

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Blue Streak Ensemble

Your Project Title: Catching Fire Blue Streak Ensemble 2019 Concert Series

Your Project Summary: Blue Streak Ensemble is concerned about the environment, as evidenced in our two-year project premiering and video recording Brouwer's environmental Oratorio, Voice of the Lake. Our plan for 2019 is to focus attention on a famous historical event that occurred 50 years ago. The 1969 fire on Cleveland Cuyahoga River catapulted national attention and protest, bringing about the Clean Water Act. We are programming music related to the fire, to protest and citizen action for change, and to nature.

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: No

Comment: While the supporting evidence speaks to the artistic depth of the ensemble itself, there is not definitive evidence of public benefit. Set to take on a historic event, the project may have spoke to the creation of a deeper community engagement plan that might endeavor to reach and retain new audience members interested in that specific subject matter and like topics. However, there is not much information about how the public will be served or engaged in this project. That omission makes it hard to assess actual public benefit.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. The project is clearly laid out in great detail. The applicant's decisions are driven by their community, as they present current music related to problems people face today. The topic of the fire on Cuyahoga River will be relevant to the applicant's community, and it will also be timely as it will be the 50th anniversary of the fire. The work presented will challenge musicians to analyze new music written for them, and it will also inspire and challenge audience members through panel discussions. The budget is clearly laid out in great detail, and

Panelist 3

Score: Somewhat

Comment: This project somewhat meets funding criteria. The project will foster cultural vibrancy by inspiring the public to think differently about classical music through commissioning of local composers. The proposal demonstrates the sophistication of the organization's musical ability and insight, in addition to strong fundraising ability. Although the public is likely to be engaged by the free and accessible projects, I wish the proposal offered clearer evidence as to what steps will be taken to ensure the programs engage audiences beyond the typical classical music audience. I am concerned that the applicant does not have sufficient experience engaging a larger community and would be unable to execute this component of the project.

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: Public Benefit: Need more details about specific demographics/description about their community/WHO they directly benefit. This is really broad and not clear. You are going to

circulate a survey- this is useful to get this data. Vibrancy: Clear sense of artistic vision and attempts to keep programming fresh even when working with more classic music. Strong artistic partnerships with musicians and organizations. Organizational Capacity: Strong history and clear plan show good capacity. You show capacity in other secured support and a clear plan on spending this grant

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes, this application meets the funding criteria. Public Benefit: This organization does an exceptional job at intentional programming that meets the needs of the surrounding community through tying community history to the creation of accessible music concerts and composing of music. Artistic and Cultural Vibrancy: The organization inspires its community to think creatively and/or differently through creation of new work/music that directly correlates to the history and needs of the community's environment. Organizational Capacity: Strong ties to arts partners in the community and a detailed budget indicates that the organization has the capacity for this level of programming.

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

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