

SHINE 2024/FY25 General Operating Support Grants

Maryland Humanities

Introduction to Evaluation

Terms Used in this Evaluation

Please utilize the following definitions when evaluating applications.

Humanities

Please refer to our understanding of the humanities in our [mission, vision, and values](#).

Organizations conducting activities in the humanities provide programs that do one or more of the following:

- Explore and elevate our shared stories of the past, present, and future to connect people
- Preserve, share, and celebrate cultural identities, heritage, and traditions
- Promote storytelling and enriching communities through dialogue, discussion, and participation
- Bring people together to encourage thoughtful and accessible programs that value equity, democracy, collaboration, and life-long learning

DEAI

- **Diversity** is all the ways that people are different and the same at the individual and group levels. Even when people appear the same, they are different. Organizational diversity requires examining and questioning the makeup of a group to ensure that multiple perspectives are represented.
- **Equity** is the fair and just treatment of all members of a community. Equity requires commitment to strategic priorities, resources, respect, and civility, as well as ongoing action and assessment of progress toward achieving specified goals.
- **Accessibility** is giving equitable access to everyone along the continuum of human ability and experience. Accessibility encompasses the broader meanings of compliance and refers to how organizations make space for the characteristics that each person brings.
- **Inclusion** refers to the intentional, ongoing effort to ensure that diverse individuals fully participate in all aspects of organizational work, including decision-making processes. It also refers to the ways that diverse participants are valued as respected members of an organization and/or community.

Applicants were provided this [DEAI Toolkit](#) as an introductory resource for reflecting on their organization's culture, strategies, and values related to Diversity, Equity, Access, and Inclusion

Communities Underserved By the Humanities

Including, but not limited to:

- Veterans
- Rural Populations
- BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color)
- Low-income Individuals
- Currently and Formerly Incarcerated Persons
- LGBTQ+ Individuals
- Currently and/or Formerly Unhoused People
- Disabled People
- Immigrants
- New Americans

Grant Number

Internal Use Only

Character Limit: 200

Organizational Culture

Centrality of the Humanities in Mission and Programming*

How integral are the humanities to the organization's mission? How are the humanities represented within the organization's programming?

Application Sections to Review

- Centrality of the Humanities to your Organization
- Mission Statement
- History of Organization's Programming

Exemplary (9-10 points)

The humanities is central to the organization's mission and **ALL** of the organization's programming.

Substantial (7-8 points)

The humanities is central to the majority of the organization's mission and programming.

Adequate (5-6 points)

The humanities are a significant to the organization's mission, and is central to more than half of the organization's programming.

Limited (3-4 points)

The organization provides some humanities programming but, the humanities is not central to their mission.

Minimal (1-2 points)

There is little connection to the humanities within the organization's programming or mission.

Scoring Options: 0 - 10

DEAI Strategies and Approaches in Organizational Culture*

How has this organization implemented DEAI (Diversity, Equity, Access and Inclusion) principles in their organizational culture? Does the organization have clear and practical plans to advance DEAI in their organizational culture in the future?

Application Sections to Review

- Diversity, Equity, Access and Inclusion in Organizational Culture

Exemplary (9-10 points)

The organization has implemented clear, identifiable, and impactful strategies to promote DEAI principles within the organization and the larger community. They have also identified new approaches to advancing DEAI principles in the future.

Substantial (7-8 points)

The organization has implemented some strategies to promote DEAI principles within their organization, and the larger community. They have also articulated some approaches to advancing DEAI principles within the organization and its programming in the future.

Adequate (5-6 points)

The organization has implemented few strategies to promote DEAI principles within their organization, and the larger community. They have vaguely articulated approaches to advancing DEAI principles within the organization and its programming in the future.

Limited (3-4 points)

The organization has implemented no strategies to promote DEAI principles within their organization, and the larger community. They have vaguely articulated approaches to advancing DEAI principles within the organization and its programming in the future.

Minimal (1-2 points)

The organization has implemented no strategies to promote racial equity within their organization, and the larger community, and has not articulated approaches to advancing DEAI principles within the organization and its programming in the future.

Scoring Options: 0 - 10

Comments Regarding Organizational Culture

Character Limit: 2000

Programming**Impact and Significance of Programming***

How impactful and significant is this organization's programming and collaborative practices to the communities it serves?

Application Sections to Review

- History of Organization's Programming
- Examples of Programming
- Organizational Goals

Exemplary (9-10 points)

The organization's programming is indispensable to the community it serves.

Substantial (7-8 points)

The organization's programming is significantly impactful to the community it serves.

Adequate (5-6 points)

The organization's programming is beneficial to the community it serves.

Limited (3-4 points)

The organization's programming is somewhat impactful to the community it serves.

Minimal (1-2 points)

The organization's programming is inconsequential to the community it serves.

Scoring Options: 0 - 10

Diversity and Equity of Representation in Programming*

How are the narratives of diverse communities represented in this organization's programming?

