

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Suburban Symphony Orchestra

Your Project Title: Young Soloist Concert

Your Project Summary: A concert featuring the winners of the SSO Young Soloist Competition (typically three winners are picked), plus a symphony played by SSO. Each winner will play at least one movement of a concerto, accompanied by SSO under the direction of Maestro Boyagian at Beachwood High School auditorium on or about February 3, 2019. The orchestra also will perform the Beethoven's Symphony No. 4.

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

CAC Grant Amount: \$3,992

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)



Brittne 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: Somewhat

Comment: The project somewhat meets the funding criteria. The community definition could be more detailed and specific. The narrative does not really address who their community is rather a desire to draw in younger audiences. Missed opportunity to demonstrate who they are already serving and how this project responds to them. However, the platform provided to younger musicians is great and provides those students important performance experience. They do a great job demonstrating the importance of the venue and how its accessible to everyone. The artistic and cultural vibrancy is present. The start dates is not within the grant period. Budget is clear and feasible.

Panelist 2

Score: No

Comment: This project does not meet the funding criteria. While I believe that orchestral music experiences should be accessible to the community, I am not convinced by the public benefit in this project. The applicant's understanding of their community is incomplete. Making concerts free and open to the public is not a compelling enough reason for me. I would like to better understand how the programming responds to the community it serves. Focusing on 'under 25' is also too broad. Next time focus more specifically on the school-age, teenage, high school, or young adult population. It is difficult to gauge the artistic and cultural vibrancy, but I do appreciate the value of showcasing 'young soloists'.

Panelist 3

Score: No

Comment: This application does not meet the funding criteria. The applicant has a strong sense of who currently is engaged with their programming, and that there is necessity to shift in demographics (age). However, the applicant lacks definitive steps to make that shift beyond having younger people play for a concert. Making a huge organizational demographic shift requires prior engagement and shouldn't be at the complete sacrifice of your current community. There could be community connections and partnerships not included in this application that could help to understand the organizational goals in which the shift is mutually beneficial.

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding requirements. This program offers public benefit by exposing youth to classical arts through the showcase. It also challenges young artists through auditions, rehearsals and performance. The high quality of music that is performed shows artistic excellence throughout the program. The organizations past competitions appear to have been a success which provides confidence that they are capable of improving the number of young participants and concert attendees.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes, the project meets funding criteria. The addition of a free, student-based symphony is a unique idea, especially one that is made up solely from student auditions. The fact that it's free and open to the public is also a great way for residents of the community to experience their first symphony, even if they do not know anyone playing. I would have liked to see more expansion in the organizational capacity, as in who else besides the music conductor is responsible for carrying out the operations of this mission? Who else will coordinate marketing, assist in running auditions, coordinate with the venue?

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

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