

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



No Exit New Music Association

Your Project Title: The Community Connection Concert of Cleveland Composers

Your Project Summary: For this provocative concert program, NO EXIT has commissioned five new contemporary classical works by a very diverse collection of Cleveland-based composers, both rising stars and renowned professionals. The ensemble will premiere these compositions by performing them in a series of three concerts that will be free, open to the public and held in non-traditional community-based venues. Some of the pieces will be professionally recorded and released later as a CD and online.

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: Somewhat

Comment: No Exit meets the funding criteria for its focus on presenting new, avant-garde classical music, its connection to Cleveland-based composers, and the niche that it fills with the classical music-loving community. Its intentions are to create a free and friendly space for people to experience classical music, which is certainly a public benefit. I'd like to see a lot more specificity in defining their community. Who is coming to the concerts, from where, and how do they want to increase the diversity of the audience? They spoke of ethnically and age-diverse audiences, but offered no specific proof. Their artistic vibrancy is high, and I love the focus on Cleveland artists. The budget is sound and their goals is reasonable.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

Comment: The project meets all of the criteria. Artistic vibrancy is well defined by the juxtaposition of a sassy, contemporary approach to a form of music that is centuries old. This has the potential to diversify the audience participation as they seem to be rebirthing chamber music in a new light. The public benefit produces itself here with the ability to reach across age lines. The goals are measurable and tangible. Being able to have a produced album in the end extends the program past the allotted time, which can build capacity with additional financial income and garner continued resonance with their fans and beyond.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes, the applicant provides evidence that the funding criteria is met. The proposal shows evidence of public benefit. While the budget is sufficient, funds could be spent on performers and other instrumental rentals, instead of commission fees. Support materials are relevant and the project is free and open to the public.

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. It looks like a very thorough professional development program for composers. The plan of execution looks supportive and allows for the opportunity to create inventive work within an inclusive community.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: The organization seems to be very well-organized in their curation, direction and vision for the events they produce. The music is of high quality. I'd like to know how the musicians are selected and what their outreach/engagement efforts are outside of just the free concerts.

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

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