

PANEL RESULTS & COMMENTS

2021 PROJECT SUPPORT II



Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Your Project Title: Virtual Tree Steward Training Program

Your Project Summary: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Western Reserve Land Conservancy requests funds from Cuyahoga Arts and Culture to adapt our popular Sherwick Tree Steward Training program to a virtual format. This program will still teach quality tree care and increase public awareness and appreciation for sustainable urban forests to an engaged group of volunteers and community activists, but ensure safety for participants and facilitators through virtual learning.

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](#).



Krissy Harmen
(Athens, OH)



Kirkston Tyrone Spann
(Chicago, IL)



Kavita Mahoney
(Indianapolis, IN)

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

The applicant demonstrated a clear plan to implement the project; particularly addressing the limitations in the wake of covid and their plans to adapt to the current environment. However, it is unclear who the audience is that will be selected to participate and the communities they could serve after completing their program.

Panelist 3

Score: Somewhat

When defining their community, the applicant spoke more about the loss of tree canopies in Cleveland than the people impacted by this loss. It would be beneficial for this applicant to speak more about how they will work with and for the communities they're serving through this program. They plan to reach 30 participants through this program, but I wonder if they could potentially reach more by recording the program and making it accessible to their community, especially since they are trying to reach more Cleveland neighborhoods that have a lack of trees in their area. Perhaps they could elaborate more on the tree planting events? How will they reach some of the members of these neighborhoods that have "faced decades of poverty, violence, redlining, and disinvestment?"

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

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