
## V. CALCULATING SCORES AND GRANT AMOUNTS

### *CAC's Funding Criteria*

The funding criteria for 2020 Project Support are: **Public Benefit**; **Artistic & Cultural Vibrancy**; and **Organizational Capacity**. To reflect CAC's role as a public funder – committed to using public dollars to benefit the public – CAC weighs Public Benefit more heavily than the other two funding criteria in its grant programs.

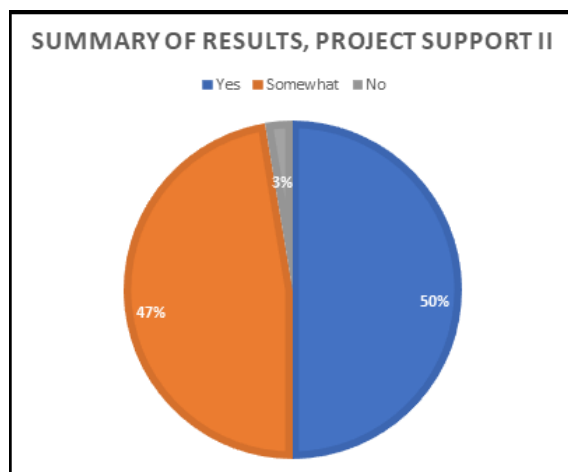
**Project Support I:** Three panelists reviewed and scored each application in real time online using a scoring framework from 1 to 100 (see pages 3-4 of the [audience guide](#) for more details). The panelists' scores were averaged for each application to determine the final score. Using the language of the scoring framework, all applications that received a score of 75.00 or higher have been recommended for a grant. Any application with a score lower than 75.00 has not been recommended for a grant.

50 applications received a score of 75 points or higher, 2 applications received a score below 75 points. This is in line with previous cycles.



**Project Support II:** Panelists independently reviewed the applications online. Panelists were asked if an application demonstrated evidence of the funding criteria, with an emphasis on public benefit. Scoring was: yes, somewhat or no. Applications that received a majority of “yes” or “somewhat” scores from panelists are being recommended for a grant. Applications that received a majority of “no” scores from panelists are not being recommended for a grant.

111 applications demonstrated enough evidence of the funding criteria, 3 applications did not. This is in line with previous cycles.



### *Calculating Grant Amounts*

2021 Project Support grants are calculated with multiple goals in mind:

- The first and most important goal is to be able to **continue to offer grants in keeping with the purpose of the program**. In order to achieve this, CAC sought to provide full grants (of the amount requested) to multiple applicants.
- The **panel score continues to matter in both programs**: the higher the score (or the more an applicant demonstrates the funding criteria), the more of an application's requested amount may be funded.
- CAC recognizes the challenges of carrying out a proposed project without full funding. In order to **make meaningful grants to applicants** receiving only partial funding, CAC recommends funding no less than 75% of each applicant's requested amount.



**2020 Project Support I:** Staff recommends that applications that received 75 or higher are recommended for partial funding based on their score from panel (see appendix 1 for details). Two applications that received below 75 will not be recommended for funding. This results in 50 Project Support I grant totaling \$844,449.

**2020 Project Support II:** 57 applications received unanimous “yes” scores from panelists. These applicants provided evidence throughout the application that funding criteria were *fully* met and are recommended for full funding of their request amount.

54 applications received a majority of “yes” or “somewhat” scores, but not enough “yes” scores to receive full funding. These applicants provided *some* evidence throughout the application that funding criteria are met and are recommended for partial funding at 80% of their request.

Three applications received a majority of “no” scores from panelists. These applicants *did not* provide evidence throughout the application that funding criteria are met. These applications are not being recommended for a grant.

This results in 111 Project Support II grants totaling \$511,043.

**Combined, this results in 161 grants totaling \$1,355,492 for Project Support 2021.**

This year, we are pleased to recognize the 48 ALAANA-led and serving organizations that will receive funding in the 2021 Project Support program. This cycle is the second time that organizations self-identified as ALAANA organizations in the application process. We look forward to building on this approach in future grant cycles and considering further ways to support organizations for and led by people of color.

## **VI. LOOKING FORWARD**

Staff has already begun the pre-planning for the 2022 cycle. We continue to assess what is working and what to improve, asking ourselves: what do we want to achieve through Project Support and how might we continue to evolve the program to reach these goals? The continuing evolution of the Project Support program will be guided by CAC’s values and feedback from applicants, panelists, Board and staff.

