



Overview

This quarter encompassed the launch of the fund as well as the inaugural round (application, evaluation, and notification of applicants and recipients).

Strengths

Extensive work was put into establishing a solid and comprehensive framework for the fund. These efforts extended to a comprehensive website, strategic planning for reports, and the recruitment of the selection committee.

A strong, diverse and committed selection committee has been recruited and now has experience working through this first round of applications. This experience will enable for a smooth transition towards growth.

Areas for Growth

The largest challenge the fund faced was the uncertain times created by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has led to the cancellation and postponement of in person shows - the shows that debutant creators might first look to participate in. Organizers have had to work quickly to pivot to online shows. These quick pivots have not always allowed for optimal timing, impeding creators from applying to the fund with these shows in mind.

COVID-19 restrictions also precluded any sessions or in person shows that precluded the use of our own images on the website. Instead, stock images have been used. While every attempt has been made to ensure these images are inclusive and representative, we look forward to being able to replace them with images of our own communities when we are safely able to do so.

As it was the inaugural round, the fund also faced some challenges in disseminating the word about the fund to both potential sponsors and applicants. As the fund becomes more established and the craft & vendor show environment settles into a new norm, there is definite room for improvement and further success.

Other administrative hurdles have been identified and will be improved for the next round include instructions and documentation for the selection committee and templates for sent emails.

One final area for growth would be to recruit an additional member of the Selection Committee, specifically one who is Black as this is one target demographic for this grant that is not currently represented on the selection committee.



By the Numbers

Applicants & Grants

Number of Applicants: 5

Number of Grants: 5

Applicants/recipients self-identified as Black (2), a person of colour (3), Transgender (2), Queer (3).

There were **five grants** bestowed ranging from \$110 to \$250, **totaling \$965**.

Grant Recipients: Munea Wadud (Art by Munea), Alana Esty (AZEboutique), Resa Solomon-St. Lewis (Baccanalle), Fern Vale Volante (Pretty Weird Art), Noah Reinso (ReinPress)

Donations & Expenses: Grants

Excluding donations from the founding partners, there were five donations made, ranging from \$50 to \$500. Three additional contributions were made by the founding partners totaling \$2000.

Donations were allocated so that 50% would go towards the current round, 25% to the following, and 25% to the third. As such, there was a total of \$1375 available for grants this round. The surplus has been carried forward for availability in round two (applications to close March 31st, 2021).

Donations & Expenses: Administrative Costs

A separate fund of \$1000 was contributed and set aside by the founding partners to cover non-grant expenses for the fund. This includes selection committee honorariums, advertising, and other miscellaneous costs.

Selection committee honorariums are \$100 per member, per annum.

As such, all funds donated from outside sources is reserved exclusively for grants.