SOS: Strengthening Our Students

**Your Project Title:** After School Program at Bolton

**Your Project Summary:** In our first year (2018-2019) of the SOS After School Program at Bolton School we identified key deficiencies in reading and math that hampered the students’ ability to succeed in class. Through our creative art projects we saw an increase in homework, study, and reading skills. We would like to expand our creative art projects to include music (rap) and producing a play to increase not only their reading but their self-confidence and increased support/respect of their peers.

**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:** $3,600

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.

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

This program meets the criteria for funding consideration. This is an impressive program and a good example of how outside organizations can improve the level of art education in schools.

Panelist 2

Score: Somewhat

The program meets CAC funding criteria. The organization has developed strong school and community partnerships and is building on what was learned from last year’s program. Support statements from partners and participants would have been helpful. The applicant is reminded that the funding cycle is for calendar year 2020 and that all expenses and matching funds need to be used during that time period.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

I love that the program improvements directly respond to the experience teachers and students had in the previous year. Appreciate that the community served is clearly defined. Would have liked question about public benefit to focus specifically on how this project engages the community in a meaningful way. Project goal and success metrics are understood, but would recommend revising the language to be more clear and respond directly to the questions as presented.

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

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