

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



From Me 2 U, Inc.

Your Project Title: Working On Me - Through Their Eyes - The Beauty of a Bando

Your Project Summary: Youth are engaged in an architectural photographic journey, which they photograph and illustrate the beauty and hope of abandoned property.

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](#).



Kelsey Brown
(Los Angeles, CA)



Tré Hardin
(Nashville, TN)



Brittnie Knight
(Philadelphia, PA)



Katie Skayhan
(Boulder, CO)



Deidre Thomas
(Houston, TX)

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: Somewhat

Comment: The proposal somewhat meets the funding criteria. They didn't quite explain why this project may be relevant to youth in the areas they are currently serving. The narrative references previous communities served as the ones participants will now survey and photograph. It seems that the intent of the program is to engage youth in community development and improvement. Why not intentionally involve the youth from the Glenville and Collinwood communities? There is not enough information about the public component. Number of students participating is unclear. Fifty participants are listed in the proposal but the budget is insufficient if additional photographic equipment, training materials and staff are needed to facilitate the project.

Panelist 2

Score: No

Comment: This project does not meet the funding criteria. While I believe that empowering youth voice in reimagining the potential of blighted community infrastructure is a compelling intention, I have some concerns about the process. The description of the community served is difficult to understand, and the fee-based model does not address any financial aid opportunities. I am concerned that this project exploits the neighborhoods experiencing housing and infrastructure insecurity. There is no discussion of how to involve civic or community leadership, which would seem to me to be an essential partnership. I greatly admire this project for involving youth in community development, but I do not think this fully responds to its community.

Panelist 3

Score: Somewhat

Comment: This application somewhat meets the funding criteria. There is a clear understanding in your shift in the community that you serve and the importance to point of the heterogenous group you serve. However the program is heavily based in public space and properties -- a clearer understanding of how you interact with these places and spaces via physical interaction and partnerships is important as they are your audience whether directly or indirectly involved. Financially overhead seems to be low, but engagement and dissemination of funds seems to be in the draft process.

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. By encouraging the youth to express their opinions and feelings about their community, it challenges them to be critical thinkers about their community. The use of the architectural photography introduces the students to the design industry and could spark a permanent interest in photography, community and/or architecture. With the use of mentorship and training sessions, students will learn many tools that they can build on in the future. This project will be asset based on seeking the positive in communities that have been viewed in a negative light.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes, the project meets funding criteria. Public benefit – the proposal outlines the dichotomy between having abandoned/derelict properties in the neighborhood with empowering residents and youth to better understand and appreciate these parts of town. Artistic/cultural vibrancy – By embracing the abandoned areas as an art project, this project hopes to think differently about them and inspire youth to learn about these areas of the neighborhood through lessons during their photography classes. Organizational Capacity – Details project managers and instructor, and that interns will be available to assist during classes.

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

Luis Gomez
program manager
lgomez@cacgrants.org
216.515.8303 x106

Heather Johnson-Banks
program manager
hjohnsonbanks@cacgrants.org
216.515.8303 x108

Dan McLaughlin
program manager
dmclaughlin@cacgrants.org
216.515.8303 x101