

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Mental Health Services for Homeless Persons, Inc

Your Project Title: Art Workshops for those Experiencing Homelessness

Your Project Summary: FrontLine Service partners with professional artist, William Martin Jean and artists from the Tower Press Art Studios, to facilitate bi-weekly Friday Art Workshops for individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness or have formerly inside Mr. Jean's art studio and at the Agency's 13 sites throughout the community. The workshops include instruction on blind contour drawing, portraits, still life drawings, collages, group art projects and many other techniques.

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

CAC Grant Amount: \$4,380

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: Somewhat

Comment: The project only somewhat meets the funding criteria due to their inability to fully articulate their community. They also poorly articulated an authentic relationship with workshop participants. The program model is commendable, but they failed to talk specifically about the demographics and identities of their workshop participants. I'm also interested in the workshop retention rate as compared to other mental health programs. Artistic vibrancy is strong due to the caliber of artists and they clearly have strong organizational management. I have concerns about their "Beyond the Storm" fundraiser, using the labor and creative property of homeless workshop participants to fund a \$28m budget.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

Comment: This program meets all the funding criteria. Providing open access to the arts is particularly important with homeless populations and Frontline's programming being offered at 13 additional sites shows their sensitivity to this need and ability to spread both wide and deep into their community is an example of organizational capacity. Providing artistic programming to the homeless shows that they too have a place at the table and are valued (artistic vibrancy). Finally, the finances are well thought out and funds from their fundraiser further supports their capacity to facilitate such an extensive program.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Comment: The applicant provides sufficient evidence that the funding criteria is met. The applicant presents a project that is responding to community needs, with those experiencing homelessness. The applicant's project is inspiring the community to think creatively and providing an opportunity for their finished works to be on exhibition. The proposal is clear and the budget is sufficient. Support materials are sufficient and reflect a successful project.

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. This is a clear and concise proposal with detailed strategies to track progress. The variety of facilitators seem qualified in order to find optimal results. Hopefully, it will be able to maintain and expand funding support.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: The project meets the funding criteria. This project is highly beneficial to the homeless populations they serve, who also deserve to be able to participate in a programs like this. Public benefit is evident through the fact that they are providing workshops at the housing sites, in addition to the studio workshops. It is also commendable and will ensure a greater impact in that they are meeting the participants where they are. This project seems to be led by a strong staff and leadership who have a strong vision of the organization and deep community partnerships that will ensure a high level of quality.

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

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