



FY27 PROJECTS, EVENTS, OR FESTIVALS: ORGANIZATIONS (PEF(O)) GRANT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Grant Program Name: Projects, Events, or Festivals Organizations – PEF(o)

Ineligible: Organizations in receipt of general operating support (GOS) grants are restricted from receiving PEFo.

Grant Program Description:

The PEF(o) grant offers support to qualified non-profit organizations to deliver exemplary programs that promote arts and/or humanities activities to a diverse range of communities within the District of Columbia. The maximum request amount is \$20,000.

There is no matching requirement for PEF grants.

Additional Context (Goal: Get as close to funding 66% of applicants)		
FY26 Spending:	\$400,000	
# of Grantees:	FY26: 34	FY27: 30 of 57 (Proposed 52.6% of applicants)
FY 26 Funding Average:	62%	

Number of Workshops: 4

Total Number of Submitted Applications: 57 (5 will receive GOS). 9 applications were submitted to GOS. 6 applications applied to GOS Capacity Building.

Award Formulation:

- **Raw Scores**
Used only to determine panel rankings and identify natural breaks; not used to calculate awards.
- **Curved Scores**
Each panel's top score is reset to 100, with all other scores adjusted proportionally. This normalizes differences across panels and allows blended rankings.
- **Ranking Percentages**



Curved scores are converted into percentages to apply funding proportionally across the three panel cohorts.

- **Variance (“Natural Breaks”)**

Variance between adjacent applicants highlights natural cutoff points. Three panels show clear breaks; the fourth provides multiple options.

- **Budget & Award Amounts**

Based on the \$400,000 FY26 budget.

Funding model options for FY27:

Funding Options (Goal: Get as close to 75% of request amounts)		
\$541,036	Total for Option A	Range of funding to lowest ranked awardees across panels: 84-89%
\$491,851	Total for Option B	Range of funding to lowest ranked awardees across panels: 76-81%
\$416,182	Total for Option C	Range of funding to lowest ranked awardees across panels: 65-69%

- **Formula Adjustments**

Grant managers adjust formulas based on variance, panelist comments, score consistency, and removal of GOS recipients (purple flagged).

Award Recommendations Reasoning:

- **Preserving Program Quality & Maximizing Impact**

With constrained funding, reducing the number of funded projects is a necessary trade-off. Prioritizing higher-scoring applicants ensures investment in projects with the strongest community impact, highest artistic merit, and the most significant benefits to the District’s creative economy.

- **Maintaining Consistency with CAH Funding Philosophy.**

A target funding rate of approximately 52.6% of total eligible requests was maintained, aligning with CAH’s commitment to:

- Broad coverage across the District
- Meaningful and usable award sizes
- Support for robust and exemplary programming
- The goal of funding ~53% of eligible applicants at ~90% of requested amounts

Award Recommendations:

- Fund 30 of the 61 applicants
- 35 are in funding range, but 5 are receiving GOS

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Rank	Project Type	Panel Date	Ward	Raw Score	Variance	Curved Score	Request Amount	FY27 Funding Recommendation (A)	FY27 Funding Recommendation (B)	FY27 Funding Recommendation (C)	Type of Activity	Location Type	Discipline	Additional Grants	Returning Applicant	Returning Grantee
1	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 3	93.13		100.00	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$18,182	\$15,385	Cultural Heritage Multidisciplinary Music	Outdoor	14 Multidisciplinary		Yes	Yes
2	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 5	91.63	-1.50	98.39	\$20,000				Music	Outdoor	01 Dance	GOS	Yes	Yes
3	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 8	89.63	-2.00	96.24	\$20,000	\$19,248	\$17,499	\$14,806	Art/Dance/Multidisciplinary/Music	Indoor	02 Music		No	(blank)
4	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 6	89.38	-0.25	95.97	\$20,000	\$19,195	\$17,450	\$14,765	Cultural Heritage Multidisciplinary Music	Hybrid	11 Interdisciplinary	AHEP;CAP;EA;FTE	Yes	Yes
5	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 2	89.25	-0.13	95.83	\$20,000	\$19,167	\$17,424	\$14,744	Cultural Heritage Multidisciplinary Music	Outdoor	14 Multidisciplinary		Yes	Yes
6	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 5	87.75	-1.50	94.22	\$20,000				Multidisciplinary	Hybrid	07 Crafts	AHEP;CAP;FTE;GOS	Yes	Yes
7	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 2	86.25	-1.50	92.61	\$17,600	\$16,300	\$14,818	\$12,538	Cultural Heritage Multidisciplinary Music	Outdoor	11 Interdisciplinary		Yes	Yes
8	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 2	84.75	-1.50	91.00	\$20,000				Cultural Heritage	Indoor	01 Dance	GOS	Yes	Yes
9	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 4	83.88	-0.87	90.07	\$20,000	\$18,014	\$16,376	\$13,857	Music Festival	Indoor	02 Music	CAP	Yes	Yes
10	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 8	83.38	-0.50	89.53	\$20,000	\$17,906	\$16,278	\$13,774	Multidisciplinary	Indoor	04 Theatre		No	(blank)
11	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 5	79.00	-4.38	84.83	\$9,500				Art/Music	Outdoor	11 Interdisciplinary	EA; GOS	Yes	Yes
12	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 5	78.38	-0.62	84.16	\$20,000				Film or media production	Indoor	09 Media Arts	GOS	Yes	Yes
13	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 4	76.63	-1.75	82.28	\$20,000				Film or media production	Hybrid	09 Media Arts	AHEP;GOS	Yes	Yes
14	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 8	74.25	-2.38	79.73	\$18,095				other festival type	Indoor	04 Theatre		Yes	Yes
15	Festival	23-Jul-26	Ward 1	69.88	-4.37	75.03	\$20,000				Cultural Heritage/Music	Hybrid	02 Music		No	(blank)
Total:								\$129,829	\$118,027	\$99,869						

