

# PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

## 2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



### Joyful Noise Neighborhood Music School

**Your Project Title:** Individual & Small Group Music Lessons

**Your Project Summary:** Joyful Noise provides free individual and small group music lessons on a variety of instruments to disadvantaged children ages 5-18. Lessons are taught by experienced musicians who volunteer their time. Students demonstrate progress by performing at an annual May concert.

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

**CAC Grant Amount: \$5,000**

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](#).



Rosalyn Escobar  
(Los Angeles, CA)



Trey Hartt  
(Richmond, VA)



Ashe Helm-Hernández  
(Atlanta, GA)



Alice Anne Dolbin  
(Philadelphia, PA)



Brett Swinney  
(Chicago, IL)

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:** The project meets the funding criteria, in spite of their small, almost all-volunteer driven operation. Their free music classes are commendable and the passion through which the organization cares for the youth in Cleveland's west side shines. It demonstrates a clear public benefit. I was happy to see specific demographic and geographic information on the participants. Parent representation on the board is wonderful as is the fact that performances are in the youth's neighborhoods. They work with high quality musicians who thankfully volunteer their time. The organization needs and deserves to pay their Executive Director. There's a lot of potential that will be stifled if they continue to rely mostly on volunteers.

### Panelist 2

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** This project meets all the funding criteria. Working with neighborhoods that are low income and providing completely free services with musical instruments is an example of great public benefit. They have completely broken down what could be really hard barriers to overcome for their constituency. The frequency of the classes is great for retention and the collaboration with student musicians from the university and the Cleveland Institute of Music indicates that there's breadth in their impact through multiple audience segments. Joyful Noise Music School demonstrates clear management in their ability to implement clear goals and carry out their programming.

### Panelist 3

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** The project meets the funding criteria. The applicant has presented through research, who they serve, specifically the race of participants, neighborhoods, and community stakeholders to gain better understanding of demographics, evidence of public benefit. The proposal is clear and the organization has presented matching funds from grants and fundraisers to complete the project. The support materials are strong and relevant.

### Panelist 4

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** This project meets the funding criteria. This is a clear and concise project, presented with great detail, that has very attainable results. This is evidence of organizational capacity. It's a very structured project that gives room to develop a passionate practice.

## Panelist 5

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** This project meets the funding criteria. Free music education workshops showcase benefit. The organization seems to be small but mighty with a strong sense of purpose and able to fulfill their mission. I appreciate the demographic breakdown of their participants as this shows that they are being intentional and keeping a close eye on who they are engaging, how accessible their programs are and how to be responsive to their community.

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

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