Welcome!
Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) welcomes you to the 2023 Project Support panel review. The purpose of the Project Support (PS) grant program is to provide annual grants of up to $20,000 for arts and culture projects in Cuyahoga County. During the panel review, arts and cultural experts from across the country (who are educated in CAC’s funding criteria) discuss and score applications.

This panel review is for PS applications requesting more than $5,000 in funding. 2023 applications requesting $5,000 or less are reviewed via a written panel process. Those scores and comments will be posted publicly at the conclusion of the panel and are scored using the same framework listed here.

Order of Review*
*Each review should take approximately 10 minutes.*

**Monday, September 19, 9:00am EST**
- America SCORES Cleveland
- American Hungarian Friends of Scouting
- Baldwin Wallace University
- Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation for Brain Health
- ChamberFest Cleveland
- Cleveland Print Room
- Cleveland Treatment Center
- FRONT International
- Hospice of the Western Reserve
- Jones Road Family Development Corporation
- Maelstrom Collaborative Arts
- Open Tone Music
- Renovare Music
- Westlake Chinese School

*Panelist Closing Statements*

**Monday, September 19, 1:00pm EST**
- Cassidy Theatre
- Cavani String Quartet
- Chagrin Documentary Film Festival
- CityMusic Cleveland
- Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation
- Cleveland School of the Arts Board of Trustees
- convergence-continuum
- Downtown Cleveland Alliance
- ENCORE Chamber Music
- Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association
- Les Délices
- Local 4 Music Fund
- Mandel JCC
- Music and Art at Trinity

*Panelist Closing Statements*
Tuesday, September 20, 9:00am EST

Berea Arts Fest
Brite Cleveland
Friends of the McGaffin Carillon
Heights Youth Theatre
Historic Gateway Neighborhood Corporation
In Harmony Therapeutic Services
Jennings Center for Older Adults
Jewish Federation of Cleveland
Kulture Kids
Notre Dame College
Open Doors Academy
The Movement Project
Tremont West Development Corporation
UCI

Panelist Closing Statements

Tuesday, September 20, 1:00pm EST

BorderLight
Cleveland Chamber Choir
Cleveland Chamber Music Society
Cleveland Rocks: Past Present and Future
Environmental Health Watch
Literary Cleveland
Little Lumpy's Center for Educational Initiatives
Northwest Neighborhoods CDC
PALS for Healing
Refresh Collective
School of Cleveland Ballet
Talespinner Children's Theatre
The Brecksville Theater
The City Club of Cleveland

Panelist Closing Statements

*Start times and breaks will take place at the discretion of the panel chair, subject to change.

Follow our Progress
Don’t want to miss your review? Follow our progress on Twitter and listen to our live stream on September 19-20.
Panel Review Process
To ensure an impartial and transparent application review process, CAC convenes a panel of arts and cultural professionals from outside the region who discuss, evaluate, and score applications. Panelists are chosen to represent a cross-section of professionals qualified to provide expert knowledge of specific arts or cultural disciplines, as well as for their management experience, professional knowledge of the sector and prior panel experience. CAC staff take every effort to ensure that the panel is diverse in all respects. All panelists receive an honorarium for their service.

All panelists read, review, and score every application to which they are assigned. The panel is managed by a nonvoting panel chair.

Observe Panel Review
Applications will be reviewed for no more than ten minutes, following this sequence of actions:

- The Panel Chair will introduce the organization.
- The panelists lead the discussion by presenting their assessment of the application, budget and support materials based on CAC’s Funding Criteria.
- At the conclusion, panelists will submit their final scores.

Audience Protocol
Applicants and audience members are observers only and are not permitted to address the panel via the virtual meeting or contact the panelists otherwise. However, if an applicant believe that a panelist has presented incorrect information regarding their application, you can complete an Information Correction Form.

- The panel chair will review the correction to determine if it is objective in nature and confirms what is already in the application.
- The panel chair will read the correction to the panel and for the public record.

*An example of objective information would be the panelist misstating the number of performances that an organization detailed in their application. This is not an opportunity to provide additional information.

End of Day: Public Comment
After the panel chairs adjourn the discussion and scoring is complete, CAC will hold an optional session for public comment on the grant program and the panel review process.

Audience members are encouraged to participate in the public comment session by submitting comments using our online form at http://bit.ly/CAC-comment.
Scoring
Panelists score each application on a point scale from 0 to 100 based on the following funding criteria:

- **PUBLIC BENEFIT**: An organization’s ability to meaningfully and authentically engage its community through its project.
- **ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL VIBRANCY**: An organization’s ability to create a quality project that inspires and challenges its community.
- **ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY**: An organization’s ability to successfully plan for and manage its project.

Panelists will use the following scoring framework to score each application on the funding criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PUBLIC BENEFIT</th>
<th>ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL VIBRANCY</th>
<th>ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>(45 points):</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Weak:</td>
<td>1 – 25</td>
<td>Weak: 1 – 15</td>
<td>Weak: 1 – 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fair:</td>
<td>26 – 38</td>
<td>Fair: 16 – 28</td>
<td>Fair: 11 – 16</td>
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**Scoring Descriptions**

**Strong**: The applicant has provided overwhelming evidence throughout the application that demonstrates that this funding criterion is fully met. Responses are clear and directly address this funding criterion. The support materials are clear, highly relevant and lead to a deeper understanding of how the criterion is met.

**Fair**: The applicant has provided sufficient evidence throughout the application that demonstrates that this funding criterion is met. Responses are generally clear, but do not consistently address this funding criterion. The support materials are relevant but provide only some understanding of how the criterion is met.

**Weak**: The applicant has provided insufficient evidence throughout the application that demonstrates that this funding criterion is met. Responses are unclear and/or do not address this funding criterion. The support materials may not be relevant and may not provide additional understanding of how the criterion is met.

**Final Score and Funding Recommendations**
Scores are calculated by combining and averaging the score of all three panelists. Applications that receive a score of 75 or higher are recommended for funding. CAC will calculate final scores and notify all applicants via email the week of October 17. Grant amounts will be confirmed at CAC’s Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at 4:00pm.