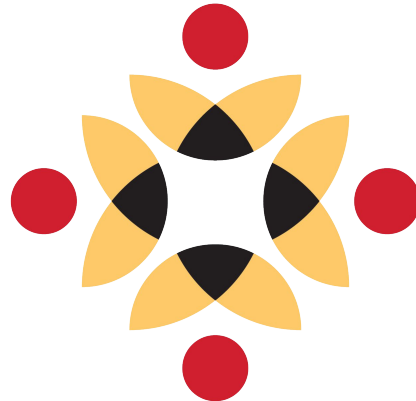


Panelists, while waiting for the meeting to begin, we invite you to:

- Consider your verbal introduction: name, organization or art form
- Silence or stow electronic devices not being used for this meeting
- Gather materials and any other needed items

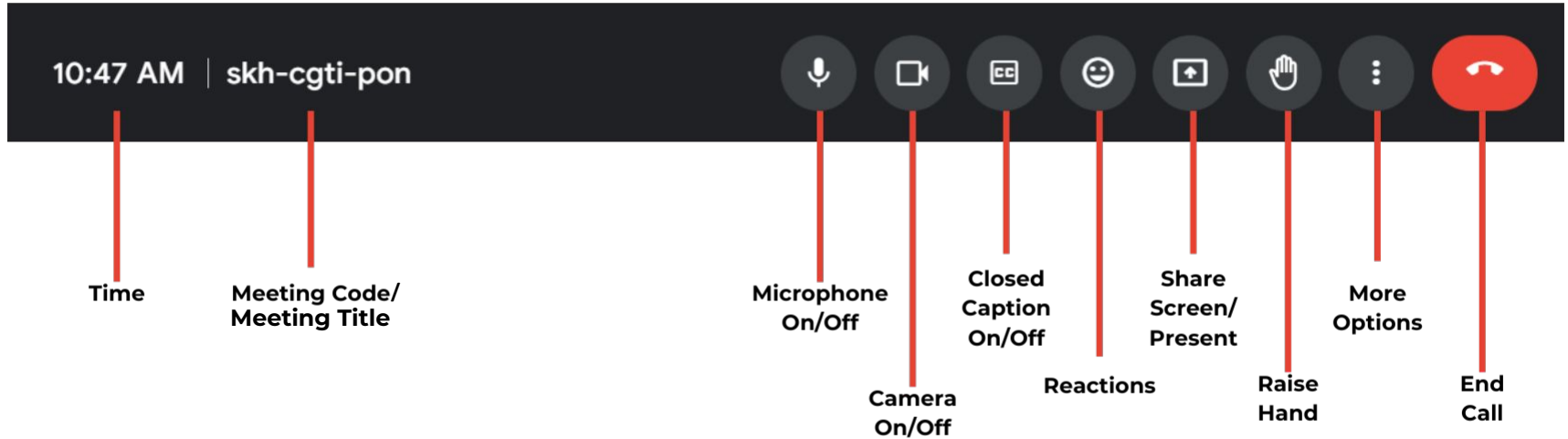
FY 2026 panel meeting



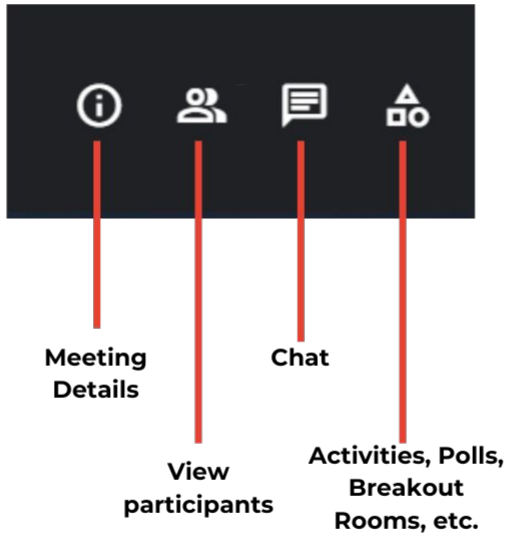
FOLKLIFE
NETWORK

June 2, 2025

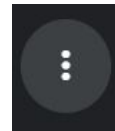
Reference Shot of Features (1 of 2)













Reference Shot of Features (2 of 2)



In “More Options”



-  Change layout
-  Full screen
-  Open picture-in-picture
-  Apply visual effects
-  Turn on captions
-  Use a phone for audio
-  Report a problem
-  Report abuse
-  Troubleshooting & help
-  Settings

Introductions

Land Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge the lands and waters now known as Maryland are the home of its first peoples: the Accohannock Indian Tribe, Assateague People's Tribe, Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians, Choptico Band of Indians, Lenape Tribe, Nanticoke Tribe, Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians, Piscataway Conoy Tribe, Piscataway Indian Nation, Pocomoke Indian Nation, Susquehannock Indians, Youghiogheny River Band of Shawnee, and tribes in the Chesapeake watershed who have seemingly vanished since the coming of colonialism. We acknowledge that this land is now home to other tribal peoples living here in diaspora. We acknowledge the forced removal of many from the lands and waterways that nurtured them as kin. We acknowledge the degradation that continues to be wrought on the land and waters in pursuit of resources. We acknowledge the right of the land and waterways to heal so that they can continue to provide food and medicine for all. We acknowledge that it is our collective obligation to pursue policies and practices that respect the land and waters so that our reciprocal relationship with them can be fully restored.

Equity and Justice Statement

The arts celebrate our state's diversity, connect our shared humanity, and transform individuals and communities. The Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) is committed to advancing and modeling equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion in all aspects of our organization and across communities of our state.

MSAC and its grantees are committed to embracing equity and non-discrimination regardless of race, religious creed, color, age, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, class, language, and/or ability.

Vision

MSAC plays an essential role ensuring every person has access to the transformative power of the arts.

Mission

MSAC advances the arts in our state by providing leadership that champions creative expression, diverse programming, equitable access, lifelong learning, and the arts as a celebrated contributor to the quality of life for all the people of Maryland.

Access

Bolster access to arts experiences and resources

Awareness

Amplify the stories of Maryland's arts sector and the value of public support

Connection

Foster networks within and beyond the arts sector

Equity

Cultivate a thriving arts ecosystem centered in equity

Leadership

Commit to a culture of care and innovation

Creative Meeting Actions

Celebrate being in the space with other creative people.

Engage with everyone's presence as a gift.

Acknowledge that together we know a lot.

Enter the conversation with curiosity and inquiry.

Share your idea and trust that it will be heard.

Use "I" statements.

Focus your language on the task at hand.

Hold one another accountable with care.

Honor all perspectives and build on shared ideas.

Balance speaking with listening.

Equity: Impact vs. Grant Writing

The application is meant to inspire authentic reflection and internal analysis for each applying organization, with the knowledge that MSAC is to be seen and utilized as a collaborative partner in the process.

One aspect of the partnership is to guide panelists to see beyond the “polish” of grant writing that may be inequitably influenced by the privilege of resources (financial, educational, etc...) and, instead, focus upon the impact of the applicant.

Responses as Recommendations

"The programming description did not mention community connection."

becomes

"I would recommend that the planned traditional arts programming include descriptions of its benefit to local cultures of origin."

Today's Goal

Arrive at a final recommendation for two Folklife Network applications:

- Ward Foundation (2026-36609)
- Common Ground on the Hill (2026-36914)

Panel Meeting Structure

The goal is to discuss and score each application within 11 minutes

- 3 minutes: In-Depth Conversation Panelist - Introduction
 - Summarize overall impressions, information from in-depth conversation
 - Highlight strong and weak parts of the plan
 - Summarize recommendations
- 5 minutes: Panel Discussion
 - Additional information
 - Questions for the Lead Panelist
 - Additional recommendations
- 2 minutes: Revise comments and complete final recommendation for final submission in Smart Simple

Practice Round!

Applicant Review

Applicant Organization: Maryland State Arts Council

Application ID #: -39096

Lead panelist: Cathy Teixeira

3 minutes: Lead panelist

5 minutes: Panel discussion

2 minutes: Revise comments and make recommendation (accept or request revision) for submission in SmartSimple

Final recommendation: ACCEPT

Applicant Review

Applicant Organization: Ward Foundation

Application ID #: 2026-36609

Lead panelist: Kathryn Novak

3 minutes: Lead panelist

5 minutes: Panel discussion

2 minutes: Revise comments and make recommendation (accept or request revision) for submission in SmartSimple

Final recommendation: ACCEPT

Applicant Review

Applicant Organization: Common Ground on the Hill

Application ID #: 2026-36914

Lead panelist: Fayo Ojo

3 minutes: Lead panelist

5 minutes: Panel discussion

2 minutes: Revise comments and make recommendation (accept or request revision) for submission in SmartSimple

Final recommendation: ACCEPT

Thank You!

Next Steps

- Panelist feedback session
- W9 upload and invoicing