

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Open Tone Music

Your Project Title: Open Tone Music Academy

Your Project Summary: Open Tone Music Academy is an on site program that provides free music education access for students grades K through 12. The program allows students to learn from professional artists and educators as well as provide teaching opportunities for college students interested in education. Open Tone Music Academy in Cuyahoga county began with grades 4 through 12 but thanks to support from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, we are able to reach students K-12 for the 2018-'19 school year.

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: Open Tone Music does meet the funding criteria since it provides an art programing that is needed in the communities the organization operates in. But I would encourage the applicant to further define the community of young people, i.e., the neighborhoods. Their community was not defined instead the applicant described their organization. That makes me believe that they lack a deep, authentic connection with the communities Open Tone Music works with. The program staff are accomplished musicians and they have a strong evaluation plan, though I craved the chance to read feedback from students and families. The organization receives a good amount of earned income and seems well managed.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

Comment: The project meets the funding criteria. Open Tone Music's goals are measurable and specific, and the program's nature of continued musical education over multiple years with the students shows strong artistic and cultural vibrancy. The approach of understanding that no one organization can meet the needs of the entire community solidifies their collaborative nature and only enhances their organizational capacity. The data they are gathering from the instructors on the students seems that it will only grow their capacity and provides evidence-based results for program development. Finally, benefit is shown not just to the general public, but to two very specific audience segments: youth students and college student teachers.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes, the project fleets the funding criteria. The proposal and budget are clear which is evidence of organizational capacity. The applicant presents sufficient evidence that matching funds are met and that partnerships with the recreation center, local university and schools help bring in additional funding. The support materials are high quality and reflect a successful project.

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: This program meets the funding criteria. Public benefit is evident as it looks like an expansive organization that serves an important segment of an underserved community. There also is a great system of tracking results in place which is evidence of organizational capacity.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: The project meets the funding criteria. Public benefit is strong and evident through the way it serves its community. This is an organization that is serving the diverse residents of this county with high quality music education programming in a way that can really make a difference in the lives of the youth who participate. The evidence of the impact is stated in the application and helps to demonstrate the benefits of this program for the public-at-large.

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

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