### **NEXT STEPS: November 10 Board Meeting**

At the November 10 meeting, the Board will be asked to approve the results of the 2021 Project Support panel, including panel scores and recommended grant amounts to 161 organizations totaling \$1,355,492.

See Appendix 1 for a list of all 161 applicants’ scores and recommended grant amounts. See Appendix 2 for a list of the 5 organizations that will not be recommended for funding.

## APPENDIX 1: Reference for Board Action

† Indicates an ALAANA-identifying organization

\* Indicates a first-time Project Support grant recipient

Program	Organization	Panel Score	Grant
PS I	America SCORES Cleveland	97.67	\$15,960
PS I	Aradhana Committee †	90	\$22,500
PS I	Baldwin Wallace University	84	\$21,000
PS I	BlueWater Chamber Orchestra	88.67	\$13,958
PS I	Brite Cleveland	92	\$23,000
PS I	Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation	95.67	\$12,995
PS I	Cassidy Theatre	83.67	\$18,407
PS I	Chagrin Documentary Film Festival	89.33	\$22,333
PS I	CityMusic Cleveland	77.33	\$19,333
PS I	Cleveland Arts Prize	77.33	\$19,333
PS I	Cleveland Ballet	80.33	\$20,083
PS I	Cleveland Chamber Music Society	84	\$14,280
PS I	Cleveland Classical Guitar Society	92.33	\$23,083
PS I	Cleveland Opera Theater	89.33	\$22,333
PS I	Cleveland Print Room	92.33	\$23,083
PS I	Cleveland School of the Arts Board of Trustee	94	\$23,500
PS I	Cleveland Treatment Center	75.67	\$18,918
PS I	Collective Arts Network	91.67	\$16,501
PS I	convergence-continuum	81	\$7,849
PS I	Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization	82.33	\$9,849
PS I	Downtown Cleveland Alliance	88.75	\$22,188
PS I	Duffy Lit †	84	\$11,889
PS I	ENCORE Chamber Music	90.33	\$22,583
PS I	Environmental Health Watch †	89	\$19,366
PS I	Foluke Cultural Arts †	86.67	\$7,993
PS I	Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association	78.75	\$19,688
PS I	Greater Cleveland Urban Film Foundation †	91.67	\$13,751
PS I	Heights Youth Theatre	92.33	\$18,060
PS I	Historic Warehouse District Development Corporation	79.33	\$7,380
PS I	Hospice of the Western Reserve	93.67	\$23,418
PS I	Jennings Center for Older Adults	85.67	\$9,694
PS I	Julia De Burgos Cultural Arts Center †	91	\$12,461
PS I	Les Délices	89	\$22,250
PS I	Literary Cleveland	88.33	\$15,016
PS I	M.U.S.I.C.	88.33	\$8,833
PS I	Maelstrom Collaborative Arts	87.33	\$9,205

PS I	Mandel JCC	89.33	\$22,333
PS I	MidTown Cleveland	94.33	\$7,075
PS I	Music and Art at Trinity	89	\$12,810
PS I	Notre Dame College	77.33	\$14,615
PS I	Open Doors Academy	91.33	\$22,833
PS I	Playwrights Local	93.67	\$6,727
PS I	Praxis Fiber Workshop	86.67	\$18,996
PS I	Talespinner Children's Theatre	87.33	\$17,459
PS I	The City Club of Cleveland	91.25	\$19,418
PS I	Transformer Station	77.67	\$19,418
PS I	Tremont West Development Corporation	77.67	\$6,519
PS I	UCI	79.33	\$18,998
PS I	Waterloo Arts	94.67	\$20,910
PS I	West Side Community House †	87.67	\$21,918
PS II	Achievement Centers for Children	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	America Asian Pacific Islander Organization †	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Art Without Borders* †	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Baseball Heritage Museum	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Bedford Downtown Alliance	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Berea Arts Fest	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Blazing River Freedom Band	Yes	\$1,050
PS II	Blue Streak Ensemble	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Bodwin Theatre Company	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Buck Out Foundation* †	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Campus District Inc.	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Cesear's Forum	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	City Ballet of Cleveland	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers†	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Cleveland Chamber Choir	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Chamber Collective	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Cleveland Chamber Symphony	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Composers Guild	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Hearing & Speech Center	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Inner City Ballet	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Leadership Center	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Rape Crisis Center	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Seed Bank	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cleveland Shakespeare Festival	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Cleveland TOPS Swingband	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Comité Mexicano* †	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Community Cup Classic Foundation* †	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Connecting for Kids of Westlake OH	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Coventry Village Special Improvement District	Yes	\$5,000

