Your Project Title: Cleveland Dance Fest 2021

Your Project Summary: Cleveland Dance Fest is a 2-day dance festival featuring new works by Cleveland dance artists, visiting artists and pre-professional artists in two evening length concerts, an Emerging Works Concert, a Youth Showcase, a virtual dance on film platform and master classes for youth and professional dancers. CDF was launched in 2016 in an effort to provide a platform to support fellow Cleveland dance artists, while making dance performance accessible and affordable for Cleveland residents.

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.

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: Somewhat

Panelist 2

Score: Yes

The applicant sets a clear and measurable goal to increase artist compensation to $6K for this year, which the requested funds would be applied too. The budget is well documented and reasonable, and meets all the requirements. There is also a clear understanding and respect for their artistic community, particularly during covid, and a well articulated program to help offset some of the financial struggles they endured during this time.

Panelist 3

Score: Somewhat

The organization states that they want their program to be accessible and affordable, yet the ticket prices are still high. Perhaps they could offer a program for low income families to apply for free admission? In terms of public benefit, it’s great they’re finding ways to compensate artists, but I think having more public-facing goals on how this program benefits their community would be beneficial to include. The budget lists $6000 for funds from CAC to cover artist fees, but the max ask is $5000. Just make sure to be thorough and consistent when listing budget details.

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

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