

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Mt.Pleasant NOW Development Corporation

Your Project Title: Mt. Pleasant Jazz

Your Project Summary: The project will be comprised of up to 3 outdoor summer jazz events at Luke Easter Park with components of live music, DJ, line dancing, art classes, vendors, and food trucks. There are tentative plans to have a children's corner with magician, hula hooping, and ethnic dancing.

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: Yes

Comment: In its second year The Mt. Pleasant Jazz Festival demonstrates public benefit in its endeavor to set a music festival in a low income community, 15 miles away from the city's downtown and cultural hub. The budget is geared to go to performers and festival equipment, as well there is a stated goal of using community survey as one means of growing community input. The list of partners is impressive as well, as is the demonstrated support from civic leaders- all important components to building momentum and sustainability.

Panelist 2

Score: Somewhat

Comment: The project somewhat meets the funding criteria. The applicant knows who their community is; however, I'd like more detail about the benefit the community will experience by attending the event. The applicant states that the project "bring the community together," but how does this benefit them? How will it inspire or challenge them to think differently? What effect will the music, dancing, and arts and crafts have on the specific community? The project goal is specifically stated, and there are strong relationships with community partners.

Panelist 3

Score: Somewhat

Comment: This project meets all funding criteria. The project will generate public benefit through accessible concerts (free). They have engaged several organizations to partner with that will allow them to successfully engage the community. The jazz concerts will contribute cultural vibrancy to the region and reach a significant number of constituents. The proposal's clear implementation strategies and fundraising sources demonstrate the organization's ability to successfully execute the project.

Panelist 4

Score: Somewhat

Comment: Public Benefit: Clear sense of community and the community participates enthusiastically in events. Free entry and in an accessible location. Artistic & Cultural Vibrancy: They have a plan, but I wish we knew more about who the artists will be or how they are chosen. I don't see much here besides "local musicians" and knowing it's a Jazz event. Talking about some jazz music partners would be helpful if you don't have musicians selected. Organizational

Capacity: A bit confused by your budget- you say your entire arts budget is \$7K but then have a project budget of \$21.5K. Your budget detail is more clear but still not adding up really. That's huge growth. Is there capacity to manage this growth? Strong community partners and staffing.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes, this application meets the funding criteria. Public Benefit: The Mount Pleasant Jazz Festival is in touch with the needs/wants of the community it serves, and it is free/accessible to the public. The application includes a full description of the community and has strong support from local partners. Artistic and Cultural Vibrancy: There is a multidisciplinary approach to the festival including dancing, music, and youth activities. It truly does engage a diverse team of arts and cultural professionals, qualified to complete the project. Organizational Capacity: The diversity in community support gives this organization a lot of fundraising potential that could be tapped into more; however, there is a plan of action for implementation.

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