

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS 2020 PROJECT SUPPORT II



BorderLight Festival of International Theatre Cleveland Inc

Your Project Title: BorderLight Cleveland Artist Participation Grant

Your Project Summary: Allocated funds will be used to subvent the participation of Cuyahoga County-based artists in our 2020 Fringe Festival. These performers will be able to elevate their artistry by paying for materials, technical designers and providing performance stipends. They will be able to show themselves as equals to our visiting performance companies and, we hope, come to see themselves as deserving of touring experiences to other festivals--thereby elevating the reputation of BorderLight and Cleveland.

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: \$4,000

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](#).



Maxine Gaiber
(Philadelphia, PA)



**Kirkston Tyrone
Spann**
(Chicago, IL)



Rishard Allen
(Indianapolis, IN)

Below you will find the panel's scores and any feedback 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

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

The Borderlight Festival is an ambitious project, with a one-year track record. Its goals are very consistent with CAC's criteria. Support materials from last year's festival were impressive-- the program guide was very informative and well-designed, the media coverage was extensive. While it is early in the 2020 funding cycle, more specific budgetary information as to expenses and funding sources would have been helpful. Numbers of people reached last year and projected audience numbers for this year would have been appreciated.

Panelist 3

Score: Somewhat

I would advise the applicant to be a bit more critical in its use of language. Immediately, I have concerns. For example, "they will be able to show themselves as equals", "see themselves as deserving of touring experiences", and "If we agree their project has merit." This use of language creates a sense of inferiority for local artists, requiring them to essentially 'prove' their worth. It would be beneficial to know, concisely, the mission of the organization's represented on the advisory committee. Great diversity of funding sources. Public benefit evident, but mostly inferred. I wish applicant would've spoken to the unique benefits of BorderLight, rather than the benefits of theatre broadly.

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

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