

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2021 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Golden Ciphers

Your Project Title: D’Jembe and Beyond Project

Your Project Summary: D’Jembe and Beyond Project will provide and introduce the culture of African Drumming, Drum Circles, making and repairing drums and other instruments with quarterly overnight Drum Camp Retreat to bond, learn, drum and create in a environment of nature away from the City and City influences. Youth and adults will have an opportunity to perform at our free community events throughout the year and include the audience after their performance in drum circles led by the participants.

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

Great application and programming. Extensive partnerships increase the strength of this application. The evaluation plan is thoughtful and thorough, combining artistic mastery with social and leadership skills. I especially appreciate your clear focus on the healing that your programming provides as its key community benefit. Proofreading is recommended.

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

The application meets funding criteria. The public benefit is strongly demonstrated as the project will build relationship and community around the arts with drumming and fellowship outside the city. Free programming makes the program accessible. 2/3 of referrals are from Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court magistrates, focusing on a marginalized and often neglected population. Very clear and intentional project that has a clear benefit by using the arts as a tool for healing. The budget of \$10,000 seems arbitrary as an attempt to request the highest amount, so this is certainly the weakest area of the application.

Panelist 3

Score: Yes

Nice plan for evaluation it is very thorough. Watch out for some of your language (e.g., "at-risk") or assumptions that seem to come across in your language (might be better to provide data to support that your community members can't afford or do not have access to certain opportunities). The fact that the applicant is working with Dr. Woodson shows strong artistic and cultural vibrancy and organizational capacity. It didn't impact my score but I would recommend that the applicant proofread their submission.

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

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