Funding Options (Goal: Get as close to 75% of request amounts)		
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Additional Context (Goal: Get as close to funding 66% of applicants)		
FY26 Spending:	\$400,000	
# of Grantees:	FY26: 34	FY27: 30 of 57 (Proposed 52.6% of applicants - number skewed with non-eligible GOS applicants)
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1	Festival	27-Jul-26	Ward 2	95.38		100.00	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$18,182	\$15,385	Music	Outdoor	15 Non-Arts/Non-		Yes	Yes
2	Event	27-Jul-26	Ward 8	92.50	-2.88	96.98	\$20,000	\$19,396	\$17,633	\$14,920	Other	Hybrid	14 Multidisciplinary	CAP;	Yes	Yes
3	Project	27-Jul-26	Ward 2	88.30	-4.20	92.58	\$20,000	\$18,515	\$16,832	\$14,243	16 Recording/Filming/Taping	Indoor	02 Music		No	(blank)
4	Festival	27-Jul-26	Ward 8	88.25	-0.05	92.52	\$20,000	\$18,505	\$16,823	\$14,235	Theatre	Indoor	04 Theatre		No	(blank)
5	Festival	27-Jul-26	Ward 1	86.25	-2.00	90.43	\$20,000	\$18,086	\$16,441	\$13,912	Cultural Heritage	Indoor	06 Design Arts		Yes	No
6	Festival	27-Jul-26	Ward 4	83.75	-2.50	87.81	\$18,000	\$15,805	\$14,368	\$12,158	Cultural Heritage	Hybrid	01 Dance		No	(blank)
7	Project	27-Jul-26	Ward 2	81.90	-1.85	85.87	\$11,880	\$10,201	\$9,274	\$7,847	12 Arts Instruction	Hybrid	04 Theatre		Yes	Yes
8	Event	27-Jul-26	Ward 3	81.30	-0.60	85.24	\$19,545	\$16,660	\$15,145	\$12,815	Film or media production	Indoor	14 Multidisciplinary	PABC	Yes	Yes
9	Event	27-Jul-26	Ward 4	80.40	-0.90	84.29	\$20,000	\$16,859	\$15,326	\$12,968	Performance Creation of new work	Indoor	03 Opera/Musical		Yes	Yes
10	Project	27-Jul-26	Ward 2	76.60	-3.80	80.31	\$16,500				14 Professional Support - Administrative	Hybrid	05 Visual Arts	CAP;	Yes	Yes
11	Event	27-Jul-26	Ward 2	76.50	-0.10	80.21	\$17,300				Creation of new work Performance	Indoor	14 Multidisciplinary		Yes	No
12	Festival	27-Jul-26	Ward 2	70.00	-6.50	73.39	\$20,000				Cultural Heritage	Indoor	15 Non-Arts/Non-	ArtBank	No	(blank)
13	Event	27-Jul-26	Ward 2	68.00	-2.00	71.29	\$20,000				Lecture or Panel Other	Indoor	06 Design Arts		No	(blank)
14	Project	27-Jul-26	Ward 6	67.00	-1.00	70.25	\$20,000				06 Exhibition	Outdoor	05 Visual Arts		Yes	Yes
15	Project	27-Jul-26	Ward 1	64.90	-2.10	68.04	\$20,000				15 Professional Support - Artistic	Indoor	04 Theatre	CapacityBuilding	Yes	No
Total:								\$154,027	\$140,024	\$118,482						

