



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

## GRANTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Gretchen, Committee Chair

January 22, 2023

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On Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> the grants committee convened to decide the next steps for recommendations that came from the Grants Revamp meeting.

From those recommendations, the committee voted to bring the following recommendations for a vote to the full commission:

- Expanding the General Operating Support Grant to include first-time applicants removing the prior grant requirement.
- Opening several grant programs in late-February 2024 to help spread the application and paneling process over a longer period. This would ultimately help applicants applying for multiple grants and staff with workflow balance.

➤ **Considerations / Decisions**

○ **FY25 GOS Recommendation**

Currently GOS offers two cohorts:

▪ **GOS Generalists:**

Organizations whose primary purpose is to present and or produce arts and humanities experiences for residents of the District of Columbia. *This program requires applicants to have been previously award a competitive CAH award.*

▪ **GOS Service Organizations:**

Organizations whose primary mission is to provide specialized services which can include professional development, technical assistance, shared operational services, and/ or research to DC-based arts and humanities organizations. *This program requires applicants to have been previously award a competitive CAH award.*

- The committee recommends expanding the General Operating Support grant to include a third cohort **GOS Capacity Building**. This cohort will support small arts and humanities organizations that have not previously been awarded a grant by CAH. Capacity Building needs can include but are not limited to staff training, longer organizational initiatives, sector-strengthening that increases access and awareness of programs for the DC community. The cohort will not require a previous CAH award providing a true GOS on-ramp for new applicants or those not previously funded.

**Beyond funding, the program offers additional features to foster connections and knowledge exchange:**

- Peer mentoring: Connect with experienced arts and humanities leaders for additional guidance and support.
  - Quarterly convenings: Network and share learnings with other cohort members, building a collaborative community.
  - ***The committee is currently reviewing a two-year funding model for all GOS Cohorts***
- **Decision: Yes** (Grants Committee Recommendation: 1/18/24)
- **FY25 Adjusted Grant Opening Cycle Recommendation**
    - The grants committee recommends moving the opening of three grant programs from their traditional launch date in May to earlier in February.
    - **The following grants are proposed for a February Launch:**
      - FY25 General Operating Support (GOS)
      - FY25 Projects, Events or Festivals, Individuals (PEFi)
      - FY25 Projects, Events or Festivals, Organizations (PEFo)
      - FY25 East Arts (EA)
    - **Grants that will continue to launch during the summer starting in May:**
      - FY25 Arts and Humanities Education Project Grant (AHEP)
      - FY25 Field Trip Experiences (FTE)
      - FY25 Arts and Humanities Fellowship Program (AHFP)
      - FY25 Capital Projects (CP)
    - The benefits of the change include the following:
      - Reduces the number of panels during the summer.
      - Allows collection of required documents earlier in the cycle
      - Balances the workload more evenly for grant managers.

**Decision: Yes** (Grants Committee Recommendation: 1/18/24)

**Committee Recommendations**

1. Resolved, that the commission agree to the Committee's recommendation to expand the GOS Grant Program to include a third cohort GOS Capacity Building for FY2025 General Operating Support.
2. Resolved, that the commission agree to the committee's recommendation to launch the following FY2025 Grants in February 2025: PEFi, PEFo, and EA