the lewis prize for music

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2022 ACCELERATOR AWARDS
Round One Application and Rubric

Accelerator Awards are open to Creative Youth Development (CYD) music organizations seeking to influence youth-serving systems so all young people have access to learning, creating, and performing experiences that reflect their culture and identity.

The mission of The Lewis Prize is to partner with leaders who create positive change by investing in young people through music. Our vision is for every young person, regardless of who they are or where they live, to have the opportunity to access music programs from a young age. We believe this can only be achieved through equitable systems change. We aim to award ambitious organizations and leaders who are already strengthening young people through rigorous and diverse music programs and influencing systems so all young people can develop greater agency over their lives and contribute positively to their communities.

Round One applications were open from May 18-July 16, 2021.

Eligibility Questions- Applicants have to answer "yes" for eligibility

1. Are you, the leader of the program, writing this Application? "Leader" is defined as someone who reports directly to the Board of Directors.
2. Have you been the leader of this program/work beginning in or before 2019?
3. Do you, the leader, or another leader who reports to the Board of Directors, reside in the local region of where the work/program is located?
4. Does your program/work take place in the United States or it's territories, and the young people it serves reside in the US or it's territories?
5. Are the youth whom you serve in the age range of 6-21 years old? Youth may be younger and/or older so long as most are 6-21.
6. Do at least 50% of the total youth served come from historically marginalized or under-resourced communities?
7. Does your program/work serve youth outside of school hours? School music programs do not meet the eligibility.
8. Does your program provide consistent, ongoing participation opportunities that sequentially build skills and relationships over time, ideally multi-year? One time classes, short term workshops, and/or summer camps do not meet the eligibility.
9. Does at least 50% of the time youth are in/at your program devoted to music learning, creating, or performing?
10. Is your organization an independent 501(c)(3) or do you have a partnership with a 501(c)(3) as a fiscal sponsor?
11. Has your program/work been in operation since or before 2016?
12. Is at least one leader who reports to the Board of Directors full-time (paid or unpaid) or able to become full-time with funding?
13. Does your Board of Directors and/or senior management staff have at least 30% of its members who reside in or represent the community that you serve?

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General Information

1. *First Name*
2. *Last name*
3. *Telephone number (to be reached during summer/fall 2021)*
4. *Leader's email address*
5. *Additional email address for someone else to receive comm. regarding this application. *Optional*
6. *Name of your music organization/program*
7. *Name of the specific music program (if different/more specific than listed above).*optional*
8. *Address of your music organization/program*
9. *Music organization/program's website*
10. *Social Media handles*
11. *Founding year of your music organization*
12. *Year you started as the leader of your music organization/program*
13. *Your organization or Fiscal Sponsor's IRS issued EID number (ex: xx-xxxxxxx)*
14. *What were your total organizational expenses reported in your last 1099-IRS filing?*
    a. *$99,999 or less b. $100,000-$249,999 c. $250,000-$499,999*
       d. *$500,000-$999,999   e. $1m +*
15. *What percentage of your organization's overall yearly budget is for youth music work?*
    Some organizations are multi-service organizations.
    a. *0-19% b. 20-49% c. 50-79% d. 80-99%*
       e. *Our work is only youth music. 100%*

The following information will be used for data collection, research, and for purposes of ensuring support for organizations that serve historically marginalized communities, as well as those that are led by and/or uplift the voices and artistry of people of color, rural communities, and women leaders.

1. *What is your gender identity?   *optional*
2. *What is your racial identity?   *optional*

   a. African *(Also including: Black, African-American, Black Caribbean)*
   b. Asian *(Also including: Southeast Asian, South Asian)*
   c. First Peoples *(Also including: Alaska Native, Indígena)*
   d. Pacific Islander *(Also including: Native Hawaiian)*
   e. Latinx *(Also including: Hispanic)*
   f. MENA *(Also including: Arab, Persian)*
   g. White *(Also Including: European)*
   h. Other: p*lease specify:*

3. *Are you the founder of the organization?*
4. *What is the population of your city/town?*

   a. *9,999 or below*
   b. *10,000 to 24,999*
   c. *25,000 to 49,999*
   d. *50,000 to 99,999*
   e. *100,000 to 199,999*
   f. *200,000 to 499,999*
   g. *500,000+*

5. *What is the population of your county?*

   a. *9,999 or below*
   b. *10,000 to 24,999*
   c. *25,000 to 49,999*
   d. *50,000 to 99,999*
   e. *100,000 to 199,999*
   f. *200,000 to 499,999*
   g. *500,000+*

6. *What is the name of your county?*

7. *State/territory*

8. *What percentage of each community setting do your youth reside in?*

   a. *Urban 100%*
   b. *Suburban 100%*
   c. *Rural 100%*
   d. *Multiple Community Settings, please specify:*

9. *Based on your best estimate, what percentage of your organization's young people would identify as being from a historically marginalized community?*

   a. *0-19%*   b. *20-49%*   c. *50-79%*   d. *80-100%*

10. What musical genre(s) does your organization/program work in?

    a. *Band/Winds and Percussion*   b. *Hip Hop*   c. *Jazz*   d. *Music Production*
    e. *Orchestra/strings*   f. *Rock*   g. *Vocal/Choral*
    h. *Culturally Specific Music*   i. *Other genres not listed, please specify: _____*

11. *What is your program's general schedule and frequency, and specific numbers of young people involved.*