PS II	Cudell Improvement	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Cuyahoga River Restoration	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	DANCEVERT	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Dijapo Cultural Arts Institute <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Earth and Air: String Orchestra	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	East Cleveland Farmers' Market Preservation Society* <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$3,000
PS II	Edward E. Parker Museum of Art <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Esperanza <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Far West Center	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Focus On Education <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Folknet	Somewhat	\$3,200
PS II	Food Strong	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Friends of the East Cleveland Public Library <sup>†</sup>	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Friends of the McGaffin Carillon	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	From Me 2 U <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	FRONT International*	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Front Steps Housing and Services	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	German Music Society	Yes	\$1,800
PS II	Golden Ciphers <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$1,800
PS II	Greater Cleveland Film Commission	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Greater Collinwood Development Corporation* <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Harvard Community Services Center <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Hasani Management Inc <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Hispanic Police Officers Association <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Historic Gateway Neighborhood Corporation	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	In Education <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	India Fest USA <sup>†</sup>	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	International Women's Air & Space Museum	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland Ohio	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Joyful Noise Neighborhood Music School	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Kulture Kids <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Lake Erie Institute*	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Lakewood Young Filmmakers Academy*	Yes	\$3,993
PS II	LatinUs Theater Company <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	LGBT Community Center Greater Cleveland	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Little Lumpy's Center for Educational Initiatives <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	LYLESART <sup>†</sup>	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Malachi Center	Yes	\$4,500
PS II	May Dugan Center	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Metro West Community Development Organization* <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Mojuba! Dance Collective <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	NAMI Greater Cleveland	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Naach Di Cleveland <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Negative Space Gallery <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Night Market Cleveland*	Yes	\$5,000

PS II	No Exit	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Notes for Notes	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	PALS for Healing	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Quire Cleveland	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Refresh Collective	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Restore Cleveland Hope <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$2,500
PS II	Schmooze Ohio* <sup>†</sup>	Somewhat	\$2,000
PS II	Shaker Arts Council	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Slovenian Museum and Archives	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	SOS: Strengthening Our Students <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	StandUP! For Change <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Stellar Acrobatic Dance Academy <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	STV Bavaria	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Tender Hearts Crusades <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	The Gathering Place	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	The German Central*	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	The Harvard Square Center <sup>†</sup>	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	The Movement Project	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	The RASHAD Center* <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	The Trust for Public Land*	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Twelve Literary Arts <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	UpStage Players	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Ursuline College	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	VIVA Bavaria*	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Wake Up and Live's Actor's Studio <sup>†</sup>	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development	Yes	\$4,500
PS II	West Side Catholic Center	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Western Reserve Fire Museum & Education Center	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Western Reserve Land Conservancy	Somewhat	\$4,000
PS II	Westlake Chinese School <sup>†</sup>	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Windsong, Cleveland's Feminist Chorus	Yes	\$2,500
PS II	Women in History	Yes	\$5,000
PS II	Youth Challenge	Yes	\$5,000

## **APPENDIX 2: Reference for Board Actions**

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### **Applicants Not Recommended for Funding**

#### **2021 Project Support I**

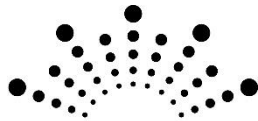
The following organizations scored below:

1. Cleveland Clinic – Panel Score: 66
2. Local 4 Music Fund – Panel Score: 74.67

#### **2021 Project Support II**

The following organizations received a majority of “no” votes from the panel, indicating that they did not provide evidence throughout the application that funding criteria were met:

1. AfricaHouse International
2. Beachwood Historical Society
3. Gardening in the District



cuyahoga  
**arts & culture**  
 strengthening community

## MEMORANDUM

Date: November 10, 2020  
 To: CAC Board of Trustees  
 From: CAC staff: Luis Gomez, Heather Johnson-Banks, India Pierre-Ingram  
 Re: 2021 Project Support and panelist recruitment and roster

### SUMMARY

What follows is an update on the roster of 21 panelists for CAC’s 2021 Project Support I and II grant program panels, which took place on October 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> (PS I) via Zoom livestream; and online in October (PS II). No action is required.

### Background & Selection Process

Panelists play a key role in Cuyahoga Arts & Culture’s grantmaking process, serving as independent outside experts that review and evaluate applications. Staff devoted substantial time to secure a diverse and reputable roster of panelists from across the nation. Their biographies appear on the following pages.

