

Panelists, while waiting for the meeting to begin, please log-into Smart Simple, & we invite you to:

1. Consider your verbal introduction: name, organization and/or art form.
2. Silence or stow electronic devices not being used for this meeting - be present in the (virtual) space.
3. Gather materials and any drinks/snacks. We will break periodically throughout the meeting process.

FY2026

Public Art Across Maryland

Grant Panel Meeting

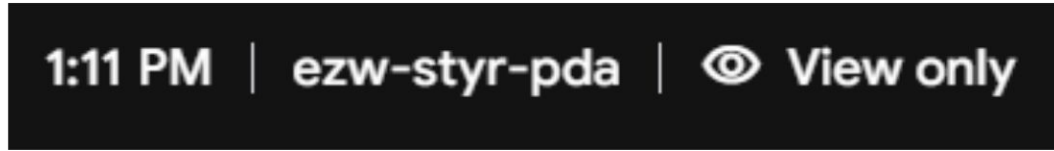
GROUP A

Tuesday, February 24, 10:00 AM- 2:10 PM

Hosted by:

Maryland State Arts Council

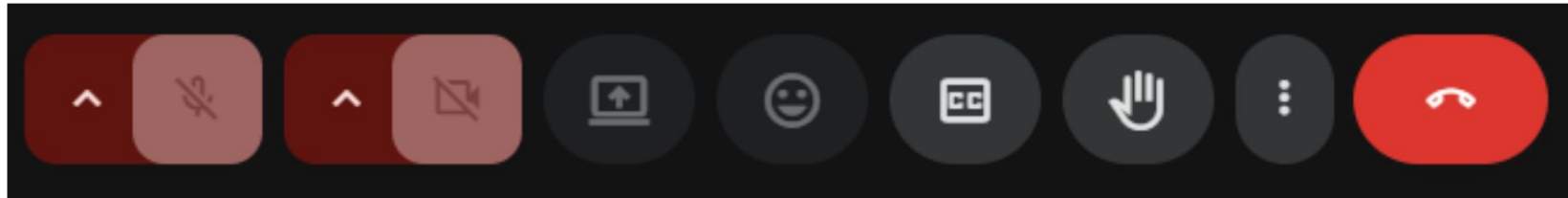
Reference Shot of Features (1 of 2)



