



FY26 PEF(i) GRANT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Grant Program Name: Projects, Events, or Festivals Individuals PEF(i)

Grant Program Description:

The Projects, Events, or Festivals PEF(i) grant program supports individuals who execute projects that promote arts and humanities activities to a diverse range of communities within the District of Columbia. The application is open to all District of Columbia residents. Individuals may apply for project support of up to \$10,000, and there is no matching requirement for PEF grants.

FY25 v. FY26. PEF(i) saw a significant jump in demand, with applications increasing from 129 to 185. The number of awardees grew from 91 to 125, while total funding rose from \$682,585 to \$723,216. Equity outcomes also improved, with 22 awardees from Wards 7 and 8 in FY26 compared to 17 in FY25, and a higher share of first-time grantees (43% vs. 35%), reflecting both expanded reach and greater access for new applicants.

Allocated Budget Amount:

FY2026:	\$723,216 (125 applicants Recommended)
FY2025:	\$682,585 (91 applicants Awarded)
FY2024:	\$650,644 (82 applicants Awarded)

Number of Panels: 10 (7 panels in FY25)

Number of Applicants by Cohort:

- Cohort 1 - 20
- Cohort 2 - 21
- Cohort 3 - 20
- Cohort 4 - 20
- Cohort 5 - 20
- Cohort 6 - 20
- Cohort 7 - 20
- Cohort 8 - 20
- Cohort 9 - 20
- Cohort 10 - 4

Number of New Applicants to CAH: 39 out of 185 (32 in FY25)

Number of New Applicants to CAH being awarded: 21 out of 125

Number of New Applicants to PEF(i) being awarded: 54 out of 125

Number of Ward 7 & 8 applicants being awarded: 22 out of 125 (17 in FY25)

**Award Justification and Allocation of Funds:**

Award recommendations were based on peer review panel scores, ensuring fairness and transparency. The highest-scoring applicants received funding closest to their full request, while subsequent awards were scaled proportionally, ranging from 50–70% of requested amounts. This approach balances recognition of excellence with broader distribution of funds, enabling more applicants across all wards and disciplines to receive support and ensuring program sustainability.

Recommendation- \$723,216