This year’s slate of panelists is a mix of returning (12) and new (9) panelists. The group is diverse in artistic/management expertise, race/ethnicity, gender and age:

Race/Ethnicity	
Asian	10%
Black/African American	48%
Caucasian	38%
Two or more	4%

Gender	
Female	57%
Male	43%

Age	
20-29	14%
30-39	29%
40-49	38%
50 and above	19%

Staff vetted candidates through personalized outreach emails, phone calls and reference checks. Staff recruited panelists with skills and experience preparing and evaluating grant applications, designing arts and culture programs, and working as artists themselves. Panelists received all application materials and access to our online system in late August. They participated in training webinars September 9-10 and calls as needed with CAC staff to ensure all were prepared to serve.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, our panel review for Project Support I was moved online. In previous years, the panel review was in person at ideastream with the audio livestreamed via our website. This year PS I panelists reviewed all the applications via Zoom. The review was livestreamed via YouTube and posted on our website. Panelist rosters were made available to the public on the first day of each public panel meeting (October 5<sup>th</sup> for PS I). The PS II panelist roster was made public when the online scoring had closed (October 2<sup>nd</sup>). Our grant recipients should be pleased to see respected regional and national leaders thoughtfully selected and qualified to evaluate grant applications. Panelists were compensated with an honorarium (PS I \$250 per day of service; PS II: \$300 total).

## Cuyahoga Arts & Culture 2021 Panelist Biographies

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*\*\*denotes previous service as a Cuyahoga Arts & Culture panelist*



### **Rishard Allen (Indianapolis, Indiana) \*\***

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Rishard Allen is an arts and culture professional serving the Indianapolis metropolitan area. His administrative practice supports the artistic work of people from marginalized communities, acknowledging their contributions as worthy of being commissioned, exhibited, performed, published, studied, and funded. Allen currently serves as the Manager, Grant Services & Education Partnerships at the Arts Council of Indianapolis, assisting with the administration of arts education initiatives and grant programs for individual artists and arts organizations. In 2017, he received his BS in arts management from Indiana University with a specialization in music history and culture. Prior to working at the Arts Council, he was the Program Director at Arts for Learning Indiana and was an Emerging Field Leader with WolfBrown, providing assistance for a nationwide evaluation of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Art's Ensuring the Arts for Any Given Child initiative. Allen also serves on the Arts & Culture Leaders of Color Steering Committee for Americans for the Arts.



### **Gillian Gorra (Chicago, Illinois)**

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Gillian is an experienced nonprofit professional skilled in fiscal management, strategic planning, human resources, and facility oversight, and she is deeply committed to empowering organizations and professionals to do their best work. Gillian brings nearly two decades of management experience in both nonprofit and specialty retail to her work with FMA. Most recently, she spent over ten years as General Manager then Managing Director of the Emerald City Theatre in Chicago. While in those roles, she created and oversaw all financial and HR systems and led the annual budget development and monitoring processes. Gillian is also a performing artist, with significant experience in arts education and administration. She served as Governance Chair of the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and was a long-time member of the Artistic-Technical Team of the Joseph Jefferson Awards Committee. She holds a Master of Management in nonprofit administration from North Park University in Chicago, and a Bachelor of Music in musical theatre from Baldwin Wallace University.





**Dr. Antonio Cuyler (Tallahassee, Florida)\*\***

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Dr. Antonio C. Cuyler is Director of the MA Program & Associate Professor of Arts Administration at Florida State University (FSU) where he teaches doctoral and master's students. Among the courses that he teaches is grant writing and development in the arts in which he developed the Arts Administration Service Learning Program (ASLP) to enhance his students' development as grant writers. His grant writing and funding related publications appears in the Grant Professional Association Journal and the Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA) Reader. Dr. Cuyler has also served on 12 grant panels and reviewed 275 grants for funding agencies such as the Arts Council of Fairfax County, Council on Culture & Arts (COCA), Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and U. S. Department of Education.



**Marcia Festen (Chicago, Illinois)**

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Marcia has more than 25 years of leadership in Chicago's nonprofit community. She is the founding director of the Arts Work Fund for Organizational Development. In addition to her work at the Arts Work Fund, Marcia regularly works with local foundations to develop and assess their grant strategies and to review grants, mostly in the arts and arts education arena. Before starting her consulting practice in 1999, Marcia was a Senior Program Officer at the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Her publications include *Level Best: A Step-by-Step Guide to Evaluation for Grassroots Nonprofits*; *How Effective Nonprofits Work: A Guide for Donors, Board Members and Foundation Officers*; and *Community Panels for Youth—A Community Based Alternative to Juvenile Justice Local Action Guide* (for Northwestern University Legal Clinic). Marcia is the former board chair of 3Arts and profoundly believes in the importance of putting money directly in the hands of artists. She currently sits on the board of an anonymous foundation that supports women and girls in the arts and sciences. She is also a painter with an active studio practice.



