

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Sixth City Sounds, Inc.

Your Project Title: Mixing Sessions

Your Project Summary: Mixing Sessions serve as a chance for musicians and those in the local music industry to network, learn from industry experts and discuss how we can all work together to form a stronger music community in Cleveland. Each Mixing Session centers around a topic, is hosted by a guest moderator and brings a panel of industry experts together for an audience, all to generate discussion on topics of critical importance to growing and developing the Cleveland music industry.

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

CAC Grant Amount: \$2,500

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](#).



Kelsey Brown
(Los Angeles, CA)



Tré Hardin
(Nashville, TN)



Brittnie Knight
(Philadelphia, PA)



Katie Skayhan
(Boulder, CO)



Deidre Thomas
(Houston, TX)

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: No

Comment: This application does not meet the funding criteria. The community identified is very broad in the application and would have benefited from more specific details. They cited available studies that could have helped more concretely state who the community is, what are the some of the issues they are addressing and how the mixing sessions provides opportunities. Along the lines of artistic and cultural vibrancy, these seem to be more like networking happy hours than something with a specific artistic endeavor. How will they challenge and inspire those present? There seems to be additional opportunities to meet their goals of highlighting the value of Cleveland music culture, in its historical and modern form.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. The organization demonstrates an understanding of the community. This project inherently responds to the community's needs and interests and grows support for the music industry. The goal to involve business and civic leaders strengthen the case for support. Many efforts are made to make this project valuable, accessible, and open to the public.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Comment: This application meets the funding criteria. There seems to be clear organizational importance on gathering data, understanding who is engaging with the events, and an immediate response to the needs of those people. It would've been beneficial to understand who the "local" community is and why they reacted to the programming in the last year. How has that benefitted the growth of the events? But overall, the reactive and proactive nature of "call-and-response" data collection and programming is working for the benefit of both the public and the organization

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding requirements. The mixing sessions provide a great opportunity for local musicians to learn about the music industry from experienced professionals. This application fails to express how it will appeal to artists working in a variety of

genres of music. For the program to be culturally diverse and equitable, it should specifically cater to any and all musicians through the sessions. The organization has outlined the intent to follow up on collected data and create a program to cater to the city's needs. The success of the first two Mixing Sessions shows that the organization can continue to manage the program.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes, the applicant meets funding criteria. Bringing light to the music scene in Cleveland is an important addition for anyone interested in the music industry. The idea of bringing in experts from outside the city is intriguing and would likely increase attendance with a big enough name, however I would encourage the committee to also connect with local musicians and involve them in the panels as well. I understand this is a fairly new project and am confident with more development the event will be a success.

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

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