Food Strong

Your Project Title: Learning Garden Beautification Project

Your Project Summary: Food Strong has recently acquired space at the Coit Road Farmers Market’s Urban Farm to create a Learning Garden to educate youth, both onsite and virtually. This project aims to guide youth and families through the implementation of a variety of visual art installations in order to beautify East Cleveland while giving youth a platform to express themselves.

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.

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

Strong focus on youth leadership and empowerment. The additional context provided in the "Optional" section is super helpful to get a better picture of the community and the farmer’s market in particular. Videos give a great sense of respect for the community.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

This application meets the funding criteria. Does the total number of expected participants/audience (150) include attendees of the open house or just the artists who participate in beautification of the garden? Altogether, there is a clear demonstration of public benefit through the provided arts education experience and filling a public space with art. It seems the intention is here, and that the work is being done, but the application can state plainly and be clearer about who the audience is being served. Is the “underserved community” mostly black people? Will there be strong representation in the program from both people of color and white people? The program is free and accessible, and includes a strong network of facilitators.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Good stakeholder engagement. Watch coded language like “at-risk”. Would be good to collect some qualitative data/feedback, as well as increased numbers in engagement.

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

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