**Jeff Garrett (Lansing, Michigan) \*\***

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Jeff Garrett is the operational support program manager for the State of Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs. Previously, Jeff served as the director of the art school at the Flint Institute of Arts. He has teaching experience in Michigan Public Schools, has been adjunct faculty at Vincennes University, Saginaw Valley State University, Mott College, and was Head of the art and design department at Crowder College. Jeff received an MFA in ceramics with distinction from Indiana State University.



**Bryce Lewis (Golden, Colorado)**

*Pronouns: she/her/they/them*

Bryce Lewis is a grant writer, educator, and actor with five years of development and fundraising experience. She started her nonprofit career at Talespinner Children's Theatre (TCT) as their Director of Development, supporting their mission to provide exceptional, inclusive, and affordable theatre and educational programming to Cleveland-area children and families. Other experience includes producing children's theatre in Lusaka, Zambia with Barefeet Theatre Company, administrative assistance in the Career Services Department and the Conservatory Office of Events both at Baldwin Wallace University, SPACES Gallery, and Hawken School, where she is an alum, in the Development office. Most recently, Bryce has relocated to Colorado to hike more, get some fresher air, and to work with SeriesFest hoping to assist them in continuing to innovate and grow their festival. Currently Bryce works as a freelance Grant writer. They graduated from Baldwin Wallace University with a BA in theatre, acting and directing and a minor in creative writing.



**Kenda Lovecchio (Austin, Texas) \*\***

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Kenda has diverse experience including executive management, major gifts, membership programs, board leadership and all aspects of institutional giving. Her career has included leadership roles at Bat Conservation International, Chicago Children's Choir, The Field Museum, The Center for Community Arts Partnerships at Columbia College Chicago, and Northwestern University. Kenda graduated from Northwestern College with a degree in theater and performed live stage theater for many years. She has served on the Chicago Chapter of the Board of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and was an adjunct faculty member for the Arts Entertainment and Media Management program at Columbia College Chicago, where she taught fundraising and management at the graduate and undergraduate levels. She currently resides in Austin, Texas and consults nationally.



**Jamaine Smith (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) \*\***

*Pronouns: he/him/his/they/them*

Jamaine Smith is a creative and lover of the arts who has spent most of his career immersed in Philadelphia's arts and culture sector as an administrator. Most recently, he served as chief commons director of CultureWorks Greater Philadelphia where he assisted over 100 individual artists and arts organizations with financial management, professional development, and overall organizational strategy. He has presented at numerous conferences on topics such as fiscal sponsorship as a conduit for equity and dissecting the power dynamics between funders and grantees. Inspired by the many creatives he's had the pleasure of walking alongside, Jamaine recently launched his own creative venture titled ""1216 Knox"", a space design firm focused on helping renters and homeowners ""use what they got"" to make beautiful, purposeful spaces. Jamaine holds a BS in social work (Nyack College), MA in urban studies (Eastern University), and MBA (Philadelphia University).



**Rebecca Kinslow (Nashville, Tennessee) \*\***

*Pronouns: she, her, hers*

Rebecca Kinslow has over 20 years of experience as an arts leader, specializing in event-planning, marketing, community development, grantmaking, program management and organizational development in the non-profit, higher education and government sectors. Rebecca has led the development and oversight of programs, partnerships, financial investments, and cultural and racial equity strategies designed to support stronger arts & cultural organizations. She holds an Executive Certificate in Arts & Cultural Strategy and a Master of Science in Nonprofit Leadership from University of Pennsylvania. She has served on Americans for the Arts' County Arts Network and Equitable Investments Advisory Committee, the Create Justice Network Peer Learning Action Group, the Program Advisory Committee for the Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville, and the Government Alliance for Racial Equity Arts Workgroup.



**Christopher Audain (Chicago, Illinois) \*\***

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Christopher Audain is program officer at Alphawood Foundation, a private grantmaking foundation working for an equitable, just, and humane society. Chris previously worked at the Art Institute of Chicago and the Logan Center for the Arts at the University of Chicago. Originally from Nashville, TN, Chris is an artist, arts administrator, singer, and advocate. He is the bandleader and singer for the Chicago cover band RECOVERY EFFECTS. He is Chairman of the board for Congo Square Theatre Company. Chris believes the arts are uniquely imperative in their ability to divulge the human condition, bring people together, and ultimately break down the perverted preconceived notions that tend to divide us. He received his BA in Political Science at Kenyon College with a minor in music, and his master's in arts administration from Goucher College.



