

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Thea Bowman Center

Your Project Title: Lift Every Voice III

Your Project Summary: Mt. Pleasant youth 6- 13 will participate in after- school music at the Thea Bowman Center and at Nathan Hale school focusing on learning the violin and potentially other string instruments. Music is a calming experience enhancing learning, plus many youth are talented and gifted at singing and violin.

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: This project clearly defines its community and the benefit to exposing youth to music education. They have identified a need in their community they are addressing with a population that does not have immediate and frequent exposure to the arts. The students who train will perform on several occasions providing additional opportunities for learning, training, and connecting to audiences. The performances are free and open to the public allowing family members and friends of student participants accessibility. Clear strategy for matching funds. Budget and timeline are feasible.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. The organization demonstrates a deep understanding of and collaboration with the community it serves. The project uses music as an effective tool in youth development that responds to the community's needs and interests. The community partnerships strengthen the case for support, and the history of success shows the organizational capacity to produce artistically and culturally vibrant programs.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes, this application meets the funding criteria. There is a clear identification of both community need and benefit in the realm of programmatic response and over cultural and economic understanding of the community targeted for the music program. There are strong community partnerships with the local school and youth focused community. Allowing students the autonomy to opt into the program solidifies the benefit of this project to its intended community.

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding requirements. By introducing the community's youth to classical instruments, specifically the violin, this program provides access to an art form that is not always accessible to lower income families. The length of the program offers youth the opportunity to spend enough time with the instruments to make decision to permanently study music after the program is over. Without music programs in the public school curriculum, this

could serve as one of the only opportunities some of the kids get to practice art/music. Future applications could address more of the program costs as instruments like guitars and violins can be expensive to purchase as well as maintain.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes the applicant meets funding criteria. I appreciated the research that went into explaining the neighborhood demographics and how art and music have been cut from the curriculums of nearby schools. The proposal illustrates the important need, and therefore public benefit, that music education can provide for youth. Their artistic vibrancy is evident in the purposeful structure of their classes as well as the qualifications of their staff. The goals are sound and the organization has procedures in place to collect evaluations.

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

Luis Gomez

program manager

lgomez@cacgrants.org

216.515.8303 x106

Heather Johnson-Banks

program manager

hjohnsonbanks@cacgrants.org

216.515.8303 x108

Dan McLaughlin

program manager

dmclaughlin@cacgrants.org

216.515.8303 x101