12. *Please select the descriptors that best reflect the justice orientation at your organization:*

    a. None
    b. Scholarship/tuition underwriting for youth and families with need
    c. All free program
    d. Culturally responsive pedagogy
    e. Majority culturally specific prog.
    f. Diversity amongst the board that reflects the community/youth served
    g. Diversity of upper level staff that reflects the comm./youth served
    h. Diversity of teaching staff that reflects community/youth served
    i. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Plan/Policy in place
    j. Geographic accessibility (or transportation support for youth)
    k. Alumni teaching artists/staff
    l. Youth Council
    m. Youth board membership
    n. Alumni board membership
    o. Other

13. What other direct services beyond music programming do you provide?

    A. None   b. Academic Support   c. COVID-19 Education d. COVID Vaccine edu.
    e. Food security   f. Housing Support   g. Income Support   h. Justice Reform
    i. Material Wellbeing and Needs   j. Mental Health   k. Social Connection
    l. Technology Access   m. Transportation to/from program
    n. Voter Engagement   o. workforce Training   p. Youth Employment
    q. Other Community Organizing   r. Other: _____

Long Answers

1. **Organization Overview**: *Tell us about your organization, young people, team, music program, and wellbeing support. Share how your program is relevant to your community.*
   Rubric for General Program Overview: No scoring

2. **Systems Change:** Does your work focus on macro and/or civic systems change? (Check box list)
   a. Macro   b. Civic   c. Both
      i. Which specific macro system does your work influence?

   Cultural Preservation   Immigrant Inclusion
   Disability Justice   Nutrition Access
   Economic Opportunity   Racial Justice
   Environmental Justice   Other, please specify:
   Gender & LGTBQIA+ Equality

      ii. Which specific civic system does your work influence?

   Child Welfare   Immigration
   Correctional/Justice System   Police
   Education   Political/Democratic Participation
   Employment/Work Force   Transportation
   Food Security   Workforce Training
   Healthcare   Other, please specify:
   Housing/Shelter
   Rubric for Systems Change: No scoring

3. Big Idea: What vision, or Big Idea, do you have that reimagines or intervenes with systems to achieve equity?

   Rubric for The Big Idea/vision: 0-5

   ● There is discernible alignment between the Big Idea, Systems Change Category(ies) chosen above, justice alignment list (General Information), and organization/program description.
   ● Goes beyond the organization to impact the wider community/nation/world's condition in order for young people to thrive through equitable access to music learning, creating, and performing.

4. Systems Change Process: Based on the civic and/or macro systems change your work focuses on, describe your process toward achieving your Big Idea.

   Rubric for Systems Change Process: No Scoring

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5. Systems Change Results (so far): In list form, tell us the results achieved so far by this work, as it pertains to systems change and your Big Idea.

> **Rubric for Systems Change Results: No Scoring**

6. Equity and Inclusion: How is your organization representative and accountable to your community in respect to racial equity, diversity, and inclusion (REDI)? What does REDI look like in the day-to-day of your programming, organization, and governance?

> **Rubric for Equity and Inclusion: 0-5**
> - The organization/program has strong policies, habits, and/or a culture that ensures racial equity and inclusion on its board, among its staffing, and in its programming.
> - The organization shows racial equity and inclusion practices that are accountable to their community. There is little difference between "the organization" and "the community."

7. Youth Leadership: What does youth leadership look like in your program? List opportunities and outcomes for young people as leaders.

> **Rubric for Youth Leadership: 0-5**
> - There is significant support for young people in their own civic agency and activism ("youth movement building").
> - Youth are involved in numerous ways throughout the organization's structure and in intentional ways that are integral to the organization's Big Idea and systems change goals.
> - Leadership responsibilities for young people increase as they mature and have more experience, such as youth employment within the organization.
> - Mentorship, alumni involvement, and intergenerational music making or work is apparent.

8. **Leadership:** Describe how your organization embodies collaborative leadership both internally and with your community in pursuit of your Big Idea and systems change.

> **Rubric for Leadership: 0-5**
> - The leader describes an inclusive culture that explicitly makes room for and uplifts the leadership and abilities of others, including youth and staff/team
> - The leader prioritizes the holistic wellbeing of their youth and staff/team
> - The leader demonstrates self awareness and a genuine spirit of collaboration for how they align with others in the organization and community to leverage shared impact and outcomes.

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9. Partners: Describe the partners that you work with in solidarity to pursue your Big Idea and achieve systems change. Who are they, and how do you collaborate, mobilize, and organize together to accomplish systems change outcomes?

> **Rubric for Partners: 0-5**
> - The partners clearly work in solidarity to pursue the Big Idea with shared values and equity priorities.
> - The partners have clear roles that intentionally and reciprocally combine their strengths toward the Big Idea.

Optional: Is there anything else that you'd like to share with the Lewis Prize?

MEDIA UPLOADS

1. Upload or include a link to audio or video, 1-2 minutes long, of a final or culminating project or performance within the last 2 years that displays all or most of the following elements:
   - Rigor
   - Personal expression
   - Youth leadership
   - Cultural identity
   - Enthusiastic engagement of the young people performing.

   Rubric: 1 pt for each example you experience or perceive for:
   1. The young people are challenged and are meeting that challenge with style.
   2. Original voice: young people bring their own expression to the music in a truthful way that it becomes fully their music.
   3. The young people look fully present and engaged.
   4. Includes characteristics of appropriate cultural representation.
   5. It sounds good and you want to hear it again.

2. Upload or include a link to an audio or video, 1-2 minutes long, of an example of process, rehearsal, youth or family interview, or program experience that showcases:
   - Artistic and developmental growth
   - Social interventions that show youth leadership

   Rubric: 1 pt for each example you experience or perceive for:
   1. Youth engagement and leadership
   2. Growth
   3. Impact
   4. Community Collaboration
   5. Equity and Inclusion