**Kavita Mahoney (Indianapolis, Indiana)**

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Kavita is the Arts Center Manager at the Garfield Park Arts Center. In her role she collaborates with local artists and community organizations and serves on neighborhood committees to develop strategic partnerships to elevate the arts, particularly in traditionally underserved communities. She also curates exhibitions and public art initiatives in her community, including murals, festivals, and pop-up placemaking/placekeeping events that celebrate the multicultural fabric of the Indianapolis community. She has held positions at both local and national museums and art centers, including Newfields, Smithsonian Institution's Freer|Sackler Museums of Asian Art, the Indiana State Museum, and the Indiana Historical Society. Kavita has a passion for elevating the arts in ways that benefit the public good, create a sense of community, connect to the environment, and stimulate awareness of social and cultural issues. She is committed to civic engagement and the advancement of the arts by providing creative ways to serve, educate, and collaborate with communities in order to provide diverse cultural experiences that are accessible for and inclusive of all audiences. Kavita holds a bachelor's degree in studio art and history of art and a master's degree in museum studies from Indiana University, where she graduated with high honors and was selected as the Chancellor's Scholar for her graduating class.



**Leslie Holt (Washington, District of Columbia)**

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Leslie Holt is from Bethesda, Maryland. She received a BFA in Painting at Washington University in St. Louis and an MFA in Painting at Washington State University in Pullman, WA. She is currently co-director of Red Dirt Studio, a warehouse studio for a group of independently practicing artists and creative professionals in Mt. Rainier, MD. Leslie has taught studio art, art history and art appreciation on the college level since 2001. She has also worked as a social worker and advocate for people with developmental disabilities, mental illness, and people receiving welfare benefits. In addition to her studio practice, Leslie teaches in DC communities - at Prince George's Parks and Recreation, Catholic Charities, and online for Fontbonne University in St. Louis, MO. She exhibits her work nationally and is represented by the David Lusk Gallery in Memphis.



**LaShawnda Crowe Storm (Indianapolis, Indiana) \*\***

*Pronouns: she/her/they*

LaShawnda Crowe Storm is an artist, activist, community builder and occasionally an urban farmer. In her spare time, she is the community engagement director for Spirit & Place, an initiative of the Polis Center at Indiana University-Purdue University, which utilizes the arts, humanities and religion as a catalyst for civic engagement, critical community dialogue, collaboration and experimentation. Crowe Storm uses her creative power as a vehicle for dialogue, social change and community healing. As the community builder and organizer for the Northwest Area Quality of Life Plan, she worked with residents to translate their vision of community self-determination into an action plan with more than 100 community-led efforts including community safety and peacebuilding to youth development. Crowe Storm has an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a BA in communications and English literature from the University of Michigan.



**Drew Digby (Duluth, Minnesota)**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Drew Digby is the Executive Director of the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council (ARAC). ARAC serves more than 18,000 square miles of Northeastern Minnesota as part of Minnesota's system of regional arts councils, providing grants and services to artists and arts organizations. Prior to ARAC, Digby worked in economic and community development, taught at the University of Minnesota Duluth, and worked as a journalist. He ran a pop-up art gallery in Duluth called Studio 3 West that had a successful run including the WTF! Feminist Art show that included works from more than 80 artists. He has also run a consulting business that helps artists with career and business strategies. An active participant in civic life, Digby served on the Imagine Duluth 2035, Vision Committee; John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Community Advisory Board for Duluth and Superior; as president of the City of Duluth's Planning Commission; and as a board member for the Renegade Theater Company,. Digby holds an MA in Social Sciences from the University of Chicago, as well as a BA in Religious Studies from the University of California at Berkeley.



**Chip Moody (Chicago, Illinois)**

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Born and raised in Chicago, IL, finished high school in Villanova, PA, Chip Moody studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Best known for his black-and-white photographs featuring portraits and interior scenes of Black life in Chicago. After having lived on both coasts and traveled world Moody moved back to Chicago to focus on local narratives, sharing out using his art to engage in larger conversations. He currently resides in Chicago and works for the DuSable Museum of African American History.



**Lisa Harper Chang (Huntsville, Alabama) \*\***

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Lisa Harper Chang, MSW, is currently an independent consultant on arts-based community work in northern Alabama and a principal member of Art Relevance, LLC, a firm dedicated to supporting arts-based work that strengthens and builds more inclusive communities. She most recently served as Assistant Director of Religious Education at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington in Arlington, Virginia prior to relocating to Alabama. Lisa has served as the education programs manager for the St. Louis Regional Arts Commission and the community projects director at The Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, a co-appointment with the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. Lisa received her master of social work degree from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis, and a bachelor of arts in computational and applied mathematics from Rice University in Houston, Texas. She is currently working toward licensure in clinical social work practice.



