

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2021 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Focus On Education

Your Project Title: THE ARTS OF PEACE

Your Project Summary: “The Arts of Peace” is a “Arts instead of Violence Program” where we strive to peak the interest of the children in the Arts. So that they can expend their energies and efforts in the arts instead of violence. To get more children involved in the arts, thereby diverting their destructive action and encouraging the wonderful natural talents that so many of our children possess. By having professional artists and promoters critique their talents.

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](#).



Christopher Audain
(Chicago, IL)



Leslie Holt
(Washington, DC)



Lisa Harper Chang
(Huntsville, AL)

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

There is a clear and strong public benefit, which helps the application meet the funding criteria. With a focus on providing intensive arts opportunities to underserved young people, while engaging artists and additional student interns, this can be a strong project for the community. There is a clear description of audience served, and a list of professionals working to ensure the success of the project.

Panelist 2

Score: Somewhat

This appears to be a beneficial program, but there were places that lack clarity. I want to know how these classes address nonviolence or leadership skills other than the fact that they engage the youth in the arts and get them "off the streets." You refer to "restorative practices" but I'd like to know what that means in an art program. And do you recruit students who are specifically in trouble for violence or they just fit the qualifications of being low income? If it's the latter, I'm concerned about stereotyping of low income youth as well as language that focuses on deficits instead of strengths. This could be solved by describing your recruitment process or providing data about violence in this community. It didn't impact my score but I would recommend proofreading before submitting.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

I feel like I would like to see more evidence of the ways in which the trends you were observing in 1997 when the organization was formed have evolved. At the core of your program is violence prevention, which would imply that violence is an issue for the youth you engage, but I do not see evidence of that. Taken alone, it could be read as a sign of stereotyping or writing off your youth. Fortunately some of your other language celebrates their strengths, which shows that you understand, respect, and work with your youth. Your application can be made stronger by providing evidence of how violence impacts your youth.

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

Heather Johnson-Banks
senior program manager
hjohnsonbanks@cacgrants.org
216.306.0108

Luis Gomez
program manager
lgomez@cacgrants.org
216.306.0114

India Pierre-Ingram
senior associate
ipierreingram@cacgrants.org
216.306.0110