

# PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

## 2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



### Beachwood Historical Society

**Your Project Title:** Salute!

**Your Project Summary:** Celebrate, honor and thank Veterans by interweaving history with theatre, dance, and music while also engaging members of our community, young, old, families, scouts, campers to remember our Veterans.

**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:** \$3,600

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](#).



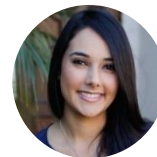
Kristine Harman  
(Athens, OH)



Alena Leonatti  
(Carpinteria, CA)



Shin Yu Pai  
(Seattle, WA)



Christianne Rojo  
(Santa Barbara, CA)

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:** No

**Comment:** The applicant does not meet funding criteria. It's unclear how these events will uphold and bring awareness of the cultural diversity and experience among the veteran community and the greater Cleveland area. While some public benefit can be exhibited through the free programming and the applicant working with its community members to celebrate veterans from Beachwood, it is not explained how these events will celebrate cultural diversity. They write that these events are beneficial because they will "share history." What parts of history will be shared? Beachwood is 77% Caucasian. In order to meaningfully and respectfully engage a community, one must recognize and respect the realities and struggles of communities of color who experienced history differently than white communities. As history has impacted communities of color differently, the applicant's language is vague and risks lacking respect and understanding towards non-Caucasian cultures, especially within the veteran community, thus making public benefit questionable. This application demonstrates a lack of inclusion, thus showing that the applicant hasn't demonstrated that they understand, or are using knowledge about, the community that they are trying to focus on and engage.

### Panelist 2

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** The project meets the funding criteria. BHS will achieve public benefit through free programs open to the public, engages all ages, and educates the community about the town's historical roots, thereby upholding a sense of community in this small town. Additionally, BHS will employ a variety of community partners. Patriotic theater, dance, and multimedia presentations put on by a diversity groups will challenge the community to reflect on veterans' services, achieving artistic and cultural vibrancy. The organization's capacity to plan and manage seems practical with a spare but straightforward project implementation and fundraising solution to reach the match requirement.

### Panelist 3

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** Yes, this project meets the funding criteria. The applicant clearly demonstrates an understanding of the community, which drives their work to celebrate the lives of their senior citizens and local veterans. The project aims at celebrating these veterans in a fun, festive atmosphere that brings together the community to honor not only the history of the town but those that inhabit it as well. I also appreciate the applicants strive to make this event accessible to all. The project is well defined, articulate, and the details provided for each of the three events demonstrates the applicants ability to meet project goals.

### Panelist 4

**Score:** Somewhat

**Comment:** This proposal somewhat meets funding criteria. The public benefit focuses on free events but the design of the program could be more meaningful and go beyond musical performance and children decorating gravesites - for instance, having the youth conduct oral histories and engage in conversation with veterans/elders in an interactive way that goes beyond veterans sitting at a special table sharing their memorabilia. While the general intention is good, the application lacks artistic/cultural vibrancy. The budget will go primarily towards purchase of materials and paying musicians and theatrical performers, vs. supporting the veterans for sharing their stories. This program represents nearly 50% of the org's annual budget.

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

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