**Lawrence M. Jackson (Tuscaloosa, Alabama) \*\***

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Lawrence M. Jackson, MFA, is the associate chair and associate professor of dance at the University of Alabama where he teaches jazz, modern/contemporary, choreography, and dance history and pedagogy. Jackson has choreographed over 75 original works for the concert stage. Most recently, Lawrence choreographed an off-Broadway production, *Separate and Equal*, which premiered at Theater 59E59 in September 2018. Jackson has recently served as a guest artist/choreographer/master teacher at the California State University Northridge, University of Nevada Las Vegas, University of Florida, University of Wyoming, and many more.

Jackson serves as the Executive Director for The American Dance Company Experience (TADCE). As a scholar, Jackson has published in many scholarly journals in the field of Black dance. Lawrence is a member of the Alabama Dance Council Board, University of Alabama Faculty Senate, and International Association of Blacks in Dance.



**Stevi Knighton (Columbus, Ohio)**

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Most recently, Stevi was the Grants and Services coordinator for Greater Columbus Arts Council. In her role she managed the grants process, providing support to applicants by hosting workshops and overseeing ongoing program evaluation for grants and servicing projects including Artists in the Community, International Artist Exchange, and BOOST. She is a Columbus native who worked as a Youth Arts liaison for CAPAcity before college. After obtaining her BA in English and mass communications from Fisk University, she returned to Columbus to serve the community working with organizations such as the National Center for Urban Solutions, the Central Community House and for Nationwide Insurance. A writer and performer since childhood, Stevi has devoted her spare time to local artistic events with a focus on poetry and literary art. Being able to work directly with local artistic talent and continue to support and contribute to the art scene in her hometown is and has always been the crux of her life's purpose.



**Krissy Harmen (Athens, OH) \*\***

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Kristine Harman is a wildlife conservationist and an expert in wildlife management and natural resources. She has served in a number of wildlife management, natural resources and conservation roles across the country, including: wildlife technician for the U.S. Forest Service; conservation technician at the Tahoe Resource Conservation District; and a field research technician for both Purdue University and the University of California, Los Angeles. She is currently a graduate student at Ohio University studying ecology and evolutionary biology. Kristine holds a degree in environmental science policy and management from the University of California, Berkeley.





**Katie Skayhan (Boulder, Colorado) \*\***

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Katie Skayhan is community engagement and social innovation coordinator at the CU Boulder College of Music. She has experience in strategic planning, grants management, strategic communications, project management and fundraising and has worked alongside public and private sector professionals as well as artists and creatives to develop innovative strategies that weave arts and culture into the fabric of community. Skayhan works with the Boulder community and beyond to advance the social impact of the College of Music and steward its commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion and access. Skayhan proudly hails from Portland, Oregon, and is a graduate of Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs. She holds two master's degrees in public affairs and arts administration and a bachelor of music in vocal performance from Oberlin Conservatory.



**Kirkston Tyrone Spann (Chicago, Illinois) \*\***

*Pronouns: he/him/his*

Kirkston Tyrone Spann's professional experience includes over 22 years in the nonprofit and higher education fields. He currently serves as the president for the Transformative Nonprofit Solutions Consultant company. Mr. Spann worked for the Foundations of East Chicago for 18 years managing their scholarship and grant programs. He also served as a consultant for Lake Area United Way and as the program director for the Gary Alumni Pathway for Students organization. Additionally, he worked as the 21st Century Scholar coordinator and associate director of admissions for Ivy Tech's Lake County Campus. He attended Florida A & M University in Tallahassee, Florida where he received a bachelor's of science degree in architectural studies. Mr. Spann continued his education at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana where he received an MBA in real estate finance.



**MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** November 10, 2020  
**To:** CAC Board of Trustees  
**From:** CAC Program Staff: Heather Johnson-Banks, Luis Gomez, India Pierre-Ingram  
**Re:** 2021 General Operating Support: approval of grant amounts

**Board Action:** At the November 10 meeting, the Board will approve grants to 65 organizations for General Operating Support totaling \$10.2 million in 2021. This recommendation holds grant amounts steady with 2020 grants. These awards are for the second year of this biannual grant program.