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1	Project	94.70		100.00	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$18,182	\$15,385	04 Artwork Creation	Indoor	15 Non-Arts/Non-		Yes	Yes
2	Project	91.00	-3.70	96.09	\$17,500	\$16,816	\$15,288	\$12,936	11 Operating Support	Hybrid	02 Music		Yes	Yes
3	Project	86.00	-5.00	90.81	\$20,000	\$18,163	\$16,511	\$13,971	05 Concert/Performance/Reading	Indoor	01 Dance		Yes	Yes
4	Project	85.00	-1.00	89.76	\$20,000	\$17,951	\$16,319	\$13,809	06 Exhibition	Indoor	04 Theatre	AHEP	Yes	No
5	Project	84.30	-0.70	89.02	\$20,000	\$17,804	\$16,185	\$13,695	06 Exhibition	Indoor	11 Interdisciplinary		Yes	Yes
6	Project	82.70	-1.60	87.33	\$20,000	\$17,466	\$15,878	\$13,435	05 Concert/Performance/Reading	Outdoor	03 Opera/Musical		No	(blank)
7	Project	81.00	-1.70	85.53	\$20,000	\$17,107	\$15,552	\$13,159	05 Concert/Performance/Reading	Indoor	14 Multidisciplinary	CapacityBuilding	Yes	No
8	Project	80.70	-0.30	85.22	\$20,000	\$17,043	\$15,494	\$13,110	22 Seminar/Conference	Hybrid	10 Literature		No	(blank)
9	Project	77.70	-3.00	85.38	\$20,000				05 Concert/Performance/Reading	Hybrid	02 Music		Yes	Yes
10	Project	75.70	-2.00	83.19	\$10,000				02 Audience Services	Indoor	13 Humanities		Yes	Yes
11	Project	75.30	-0.40	82.75	\$20,000				06 Exhibition	Indoor	04 Theatre		No	(blank)
12	Project	72.70	-2.60	79.89	\$19,998				04 Artwork Creation	Indoor	11 Interdisciplinary		No	(blank)
13	Project	72.70	0.00	85.53	\$20,000				12 Arts Instruction	Indoor	01 Dance	EA	Yes	Yes
14	Project	72.30	-0.40	85.06	\$20,000				99 None of the Above	Indoor	09 Media Arts	CAP ; CapacityBuilding	Yes	No
Total:						\$142,350	\$129,409	\$109,500						

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1	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 2	85.50		100.00	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$18,182	\$15,385	Other	Indoor	05 Visual Arts	CAP	Yes	Yes
2	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 2	82.80	-2.70	96.84	\$20,000	\$19,368	\$17,608	\$14,899	Performance	Indoor	02 Music	AHEP;	Yes	No
3	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 3	82.30	-0.50	96.26	\$20,000	\$19,251	\$17,501	\$14,809	Performance	Indoor	13 Humanities	AHEP	Yes	Yes
4	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 2	80.80	-1.50	94.50	\$20,000				Performance Lecture or Panel Other	Outdoor	14 Multidisciplinary	GOS;	Yes	Yes
5	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 2	80.70	-0.10	94.39	\$20,000	\$18,877	\$17,161	\$14,521	Performance	Indoor	14 Multidisciplinary		Yes	Yes
6	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 4	79.80	-0.90	93.33	\$20,000	\$18,667	\$16,970	\$14,359	Presentation or exhibition Lecture or	Outdoor	14 Multidisciplinary		Yes	Yes
7	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 2	79.80	0.00	93.33	\$20,000	\$18,667	\$16,970	\$14,359	Performance	Outdoor	13 Humanities	CAP	No	(blank)
8	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 5	76.50	-3.30	89.47	\$20,000				Performance Creation of new work	Outdoor	06 Design Arts	GOS	Yes	Yes
9	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 7	71.00	-5.50	83.04	\$20,000				Lecture or Panel Performance	Indoor	04 Theatre	EA	No	(blank)
10	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 5	69.50	-1.50	81.29	\$20,000				Creation of new work Digital engagement	Outdoor	13 Humanities		No	(blank)
11	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 8	63.80	-5.70	74.62	\$15,000				Presentation or exhibition	Indoor	14 Multidisciplinary	EA,GOS	Yes	Yes
12	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 1	62.80	-1.00	75.85	\$20,000				Presentation or exhibition	Hybrid	13 Humanities		No	(blank)
13	Event	30-Jul-26	Ward 4	61.80	-1.00	75.09	\$20,000				Lecture or Panel	Indoor	02 Music	ArtBank; CapacityBuilding	No	(blank)
Total:								\$114,830	\$104,391	\$88,331						