

# PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

## 2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



### Naach Di Cleveland

**Your Project Title:** Naach di Cleveland 2019

**Your Project Summary:** Naach di Cleveland 2019 is a Bhangra (Indian Folk Dance) and Bollywood dance competition that brings dance teams from all around the country to showcase their talent. This year, Naach di Cleveland will be taking place on March 23, 2019 at Cleveland Public Auditorium.

**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:** Naach Di Cleveland does meet the funding criteria by offering a unique arts and culture offering for the Cleveland community. While a one-time event, its annual production continues to elevate South Asian culture through dance. The community of dancers is well-defined, though the applicant should do more to define the audience they attract and the audience they hope to attract and the tactics and strategies they are using to do so. The artistic and cultural vibrancy was strong as they defined the process in great details and they draw dance groups from around the country. The organizational management seems sound with a clear budget and strong presence in the community.

### Panelist 2

**Score:** Somewhat

**Comment:** The program somewhat meets the funding criteria. While I find this project to have strong artistic and cultural vibrancy and its a true celebration of a unique culture far from its origin, the fees for artists doesn't sit well. The ability to find additional revenue streams is good as this supports organizational capacity, but charging the talent seems counterintuitive to the purpose of uplifting the form and remaining accessible. I like to think of accessibility for both audience members and the art-makers. While the artists are considered professional competitors, it doesn't seem fair to the their public, especially when only choosing 14 from about 60. Finally, with more funding, it would be possible to extend the programming more than two days.

### Panelist 3

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** The project meets all funding criteria. The proposal and budget are clear. The applicant seeks to continue providing a unique cultural experience in the form of a dance competition. The project is supported by its board members, a partnership with a local charity, and national network community. The project will bring together a diverse group of individuals, professional dancers and community members, that can enhance and broaden their cultural experiences. Matching funds are resourced by fundraising and local partnerships. The event will have discounted tickets for students and seniors and the support materials are sufficient.

### Panelist 4

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** This project meets the funding criteria. It looks like an exciting project that involves an underserved community an example of public benefit. I hope the organization is looking into long-term funding in order to keep developing the scope of the project and organization.

## Panelist 5

**Score:** Yes

**Comment:** The project meets the funding criteria. Public benefit and artistic and cultural vibrancy is strong. It is clear that this is a highly qualified and professional arts organization with high artistic standards and exciting programming that addresses and recognizes the Indian community of the county. The samples demonstrate the quality of the dance that is presented at the competitions and it was exciting to watch.

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

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