Grants for Organizations FY2021 Narrative Questions

National arts organizations (National Endowment for the Arts, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, Americans for the Arts) have clarified and shared approaches to uncover cultural bias in the procedures and policies of state arts organizations. In response, the Maryland State Arts Council has committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion in grantmaking as all funding mechanisms continue to be examined and updated. The design of the Grants for Organizations FY2021 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. The driving goals of this new 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.

Narrative Questions:

A. Questions A1 - A2 and the chart below address why the work of your organization is important.

1.   What are the vision, mission, goals and/or values of the organization? Have the vision, mission, goals, and/or values of the organization evolved over the last two years? If so, how?

2.   What is the Geographic Area of Service for your organization (specific community(ies), county(ies), city(ies), statewide)?

The following chart explains how your statements in A.1 and A.2 are demonstrated in your day-to-day activities. The purpose of the chart is to show alignment between the organization's intentions, processes, and programming. The List of Events/Arts Activities may be categorized by program type (i.e. Mainstage Season) and number of corresponding occurrences, if multiple rows contain the same response.

List of Events/Arts Activities for 07/01/20 - 06/30/21	How does each activity connect to the vision, mission, goals, and values of the organization?	How does each activity demonstrate the creative process?	How does each arts activity demonstrate public value for the constituents in the Geographic Area of Service over an extended period of time?	How is each arts activity designed to reach yet to be known constituents in the Geographic Area of Service?
(Add rows as needed)				