

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS 2020 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra

Your Project Title: Musical Cultural Exchange

Your Project Summary: The Cleveland Philharmonic is participating in a cultural exchange with the Xiopen Philharmonic Orchestra. Our music directors will conduct each other's orchestras. We will offer two concerts featuring Maestro Renchang Fu and Cleveland State Music Faculty member Dr. Shuai Wang as pianist in two concerts to reach out to the local Asian community. We will partner with local Asian organizations to promote their work, celebrate culture and enjoy music together.

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: Somewhat

While it is completely understandable that you need to charge a fee for the main concert to help defray the cost. One suggestion I have is maybe to have one of the dress rehearsals be free and open the public. This way you can expand your goal of exposing the community to this type of music to those who may not be able to afford a ticket or be able to receive one of the free tickets allotted to the public.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

The proposed project meets CAC's funding criteria. The organization provides a significant service by offering opportunities for people with skills in classical music to perform with an ensemble group. The objective of the specific program to be funded to reach a new audience is admirable and the organization has clear plans for forming partnerships to do so. I find it a bit odd that no contemporary classical music written by a Chinese composer is included in the programming and would have appreciated learning why the decision to focus on European composers was made.

Panelist 3

Score: Somewhat

While I believe the project concept is commendable, and I love the org's focus on creating a pipeline for musicians into large music ensembles, I'm a bit concerned that this cultural exchange concert only includes one selection by a Chinese composer. Is inviting a Chinese conductor to conduct mostly European classical music enough to establish a new audience? I think this tension underwrites the need for the community to be involved sooner. That intention is there, as evidenced in the response to question 2, but I think those conversations need to happen much sooner. Also, I'm curious to know how this project engages the Asian population that is not Chinese.

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

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