Time

Meeting code

Guest status



Audio
settings

Video
settings

Share
screen

Share
reactions

Closed
captions

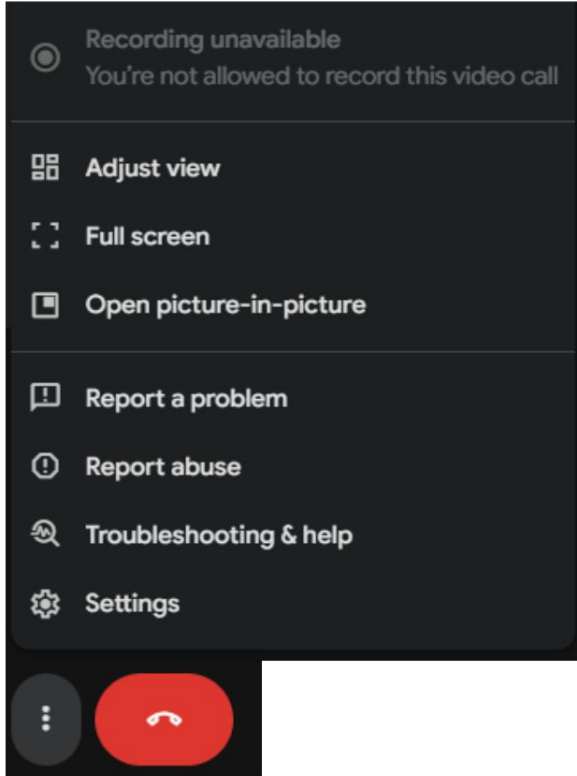
Raise
hand

More
options

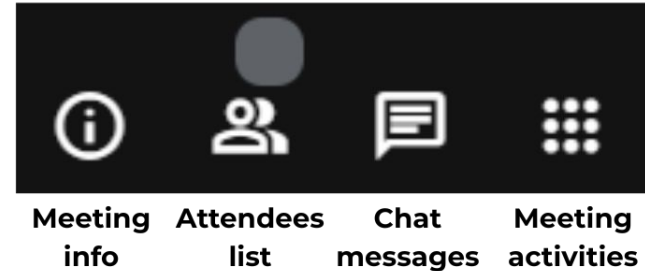
Leave
meeting

In keeping with State of Maryland guidance on generative AI, please do not use AI to record or transcribe.
Virtual assistants and notetakers appearing in the meeting will be removed

Reference Shot of Features (2 of 2)



In 'More options'



Introductions

Land Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge the lands and waters now known as Maryland are the home of its first peoples: the Accohannock Indian Tribe, Assateague People's Tribe, Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians, Choptico Band of Indians, Lenape Tribe, Nanticoke Tribe, Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians, Piscataway Conoy Tribe, Piscataway Indian Nation, Pocomoke Indian Nation, Susquehannock Indians, Youghiogheny River Band of Shawnee, and tribes in the Chesapeake watershed who have seemingly vanished since the coming of colonialism. We acknowledge that this land is now home to other tribal peoples living here in diaspora. We acknowledge the forced removal of many from the lands and waterways that nurtured them as kin. We acknowledge the degradation that continues to be wrought on the land and waters in pursuit of resources. We acknowledge the right of the land and waterways to heal so that they can continue to provide food and medicine for all. We acknowledge that it is our collective obligation to pursue policies and practices that respect the land and waters so that our reciprocal relationship with them can be fully restored.

Equity and Justice Statement

The arts celebrate our state's diversity, connect our shared humanity, and transform individuals and communities. The Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) is committed to advancing and modeling equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion in all aspects of our organization and across communities of our state.

MSAC and its grantees are committed to embracing equity and non-discrimination regardless of race, religious creed, color, age, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, class, language, and/or ability.

Vision

MSAC plays an essential role ensuring every person has access to the transformative power of the arts.

Mission

MSAC advances the arts in our state by providing leadership that champions creative expression, diverse programming, equitable access, lifelong learning, and the arts as a celebrated contributor to the quality of life for all the people of Maryland.

MSAC Strategic Plan - Pillars and Goals

Access

Bolster access to arts experiences and resources

Awareness

Amplify the stories of Maryland's arts sector and the value of public support

Connection

Foster networks within and beyond the arts sector

Equity

Cultivate a thriving arts ecosystem centered in equity

Leadership

Commit to a culture of care and innovation

Creative Meeting Actions

Celebrate being in the space with other creative people.

Engage with everyone's presence as a gift.

Acknowledge that together we know a lot.

Enter the conversation with curiosity and inquiry.

Share your idea and trust that it will be heard.

Use "I" statements.

Focus your language on the task at hand.

Hold one another accountable with care.

Honor all perspectives and build on shared ideas.

Balance speaking with listening.

Equity: Impact vs. Grant Writing

The application is meant to inspire authentic reflection and internal analysis for each applicant, with the knowledge that the Maryland State Arts Council is to be seen and utilized as a collaborative partner in the process.

One aspect of the partnership is to guide panelists to see beyond the “polish” of grant writing that may be inequitably influenced by the privilege of resources (financial, educational, etc...) and, instead, focus upon the impact of the applicant.

Responses as Recommendations

Please frame your response as recommendations:

"Not enough information is provided about the applicant's community engagement"

BECOMES...

"I recommend that the applicant include a detailed plan for community engagement in the planning process"

Goals for Today's Meeting:

1. Revisit the **15** Public Art Across Maryland- New Artworks grant applications that received an **initial average score** of **83%** or higher.
2. Arrive at **final average score** for each application.

Note: Final award decisions will not be made during today's panel meeting.

