



## MAPS Fiscal Sponsorship Program Application Review Process & Criteria *updated spring 2021*

### **Process:**

Applications for projects to be accepted into MAPS' fiscal sponsorship program are reviewed every other month by a panel of 3-5 board members and expert guests. Applications must be submitted by 11:59pm on the deadline date to be considered for the next cycle.

Reviewers rate each application independently using the criteria below, assigning a score between 1 and 5 for each criterion. The scores from each reviewer are totalled and averaged for each application. Projects recommended for fiscal sponsorship are then presented at the next MAPS Board Meeting (the first Wednesday of every other month) for approval, with notification shortly afterwards.

Applications are reviewed on their own merit, not in comparison with any other applications received. Being the sole applicant for a given deadline does not guarantee selection. Applicants will be notified of their final scores and provided with a brief summary of any relevant notes.

Applicants that are not selected may re-apply for a future cycle. Applications are not automatically rolled over to the next cycle.

### **Review Criteria for Fiscal Sponsorship selection:**

**Artistic Merit:** Is the artistic portion of the project of high quality, and key to its implementation? Does the applicant have a strong history of producing artistic work? Did they submit any compelling work samples that demonstrate a clear artistic vision? If not, are they collaborating with an artist to meet the arts component requirement?

**Project Organization:** Has the applicant submitted a reasonable, achievable timeline? Have they wisely delegated the workload? Have they identified all the related tasks required to implement the project? Is the project ambitious enough to merit fiscal sponsorship? (i.e. would it be better served by a single crowdfunding campaign?)

**Project Thoughtfulness:** Did the applicant identify clear outcomes for a successful project? Did they build in any type of evaluation or documentation? Are they able to clearly articulate or demonstrate the community benefit of the project?

**Budgeting & Fundraising Plan:** Does the budget seem realistic and reasonable? Did they cite the sources of their projected costs? Did they get competitive bids or find ways to do things in an economical way? Does their fundraising plan show diverse income sources? Did they identify a plan for any crowdfunding campaign? Did they identify any potential grant sources specifically?

**Marketing & Promotion:** Did the application submit a thorough plan to market or promote the project? Did they identify an audience and how they would reach that audience? Did they include promotional expenses in their budget?

**Questions?** Please contact [info@midwestarts.org](mailto:info@midwestarts.org)