

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS 2020 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Your Project Title: Reforest Our City Tree Team

Your Project Summary: The Reforest Our City Tree Team educates the public about the importance and benefits of trees, trains Tree Steward volunteers, coordinates community tree plantings and distributes trees to the public for planting.

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](#).



Shalina Ali
(Milwaukee, WI)



Autumn Saxton-Ross
(Washington, DC)



Alena Leonatti
(Santa Barbara, CA)

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: Somewhat

Authentic connection with actual community is not evident, and assumptions of low income communities and volunteerism are made. Have stipends been considered? That would establish an appreciation of time strapped community members and their value. Is this a community wantor the org's assumption of what the community needs? Budget and organizational capacity are clear, no doubt the work can get done, but initiative being driven by the community is questionable.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

ROCTT meet's CAC's criteria. All events are free and open to the public. ROCTT meets a need for trees in low-canopy areas and teaches residents basic arboriculture skills, showing a commitment to working with their community to make a long-term, positive impact. WRLC's delineation of their community feels a bit relaxed, but could also be adequate in this case. That said, adding more demographic info about the community they intend to serve would definitely strengthen the proposal. And although open to all residents, how does WRLC conjure interest in urban forestry for those currently tree-disinterested or unaware they might be interested to extend their reach? Evidence is presented for organizational capacity and artistic/cultural vibrancy.

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

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