Panel Meeting Structure

The goal is for each application to be discussed within a **ten minute window** in which the following will occur.

1. The **Application ID #** and **initial average score** for the application is displayed.
2. The assigned **lead reader** introduces the grant in connection to the rubric **(2 min)**
3. The **full panel** may then enter open discussion that may affect the grant score **(4 min)**
4. The **staff discipline expert** may share additional thoughts/recommendations **(1 min)**
5. **Panelists** will then submit final scores and comments in SmartSimple **(2 min)**
6. MSAC staff will then average the panelists scores and re-present the final score
7. This same process repeats with the next grant application...

Test Application

Application: -43144

Maryland State Arts Council

Lead Reader: First and Last Name

- Average Initial Score: 0.0%
- Average Final Score: 85%

New Artworks - Project Grant Applications

New Artworks-Project

Application: 2026-40496

Germantown Cultural Arts Center Inc.

Lead Reader: DeAnna Scott

Average Initial Score: 89.60%

Average Final Score: 89.80%

New Artworks-Project

Application: 2026-41609

Story Tapestries

Lead Reader: Carol Rhodes Dyson

Average Initial Score: 88.00%

Average Final Score: 84.20%

New Artworks-Project

Application: 2026-41613

Wheaton Arts Parade, Inc.

Lead Reader: Kristine Roome

Average Initial Score: 87.80%

Average Final Score: 88.80%

New Artworks-Project

Application: 2026-41684

Cultura Plenera, INC

Lead Reader: Mercedes Lopez

Average Initial Score: 89.20%

Average Final Score: 93.40%

10 minute Break
Return at 11:25

New Artworks-Project

Application: 2026-41765

Choptank Tolomato Legacy Project

Lead Reader: Cyndy Guillen

Average Initial Score: 94.20%

Average Final Score: 94.80%

New Artworks-Project

Application: 2026-41802

Adkins Arboretum, Ltd.

Lead Reader: Carol Rhodes Dyson

Average Initial Score: 92.20%

Average Final Score: 92.40%

New Artworks-Project

Application: 2026-41809

Impact Art

Lead Reader: Kristine Roome

Average Initial Score: 93.60%

Average Final Score: 93.20%

New Artworks-Project

Application: 2026-41817

WeAchieve, Inc

Lead Reader: Mercedes Lopez

Average Initial Score: 96.80%

Average Final Score: 97.60%

New Artworks-Project

Application: 2026-41861

Frederick Community College

Lead Reader: DeAnna Scott

Average Initial Score: 83.40%

Average Final Score: 81.40%

15 minute Break
Return at 12:35 pm

New Artworks - Planning Grant Applications

New Artworks- Planning

Application: 2026-40972

Anacostia Trails Heritage Area, Inc.

Lead Reader: Cyndy Guillen

Average Initial Score: 86.67%

Average Final Score: 89.33%

New Artworks-Planning

Application: 2026-41400

Havre de Grace Arts Collective

Lead Reader: Carol Rhodes Dyson

Average Initial Score: 83.67%

Average Final Score: 81.33%

New Artworks-Planning

Application: 2026-41658

Independent Artist- Murat Sener

Lead Reader: Kristine Roome

Average Initial Score: 85.67%

Average Final Score: 87.67%

New Artworks-Planning

Application: 2026-41731

Independent Artist- Abigail Kiesa

Lead Reader: Mercedes Lopez

Average Initial Score: 87.67%

Average Final Score: 84%

New Artworks-Planning

Application: 2026-41812

Recovery Resource Center

Lead Reader: DeAnna Scott

Average Initial Score: 83.00%

Average Final Score: 91.67%

New Artworks-Planning

Application: 2026-41857

Neighborhood Design Center, Inc.

Lead Reader: Cyndy Guillen

Average Initial Score: 83.33%

Average Final Score: 90%

Thank You!

Join our mailing list!



tinyurl.com/MSACsMailingList

Send any additional reflections to
msac.commerce@maryland.gov