Choral Arts Society of Cleveland

Your Project Title: The Mass in C by George Bristow: a World Premiere

Your Project Summary: Choral Arts Society of Cleveland will rehearse & perform a concert featuring the World Premiere of George Bristow’s Mass in C for organ along with other works by American composers. The 60 member chorus, led by Director, Brian Bailey, will present this free & open concert on March 13, 2020. The group will be joined by 4 professional soloists & a local organist. The event will also include a pre-concert lecture on American classical music & a poster board depicting the history of American music.

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.

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.
Choral Arts Society of Cleveland - Continued

Panelist 1

Score: Yes

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

The organization is clear in its goals and is realistic about changes that it wishes to make; its desire for increased diversity in both its participants and audiences is admirable. The project was clearly described with a detailed budget. It appears that the hiring of Mr. Bailey has already made a difference in increased community interaction and will move the organization in its desired direction. It might be helpful for the organization to find someone to help them with their social media, enlivening printed programs, and becoming more contemporary by moving from poster boards to computer-based materials.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Public benefit and project outlined clearly and with great detail. Glad to see that the program (re: new works) is responding to feedback from attendees. I will say, the project goal seems more like an organizational goal, rather than one tied to this specific project. I would have liked the applicant to explain why they believe 19th Century American classical music would be relevant to people-of-color and inspire them to join.

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

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