

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



The Gathering Place

Your Project Title: Facing Cancer: Embracing Art

Your Project Summary: Using a variety of art modalities, participants will learn coping strategies to manage stress and reduce anxiety. These skills will help foster empowerment and creativity on the cancer journey. Classes are open to anyone currently coping with cancer including those in treatment, those finished with treatment, the support network of someone with cancer and anyone grieving the loss of a loved one from cancer. Licensed art therapists and skilled staff teach our expressive arts programs.

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](#).



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: Yes

Comment: Yes, this application meets the funding criteria. The proposal is clear on the community served. It is broad and open to the public for participation. They provided a breadth of artistic expressions and opportunities for a participation. The support materials and anecdotal information provide evidence of public benefit. The range of artistic offerings suggest arts and cultural vibrancy for the community served. Although they state they have licensed and qualified professionals it would have been good to include more specific information of who those professionals are and their qualifications.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. The organization demonstrates an understanding of its community and continues to involve and work with the community to make programming as accessible as possible. I applaud this organization for ensuring that all barriers to participation are reduced, including transportation challenges. The history of success working with community partners to provide the most vibrant programs meets and exceeds expectations. The evaluation process is particularly strong.

Panelist 3

Score: Somewhat

Comment: This application somewhat meets the funding criteria. There are strong community ties through public and community partnerships to deliver the programming, but it is unclear who the public is beyond those grieving via a cancer diagnosis. How does age play a factor in how you develop your programming? How does it respond to the large diversity of cancer types, survivors and traumatized families? I believe that the strong partnerships truly showcase an ability to engage and deliver a public benefit, but the lack of defining the public leaves much to wonder.

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. By opening up the sessions to those who are impacted by cancer directly and indirectly, the sessions offer a unique way for this community to practice coping strategies and share experiences with their peers. By providing an

The Gathering Place - Continued

empowering space to share like experiences, this application demonstrates the ability to inspire those who are affected by cancer. The larger operating budget and increase in the amount of programming last year proves that The Gathering Place is continuously able to innovate and inspire more people each year; they should absolutely be able to successfully engage this community.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes the project meets funding criteria. Creating a creative outlet for patients diagnosed with cancer is a wonderful addition to their treatment plan. The fact that the courses are free of charge (especially transportation) is a welcome bonus and thoughtful to anyone who may be facing financial or transportation burdens. Regarding artistic & cultural vibrancy, I would've loved to have seen more detail about what types of art will be taught, and if reflective discussions will be a part of the lessons. Organizational capacity seems well thought out, with goals and a way to measure them.

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

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