Application Sections to Review

- Representation of Diverse Narratives in Programming
- Examples of Programming

Exemplary (9-10 points)

The organization's programming includes extensive, accurate and valuable representations of the experiences of BIPOC, disabled populations, LGBTQ+, and/or underrepresented gender identities.

Substantial (7-8 points)

The organization's programming includes substantial, accurate and beneficial representations of the experiences of BIPOC, disabled populations, LGBTQ+, and/or underrepresented gender identities.

Adequate (5-6 points)

The organization's programming includes adequate representation of the experiences of BIPOC, disabled populations, LGBTQ+, and/or underrepresented gender identities.

Limited (3-4 points)

The organization's programming includes simplistic representations of the experiences of BIPOC, disabled populations, LGBTQ+, and/or underrepresented gender identities.

Minimal (0-2 points)

The organization's programming includes little to no representations of the experiences of BIPOC, disabled populations, LGBTQ+, and/or underrepresented gender identities.

Scoring Options: 0 - 10

Comments Regarding Organization's Programming

Character Limit: 2000

Audiences and Community Impact

Impact and Outreach for Organization's Existing Audiences*

How significant is the organization's audience relative to the community's size and organizational operational capacity?

Does the organization have a clear and practical plan to expand the reach of their organization?

Application Sections to Review

- Organization's Audience
- Estimated Annual Audience Size
- Outreach Strategies

Exemplary (9-10 points)

The organization serves a significant audience relative to the community's size and the organization's operational capacity. Organization articulates a clear, and practical plan to expand the reach of their organization, and diversify their audience.

Substantial (7-8 points)

The organization serves a substantial audience relative to community's size and the organization's operational capacity. Organization has some plans to expand the reach of their organization and diversify their audience.

Adequate (5-6 points)

The organization serves an adequate audience relative to the community's size and the organization's operational capacity. The organization articulates some outreach approaches that could be improved with more clarity and actionable goals.

Limited (3-4 points)

The organization serves a limited audience relative to the community's size and the organization's operational capacity. The organization articulates some desire to diversify and expand their audience, but lacks any clear plans or approaches to achieving this goal.

Minimal (1-2 points)

The organization serves an insufficient audience relative to the community's size and the organization's operational capacity. The organization has little to no goals to expand and diversify their audience.

Scoring Options: 0 - 10

Representation and Outreach Strategies for Underserved Populations*

How are communities underserved by the humanities represented within the organization's audience? What outreach strategies is the organization employing to diversify their audiences?

Application Sections to Review

- Organization's Audience
- Outreach Strategies

Exemplary (9-10 points)

Communities underserved by the humanities are significantly represented in the organization's audience. Organization articulates a clear and practical plan to diversify their audience.

Substantial (7-8 points)

Communities underserved by the humanities are substantially represented in the organization's audience. Organization has some plans to diversify their audience.

Adequate (5-6 points)

Communities underserved by the humanities are present within the organization's audiences. The organization articulates some outreach approaches that could be improved with more clarity and actionable goals.

Limited (3-4 points)

Communities underserved by the humanities are underrepresented within the organization's audience. The organization articulates some desire to diversify their audience, but lacks any clear plans or approaches to achieving this goal.

Minimal (1-2 points)

Communities underserved by the humanities are insignificant within the organization's audience. The organization has little to no goals to diversify their audience.

Scoring Options: 0 - 10

Comments Regarding Audiences and Community Impact

Character Limit: 2000

Budget and Financial Impact**Impact of Funds on Organization***

If received, how impactful will this funding be on this organization's ability to provide programming to Marylanders?

Application Sections to Review

- Organizational Goals
- Intended Use of Funding
- Organization's Audience

Exemplary (9-10 points)

This grant would have a transformative impact on this organization's ability to provide programming to Marylanders.

Substantial (7-8 points)

This grant would make a substantial impact on this organization's ability to provide programming to Marylanders.

Adequate (5-6 points)

This grant would have a considerable impact on this organization's ability to provide programming to Marylanders.

Limited (3-4 points)

This grant would have some impact on this organization's ability to provide programming to Marylanders.

Minimal (1-2 points)

This grant would have limited impact on this organization's ability to provide programming to Marylanders.

Scoring Options: 0 - 10

Clear Use of Funds*

Does the organization have a clear, and practical plan to utilize the funding?

Application Sections to Review

- Intended Use of Funding

Exemplary (9-10 points)

The organization articulates a considerably clear, and practical plan to utilize the funding.

Substantial (7-8 points)

The organization articulates a fairly clear, and practical plan for the use of funding.

Adequate (5-6 points)

The organization has articulated a plan for the funding that could be more impactful with increased clarity.

Limited (3-4 points)

The organization articulates a plan for the funds that lacks clarity and practicality.

Minimal (1-2 points)

The organization articulates a plan for the funds that contains no clarity or practicality.

Scoring Options: 0 - 10

Comments Regarding Financial Impact and Budget

Character Limit: 2000

Overall Application

Additional Comments Regarding Application

Character Limit: 2000