

# PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

## 2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



### Arts Renaissance Tremont

**Your Project Title:** Arts Renaissance Tremont Spring Series

**Your Project Summary:** From March to May, ART will present three public performances of chamber music featuring world-class musicians. Performances will take place at historic Pilgrim Congregational Church, in the heart of Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood. Admission will be by freewill donation or by donation to the Pilgrim Food Pantry, ensuring everyone the ability to experience exceptional music.

**Final Score:** Somewhat. Overall, the panel felt that the applicant provided some evidence throughout the application that the funding criteria were met.

**CAC Grant Amount:** \$4,000

To ensure an impartial and transparent application review process, CAC convened an online panel of arts and cultural professionals from outside the region who evaluated and scored eligible applications.

Panelists scored each application based on the Funding Criteria—Public Benefit, Artistic and Cultural Vibrancy and Organizational Capacity—with an emphasis on Public Benefit. For more details regarding the panel process and full panelist bios, please review the [Panel Guide](#).



Sarah Benvenuti  
(New York, NY)



Tracie Hall  
(Chicago, IL)



Leesa Jing  
(Indianapolis, IN)



Carly Jones  
(Raleigh, NC)



Kevin O'Hora  
(New York, NY)

Below you will find each panelist's score and comment on your application in response to the question: **With an emphasis on public benefit, does the applicant demonstrate evidence that it meets CAC's three funding criteria?**

Note: Panelist scores and comments are presented in no particular order.

### Panelist 1

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** This application meets the funding criteria. ART demonstrates public benefit by understanding and offering the majority of its concerts free of charge. After visiting the website and viewing the videos there seems to be an opportunity, if not an imperative for the organization to use funding to increase racial/ethnic and age diversity. There are myriad efforts in the field to expand diversity in classical chamber music, and a growing pipeline of skilled musicians. After reading some of the public comments attached to one of the videoed performances I viewed, that commented on the lack of age diversity...expanding diversity of players and audience should be a priority.

### Panelist 2

**Score:** Somewhat

**Comment:** This project somewhat meets the funding criteria. There is great potential for public benefit with this project, however the applicant doesn't necessarily demonstrate a response to its community. The applicant clearly understands the community's demographics; however, how is this knowledge being used to shape the program? The community is mainly low-income and therefore concerts are free, which is great, but how are past qualitative surveys being used to determine the programming of the three concerts? It's clear that the organization challenges its community to think differently by providing concerts unique in this area, and the project budget is clearly laid out.

### Panelist 3

**Score:** No

**Comment:** This project does not meet the funding criteria. Although the organization seems capable of putting on a concert of high artistic quality, this proposal does not demonstrate how the public will be engaged by this project. This application positions the musicians and performances as separate from the community in which they are based, rather than as stakeholders. Due to language describing the organization as "not commonly associated" with the community in which the group will perform, I am not confident that the organization has the necessary experience to execute a project that will respectfully engage community members as described in this proposal.

### Panelist 4

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** They know their community. Love the use of audience surveys- keep it up. Would love more specific info about who attends these performances, though. Strong public benefit. Would be helpful to have more information about how you select performers. Where do the kids' performances take place? Are they part of this project? Strong organizational capacity through volunteers and historical record. They raise a significant amount through freewill donations at the events- that's great. Shows community investment. Thorough budget. Would love some links to eblasts or other marketing in supplementals in the future.

## Panelist 5

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** Yes, this meets the funding criteria. Public Benefit: Arts Renaissance Tremont demonstrates well-thought outreach programs and a full awareness of the changes this area is going through. They provide performances that are free and accessible. Artistic & Cultural Vibrancy: I was glad to see such a diverse line-up for this coming season; which includes musicians of various backgrounds and genres. This promotes cultural vibrancy. Organizational Capacity: The applicant shows strong organizational ties in the community and capacity to achieve clearly stated goals. I can appreciate that they pay the musicians that perform; despite it being a volunteer-run organization.

**Questions?** Cuyahoga Arts & Culture is here to assist. Please contact:

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