

### **Funding Guidelines Feedback #4**

#### A. Questions:

1. Is In-Kind included in the Operating Expenses?
2. What is the true definition of Professional Artists?
3. Will you ask SAAF if the City Funds Capacity Building will they remove?

#### B. Cultural Specific Support

1. If the Cultural Specific Category is eliminated and the categories of 10%, 5% etc. are eliminated the results will be . . .;
2. Does this apply to other funding area's? How?
3. Add underserved communities into the Culturally Specific definition.

#### C. Capacity Building

1. Include succession planning in Capacity Building;
2. Will current or historical funding levels be considered significantly to determine future funding? That has been the case in the past and has been detrimental to our organization;
3. Venue assistance? Is it still part of this? If awarded \$150K over 3 years will we have the ability to use \$15K in year 1 and 75K in year 2, etc. until funds are expended by end of year 3?
4. For smaller org's., group buy of consultants, so org's can share resources for less & thinking strategic planning, board/staff development, etc., much like this year's Texans for The Arts workshops, Board Day, they were awesome!
5. The max be \$150K paid out over 3 years;
6. I think we need flexibility to apply each year, not sure capacity building needs can be honestly anticipated in 3-year chunks;
7. Add an "other" category as defined and supported by the organization's needs;
8. Is max amount \$50K and how will you determine the max?
9. Do not make funding contingent on a budget amount over 3 years but be flexible, can all applicants automatically be eligible for the maximum of \$50K not by percentage;
10. Will you partial fund in Capacity Support?
11. Require a Board Resolution for the activities detailed in the Capacity Building Plan at the time of contract.

#### D. Funding including Base Operational Support Changes

1. 25% is wonderful, but how much consideration is given to current funding level?
2. Is the total estimated award different from current unrestricted arts operational?
3. Isn't unrestricted better for smaller organizations, seems like more work for smaller

org's.

4. Scoring is non-competitive but who is it up to? Repopulate the Base;
5. Change all percentages add 5% to the first group up to \$1M and keep the next two groups the same and then reduce the next group to 8%, 2% and 1%
6. Concerned about line between budget amount for upper limit of each budget category,  $\$1,499,999 * 20\% = \$300,000$  and  $\$1,500,000 * 15\% = \$225,000$ ;
7. Organizations size = some categories of expenses, shown on the 990 may be excluded really need to look at this;
8. Is In-Kind included in the figuring the operational or not?
9. Please put Base funding pay for under \$1M to 30%

#### E. Base Operational Support Criteria

1. Policy on paying artists does not mean org's. will pay artists, all artists, not just professional. Many artists have 3+ gigs;
2. Board Diversity is too vague, here is a good definition: A Board of Directors shall reflect the diversity of the community its organization serves.

#### F. First Time Applicants

1. Reduce to \$10,000 after 3 years.

#### G. General Comments

1. If the Cultural Specific Category
2. The new 3-year cycle is very limiting/restricting. An organization that is growing and may prove need for increased funding before the 3 years;
3. Organizations that are receiving free rent from the City are already receiving tremendous support from the City. That free rent or reduced rent should be considered part of their funding percentage;
4. Please put back 2-year funding;
5. Add artistic innovation;
6. Have you thought of depreciation issues;
7. Support New MODEL! No matching, ease of access, Base support based on actual, less time, tilts toward equity, stabilization. Honest and Objective.