



Folklife Network Panel Meeting

**Tuesday, January 26, 2021
10 AM**

Introductions



Equity and Justice

The arts celebrate our state's diversity, connect our shared humanity, and transform individuals and communities. The Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) and its supporting collaborators are committed to advancing and modeling equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion in all aspects of our organizations 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, class, language, and/or ability.



Vision & Mission

Vision

The Maryland State Arts Council plays an essential role ensuring every person has access to the transformative power of the arts.

Mission

Maryland State Arts Council 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.



Strategic Goals

Goal 1. Increase Participation: Broaden MSAC's constituency, providing avenues designed to increase pathways to engagement

Goal 2. Provide Intentional Support: Embrace thoughtful and targeted approaches to serving known and yet to be known MSAC constituents

Goal 3. Build Capacity: Work strategically to further build organizational and governance capacity to ensure that MSAC is capable of vigorously delivering on its mission

Goal 4. Leverage Connections: Further enhance current relationships and involve additional partners, collaborators, and constituents who will benefit from and advance the work of MSAC

Goal 5. Bolster Maryland Arts: Showcase the high caliber, diverse and relevant work of Maryland's artists and arts organizations; their contributions to community vitality and MSAC's role as a catalyst

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.

Apply "Yes, and!" - "I hear your idea and I'm going to add to it!"

Balance speaking and 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 the Maryland State Arts Council 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.



EQUITY: Impact vs. Grant Writing

The driving goals of this vision for the granting processes connect to the application in the following ways:

- To acknowledge positions of privilege while questioning practices, shifting paradigms of status quo arts activities, and taking more risks.
- To yield a greater variety of funded projects.
- To eliminate biases that may be found in any part of the granting process (i.e. - applications, panelist procedures, adjudication systems).
- To expand the deliberations about rigor beyond current conventions or Western traditions.
- To aspire to make investments that contribute to social change and demonstrate aesthetic excellence in terms relevant to context and intent.



Responses as Recommendations

"The application was unclear and did not speak to the regional folklife center's awareness of communities in its area of service."

becomes

"I would recommend that the applicant clarify the regional folklife center's awareness of communities in its area of service by providing specific examples of efforts made to engage with members of those communities."

Panel Meeting Structure

The goal is for each application to be discussed within a six-minute window in which the following will occur. *Timing is subject to change.*

- The average initial score for the application is projected
- 2 minutes: Lead reader introduces the application in connection to the rubric
- 4 minutes: If needed, additional discussion by all panelists, which might affect the application's score.
- Scoring submission in SmartSimple
- Gathering of scores and discussion of grants



Folklife Network grantees

- Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (Talbot County)
- Common Ground on the Hill (Carroll County)
- Creative Alliance (Baltimore City)
- Frostburg State University (Allegany County)
- St. Mary's College of Maryland (St. Mary's County)
- Sandy Spring Museum (Montgomery County)
- University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- Ward Foundation (Wicomico County)



Application Score

St. Mary's College of Maryland (Application ID
2020-7637)

46.25/60

77%

Checklist for Departure

1. Watch for an emailed invoice and W9 from from Ryan Koons.