

Arts and Culture Programming, Arts Education, Strengthening the Sector, and General Operating Support

The Arts and Culture program uses the following criteria to assess a project’s alignment with these strategies.

Artistic and Cultural Practice				
ABSENT The role and/or skills of an artistic-cultural team is absent.	EMERGENT Artistic-cultural team does not play a conceptual or decision-making role in the creative experiences described and/or does not have relevant artistic-cultural skills or experience needed.	DEVELOPING Artistic-cultural team has limited-to-developing relationship, or influence in shaping the creative experiences and goals described.	STRONG Highly skilled or trained artistic-cultural team is central to developing creative concepts and decision-making, and has demonstrated the relevant skills, knowledge and practices to be effective, and essential to its artistic field and community.	“STRONG” REQUIRED
Orientation to Equity, Inclusion, and Access				
ABSENT Articulates some knowledge, but no evidence of practices that address barriers to people engaging with the organization or project, does not create environments where people feel valued and included. Unclear approach to welcoming and usable programs for people of diverse abilities and backgrounds.	EMERGENT Inconsistent use of practices that address barriers to engagement and create environments where people feel valued and included. Testing approaches to welcoming and usable programs for people of diverse abilities and backgrounds.	DEVELOPING Demonstrates consistent practices that address barriers to engagement and create environments where people feel valued and included. Increasing use of approaches that make programs welcoming and usable for people of diverse abilities and backgrounds.	STRONG Track record of embedded practices that address barriers to engagement, create environments where people feel valued and included, and consistently ensures programs are welcoming and usable for people of diverse abilities and backgrounds.	“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED
Understanding and Engagement of Intended Beneficiaries				
ABSENT Intended beneficiaries are not clearly defined; community-centered practice or engagement is absent.	EMERGENT Provides minimal evidence of familiarity with intended beneficiaries or community-centered practices and plans for engaging them are sporadic and/or cursory.	DEVELOPING Demonstrates some knowledge of intended beneficiaries and existing community-centered practices, and includes deliberate mechanisms to engage and deepen these relationships and practices.	STRONG Clearly identifies its intended beneficiaries and demonstrates deep relationships and community-centered practices with these beneficiaries.	“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED
Design/Results Feasibility				
ABSENT Unclear approach to the work, lacks project design and implementation details to achieve scope of work and results.	EMERGENT Conceptual approach to project design, implementation and results are vague, difficult to understand, or seem unrealistic.	DEVELOPING Developed concept with tangible approach to project design and an implementation plan, with anticipated results that are informed by untested ideas and some past practices.	STRONG Detailed approach to the work with strong project design, implementation plan, and measurable results that are informed by past practices and evidence of success.	“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED
Organizational Capacity				
ABSENT Lacks dedicated staffing with relevant experience/ skills, leadership and organizational support, and resources.	EMERGENT Staffing with relevant experience/skills is reliant on unidentified project-based consultants/ contractors, and project/organization has limited leadership and organizational support, and resources.	DEVELOPING Staff and identified project-based consultants/ contractors have relevant experience/ skills, committed leadership oversight, organizational support, and sufficient resources.	STRONG Staff and long-term consultants/contractors have relevant experience/ skills and extensive relationship with the organization, committed leadership oversight, organizational support, and sufficient resources.	“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED