

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2019 PROJECT SUPPORT II



West Side Catholic Center

Your Project Title: Expressive Arts Program

Your Project Summary: Programs designed to help homeless individuals find a path to self-sufficiency must address the psychological and physiological effects of trauma in order to be effective. Artistic activities such as music, writing, and painting can be therapeutic for individuals who have experienced trauma, and WSCC's Expressive Arts Program provides clients with a series of such activities that help them heal and give them an opportunity to express themselves during the Expressive Arts Program Performance.

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: The WSCC project meets funding criteria. Service to a vulnerable population through arts therapy while bridging gaps between neighbors and building empathy demonstrates public benefit and understanding and response to the community being served. The artistic professionals show ability and capacity to facilitate this program. Budget is clear and timeline is feasible.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding criteria. The organization demonstrates a clear understanding of the community it serves. There is a strong history of success in executing these programs and involving the community in the planning, evaluation, and implementation. It's great to see that some past clients have had the opportunity to lead some of the classes. The diversity of programs and the people involved make the case for a truly vibrant project. I think the goal and evaluation process could use some work. There is a lot of great stuff in this proposal, but what outcomes are you hoping to achieve? Participation and monetary impact are important, but you could go further in articulating that public benefit here.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Comment: This organization meets the funding criteria. There is clear data, culturally-driven community need and benefit as portrayed by the organization. With attention to both physical and economic accessibility to arts community program, the organization has established the needs and how to meet them as the importance for the success of their programming. Strong community partnerships help to support their understanding and support of arts education for all.

Panelist 4

Score: Yes

Comment: This project meets the funding requirements. The program activities clearly outline the various sessions and opportunities that will be offered including gardening, writing, music and visual arts. The Program Performance is open to the public and offers an opportunity for the participants to sell their work. By selling their work and receiving full profits, the participants

will be inspired to continue to pursue creative outlets on their path to self-sufficiency. This program might go an extra mile if it can help provide resources for financial literacy and personal consultation. The program professionals and volunteers have vast experience in their fields which should allow the program to be a success.

Panelist 5

Score: Yes

Comment: Yes the applicant meets funding criteria. I appreciated the clear statistics and facts put forth by the applicant to illustrate the need for art therapy and other creative activities for this population. The programming sample looks varied and diverse, with attention to many different forms of art. While the staffing looks qualified, I would encourage the organization to consider a more measurable goal and means of evaluation -- such as an attendance goal, a demographic goal, or utilizing pre and post surveys to measure success.

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

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