

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Slovenian Museum and Archives

Your Project Title: Cleveland Kurentovanje Festival

Your Project Summary: The Cleveland Kurentovanje Festival has become the "Premier Winter Festival in Cleveland." Cleveland Kurentovanje is a cultural event that has been celebrated in Slovenia for the past 50 years connecting arts, culture and people. In 2019, the festival will be celebrating its 6th year in Cleveland's historical Slovenian immigrant neighborhood of St.Clair/Superior.

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](#).



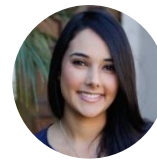
Kristine Harman
(Athens, OH)



Alena Leonatti
(Carpinteria, CA)



Shin Yu Pai
(Seattle, WA)



Christianne Rojo
(Santa Barbara, CA)

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: The application meets the funding criteria. The applicant absolutely shows that it understands its community, respects, works with, and responds to its community through this event. The project uses knowledge of community to drive its work celebrating and preserving Slovenian culture. The free main event is accessible, inviting to its residents, and open to the public. The organization has set a simple, reasonable goal and way to measure progress, though it would be helpful to know more details on how they plan to increase participation 10%. The proposal outlines the people involved and their roles and provides a decent, realistic financial picture. The project also engages a diverse team of arts and cultural professionals.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

Comment: The application meets the funding criteria. The event spanning over seven days allows for diverse and fresh programming, which reflects artistic and cultural vibrancy. Free programming makes the festival easily accessible, reflecting public benefit. The applicant writes that performers from other nationalities are welcomed to perform at the festival, which reflects important cultural diversity. However, it is unclear what efforts the applicant will take to ensure that other cultural communities are engaged and invited to participate in this event. To ensure diversity among its participants and audience, the applicant should consider effective and thoughtful means of reaching out to people of other cultural communities.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. This project is rich in cultural vibrancy and public benefit. The applicant understands the history of their Slovenian community and uses this information to celebrate a unique culture of people who have long since settled in the area. By providing this festival, the applicants are fostering a strong community relationship, as demonstrated by a steady increase in participation over the years. The application was well developed, clear and articulate. The project goals are realistic and achievable. The only critique is the funding request is generalized and the ability to match funds is not substantial.

Panelist 4

Score: Somewhat

Comment: The application meets some of the funding criteria. The 7-day festival will impact up to 10,000 people and bring Slovenian traditions around winter to a community that may not be familiar with these esoteric practices. The supplemental material provided was particularly helpful. Plans to raise matching funds are vague - it would be helpful if they identified sources that they plan to approach. No information is given about org size or staffing structure - hard to determine capacity to produce this festival well - however, this is its 6th year.

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

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