



Written Panel Guide

2024 Project Support Panel Review – Grant Requests up to \$5,000

Fall 2023

The purpose of the Project Support (PS) grant program is to promote public access and encourage the breadth of arts and cultural programming in our community by supporting Cuyahoga County-based projects. During the panel review, arts and cultural experts from across the country (who are educated in CAC's funding criteria) discuss and score applications.

The written panel review is for Project Support applications requesting up to \$5,000 in funding. 2024 applications requesting more than \$5,000 are reviewed via a [live panel process](#) on September 20. All scores and comments are posted publicly at the conclusion of the panel process.

Applicants

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Abrepaso Flamenco | Greater Cleveland Film Commission | Restore Cleveland Hope |
| Achievement Centers for Children | Harvard Community Services Center | Ridna Shkola Cleveland |
| Arts in Strongsville | InMotion | Shaker Arts Council |
| Arts Without Borders | International Community Council | Shore Cultural Centre |
| Babel Box Theater | John Carroll University | SOS: Strengthening Our Students |
| Baseball Heritage Museum | Kings & Queens of Art | St. Clair Superior Development Corp. |
| Bay Village Community Band | Mantles&Makers | Studio in a School |
| Beachwood Arts Council | MidTown Cleveland | STV Bavaria |
| Bedford Historical Society | Museum of Creative Human Art | Suburban Symphony Orchestra |
| Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Ohio | Naach Di Cleveland | Tender Hearts Crusades |
| CEO | NAMI Greater Cleveland | The Cleveland Foundry |
| Choral Arts Cleveland | No Exit | Trobár Medieval |
| Cleveland Chamber Collective | North Pointe Ballet | Upcycle Parts Shop |
| Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra | Ohio City Incorporated | Ursuline College |
| Cleveland Photo Fest | Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation | Wake Up and Live's Actor's Studio |
| Cleveland Pride Band | One South Euclid | West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development |
| Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad | Parma Area Fine Arts Council | Western Reserve Fire Museum & Education Center |
| Dancing Classrooms Northeast Ohio | Parma Symphony Orchestra | Westlake Chinese School |
| Folknet | Poise Entertainment Education Inc | Windsong, Cleveland's Feminist Chorus |
| Golden Ciphers | Polish Village Parma | Women in History |
| Good Company: A Vocal Ensemble | Radio on the Lake Theatre | |
| Graffiti HeArt | | |



Panel Review Process

To ensure an impartial and transparent application review process, CAC convenes a panel of arts and cultural professionals from outside the region who read, evaluate, and score applications. Panelists are chosen to represent a cross-section of professionals qualified to provide expert knowledge across arts or cultural disciplines, as well as for their management experience, professional knowledge of the sector, and prior panel experience. CAC staff make every effort to ensure that the panel is diverse in all respects. All panelists receive an honorarium for their service.

CAC staff monitors the online panel review but does not score or provide opinions on applications. Staff manages all administrative and logistical actions necessary to conduct a successful panel review: provide panelists all documentation necessary to evaluate applications effectively; inform the panel in matters of CAC policy and procedures; provide timely, objective responses to any panelist questions.

Scoring

Panelists determine a score for each application based on the following funding criteria:

- **PUBLIC BENEFIT:** An organization’s ability to meaningfully connect with its community through its project.
- **ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL VIBRANCY:** An organization’s ability to create a relevant and engaging project.
- **ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY:** An organization’s ability to successfully plan for and manage its project.

Panelists will use the following scoring framework to score each application:

With an emphasis on Public Benefit, has the application demonstrated the funding criteria?

Yes: the applicant has provided strong evidence that the funding criteria are met.

Somewhat: The applicant has provided fair evidence that the funding criteria are met.

No: The applicant has provided weak evidence that the funding criteria are met.

Final Score and Funding Recommendations

Scores are calculated by combining the score of all three panelists. Applications that receive majority of “Yes” or “Somewhat” are recommended for funding. CAC will calculate final scores and notify all applicants via email the week of October 30. Grant amounts are pending board approval at CAC’s Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 4:00 pm.

Questions? Contact a member of the [grantmaking team](#).