OPERATING GRANTS

METRO ARTS
NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

Discussion Topics

- **Using budget/revenues as org measures**
- **Using percentages for award amounts**
- **Scoring (70%-100% threshold)**
- **Applications**
- **Reporting and requirements**
- **Timelines**

THRIVE GRANTS

Discussion Topics

- **Fiscal Sponsorship**
- **Thrive application types**
- **Application questions and scoring**
- **Underrepresented council districts**
- **Reporting and promoting Thrive work**
- **Timelines**

THRIVE GRANTS

Metro Arts requires **fiscal sponsorship** for individuals applying for Thrive funding that do not hold 501c3 nonprofit status.

1. How can Metro Arts better support Thrive applicants?
2. How can Metro Arts better support fiscal sponsors?

THRIVE GRANTS

Not all Thrive projects are the same in terms of budget needs, project type, impact, etc. Should there be more distinction with regard to applications, budget request, and other factors specific to project types?

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THRIVE GRANTS

Thrive awards were created as a microgrant to increase access to funding to create, support and promote community-level artistic projects. Metro Arts has considered developing a policy to prioritize **underrepresented council districts** in helping to determine where Thrive funding goes. What do you think of this idea, and how would you define and determine 'underrepresented'?

Thrive **applications** were recently updated with goals to prioritize access and highlight community impact. Do the application questions, as they are, guide you to provide all the information you want to tell Metro Arts about your work? What would you change?

THRIVE GRANTS

How can Metro Arts help **showcase and promote the work** that has been supported with Thrive awards? How can we use reporting for strategic advocacy purposes and to show the impact of arts funding?

OPERATING GRANTS

The Operating funding formula uses the organization's annual revenue to determine award amounts. When originally designed, the goal was to provide smaller organizations a greater award size proportional to their budget.

- What do you think about of this funding formula?
- Do these budget ranges feel accurate and meaningful when we think about describing sizes of organizations?
- What would you change about the ranges?
- How can we improve this measurement to (e.g., is a one-year revenue the best measure?)?

OPERATING GRANTS

Operating award amounts are calculated by the percentages shown in the table.

- How well do you think these award sizes do with regard to equitably distributing operating dollars?
- What would you change about how the awards are calculated?
- Should there be a maximum amount grant size?

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OPERATING GRANTS

Operating applications and reporting were recently updated with goals to prioritize access and highlight community impact.

- Do the application questions, as they are, guide you to provide all the information you want to tell Metro Arts about your work? What would you change?
- What expectations and requirements should Metro Arts have for Operating grantees (i.e., what should Metro Arts hold as requirements for grantees?)?
- How can we use reporting for strategic advocacy purposes and to show the impact of arts funding?

OPERATING GRANTS

Should smaller organizations be eligible to apply for both operating awards and Thrive project funding?

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The scoring method uses a pass/fail score, where applicants that score 70% or above are eligible, and awarded based on budget size. Applications are scored by community panel reviewers (i.e., volunteers). There is no difference, in the grant determination, between an application that scores 70% and one that scores 95%. This prioritizes access over competition.

- What do you think of this method, and is there anything you would change?