The organizations listed within this memo were *approved to be part of a two-year grant program* in November 2019. All organizations remain in good standing with CAC and complete two reports a year to update CAC on their work and share their progress, including racial equity commitments. Throughout the grant period, program managers conduct site visits, see their work in action and keep in consistent contact with organizations.

*The COVID-19 pandemic* and related public health mandates are having a disproportionately negative impact on the arts and culture sector. Staff recommend maintaining grant amounts at the same level of funding recommended for 2020 grants. This approach is *consistent* with previous General Operating Support grant cycles and will provide *needed stability for grant recipients* through the ongoing pandemic.

The following summarizes the **65 General Operating Support grants totaling \$10.2 million** recommended to the Board for approval.

Organization	2021 Grant Amount
Apollo's Fire Baroque Orchestra	\$ 104,031.00
Art House	\$ 19,641.00
Art Therapy Studio	\$ 45,545.00
Artists Archives of the Western Reserve	\$ 23,401.00
Arts Cleveland	\$ 54,131.00
BAYarts	\$ 57,017.00
Beck Center for the Arts	\$ 129,016.00
Broadway School of Music and the Arts	\$ 19,553.00
Center for Arts-Inspired Learning	\$ 95,371.00
Chagrin Valley Little Theater	\$ 31,854.00
Children's Museum of Cleveland	\$ 69,804.00
Cleveland Botanical Garden	\$ 193,947.00
Cleveland Institute of Art	\$ 548,585.00
Cleveland Institute of Music	\$ 547,099.00
Cleveland International Film Festival	\$ 151,398.00
Cleveland Jazz Orchestra	\$ 27,492.00

Cleveland Museum of Art	\$ 936,686.00
Cleveland Museum of Natural History	\$ 492,147.00
Cleveland Play House	\$ 313,809.00
Cleveland POPS Orchestra	\$ 62,803.00
Cleveland Public Theatre	\$ 104,107.00
Cleveland Restoration Society	\$ 71,797.00
Contemporary Youth Orchestra	\$ 29,216.00
DANCECleveland	\$ 48,961.00
Dancing Wheels	\$ 37,315.00
Dobama Theatre	\$ 45,877.00
Dunham Tavern Museum	\$ 20,370.00
Ensemble Theatre	\$ 14,201.00
Great Lakes Science Center	\$ 250,265.00
Great Lakes Theater	\$ 181,437.00
GroundWorks DanceTheater	\$ 44,633.00
Heights Arts	\$ 25,111.00
ICA - Art Conservation	\$ 80,198.00
ideastream	\$ 618,996.00
Ingenuity	\$ 37,379.00
Inlet Dance Theatre	\$ 25,634.00
Karamu House	\$ 90,349.00
Lake Erie Ink	\$ 24,076.00
Lake Erie Nature & Science Center	\$ 77,226.00
LAND studio	\$ 157,993.00
Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage	\$ 132,993.00
Morgan Art of Papermaking Conservatory and Educational Foundation	\$ 24,830.00
Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland	\$ 139,190.00
Nature Center at Shaker Lakes	\$ 73,567.00
Near West Theatre	\$ 60,049.00
Northcoast Men's Chorus	\$ 25,341.00
Piano Cleveland	\$ 56,170.00
Playhouse Square	\$ 1,164,989.00
Progressive Arts Alliance	\$ 49,127.00
Rainey Institute	\$ 79,915.00
Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum	\$ 748,681.00
Roots of American Music	\$ 20,873.00
Shaker Historical Society	\$ 13,475.00
SPACES	\$ 34,197.00
The Cleveland Opera	\$ 16,693.00
The Cleveland Orchestra	\$ 1,045,644.00
The Music Settlement	\$ 180,052.00
The Musical Theater Project	\$ 43,848.00
The Sculpture Center	\$ 16,624.00
The Singing Angels	\$ 29,610.00
Ukrainian Museum-Archives	\$ 15,280.00
Valley Art Center	\$ 33,940.00
Verb Ballets	\$ 39,864.00
Western Reserve Historical Society	\$ 216,835.00
Zygot Press	\$ 29,743.00

**Contracts & Grants Update for Board**

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Approval</b>
Capitol Partners	\$20,000	Tax and legal policy research.	09/01/20-12/31/20	Board



**Board of Trustees  
2021 Meeting Schedule**

All regular meetings will be held from 4:00 to 5:30 pm unless otherwise noted.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Wednesday, February 10</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Wednesday, April 14</b> Annual Meeting	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Wednesday, June 9</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Tuesday, September 14</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Wednesday, November 10</b> Approval of 2022 grant awards	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 15</b> 3:30pm, executive session for personnel matters	<b>TBD</b>