

Nevada Arts Council

FY18 Partners in Excellence Grants Tier I and Tier II

The Grant Review Panels charged with reviewing FY18 Partners in Excellence Grants convened in a public meeting at the Whitney Peak Hotel in Reno, Nevada on May 18 and 19, 2017.

This year's panel was composed of:

Stephen Marc Beaudoin (music, ADA) – Executive Director, PHAME (PIE Tier I & Tier II)

Wayne Cook (theatre, performing arts) – Retired Program Specialist, California Arts Council (PIE Tier I & Tier II)

Douglas Detrick (jazz, chamber, and electronic music) – Executive Director, Portland Jazz Composer's Ensemble (PIE Tier I)

Francesca McCrossan (folklife) – Folklorist/Cultural Consultant (PIE Tier I & Tier II)

Mark Salinas (visual arts) – Director of Arts and Culture, Carson City (PIE Tier II)

Partners in Excellence: Tier I & Tier II Grants

- The panelists reviewed and scored 33 PIE Tier I Level 1 – 3 Grant Applications
- The panelists reviewed and scored 32 PIE Tier II Level 4 – 6 Grant Applications
- The funding available for this category in FY18 is \$576,472
- The total request was \$976,000
- Two applicants scored under 60%, a score of 60% or below does not receive funding
- After panel review and scoring, the total recommended funding is \$783,343
- The panel's recommendation is to apply a 25.1% cut across the board to meet the available funding of \$576,472

Please note that two applicants for Partners in Excellence Grants received scores below NAC's 60% threshold for funding. This threshold was determined by the NAC Board at the April 2013 Board Meeting. PIE Tier I applicant, The Shakespeare Institute of Nevada received an average score of 57.5 and PIE Tier II applicant, Sierra School of Performing Arts received an average score of 53.8.

Panel Comments:

Overall the panelists were impressed with passion exhibited by most of the applicants for the work that they do. A wide variation in the quality of narratives and support material was presented and panelists remarked accordingly. Panelists noted on several occasions the need for applicants to be more mindful about their choice of language when referring to disadvantaged or stigmatized groups.

Public Comments:

On Thursday, May 18, public comment was received via email from the Las Vegas Philharmonic.

Panel Comments for NAC

After the panel completed the review process, we asked for their comments regarding the Nevada Arts Council's online grants application system, the review process and any other issue that they chose to share. Here's a sampling:

Panelists expressed that they were pleased they could engage in an open and uninterrupted dialogue regarding their reviews of the grant applications.

Panelists were appreciative that they could view the support material at a pace worked for them and return to support materials if necessary.

Returning panelists liked that the meetings took place in the same facility as the hotel accommodations so they did not have to deal with transportation issues.

Several panelists noted the ease of the online and in person review process and expressed interest in returning for future panels.