City of La Crosse Arts Board
January 7, 2025 Meeting Agenda

1. <u>Evaluations & Scoring Criteria</u>
- Review of Current Scoring Rubric:
    - Review three grant types, submission requirements, evaluation criteria, and process for evaluating/scoring applications in Slideroom.
    - Discuss expectations for board members when evaluating grant proposals (e.g. board members must adhere to submission requirements and provide <u>at least</u> 1-paragraph of written comments in addition to point scoring).
    - Clarify whether board members need to address each bullet point in the evaluation rubric.
    - Determine how to allocate the 25 points across sections of the rubric.

2. <u>Annual Grant Program Guidelines</u>
- Grant Submission Timing:
    - Consider aligning deadlines for the same types of grants to evaluate more evenly (e.g. setting all grant deadlines to January 1st & June 1st).
    - Assess whether this change would improve public outreach and increase submissions.
- Grant Totals:
    - Confirm the total number of grants available per category:
        - (5) Small Project Grants, up to $500
        - (4) Creative Development Grants, up to $2,500
        - (2) Community Impact Grants, up to $12,000

3. <u>Community Impact Grants</u>
- Grant Funding Approach:
    - Discuss the implications of funding individual artists directly vs the broader operating budgets of organizations hosting events.
- Defining "Impact":
    - Develop a shared understanding of "lasting impact" (e.g., physical legacy vs. emotional engagement of participants).
- Support for Individual Applicants:
    - Address potential disadvantages for individuals applying without access to professional grant writers.
- Partial Awards:
    - Discuss whether proposals can receive partial funding instead of the full requested amount.

4. <u>Assessment: Determining/Evaluating Artistic Goals and Community Need/Impact</u>
- Proposal Requirements:
    - Define expectations for the following criteria:
        - Artistic Goals & Educational Merit: How to assess this component in proposals.
        - Community Importance: How projects should demonstrate fulfillment of an identified community need.

5. <u>Final Report</u>
- The grant documents say awardees will receive an initial 50% payment of grant funding, and the remaining 50% after submission of the final report. However, in 2024, awardees received 100% of the funding upfront. Should this requirement be modified?

6. <u>Action Items</u>
- Assign responsibilities for any necessary revisions to grant guidelines, scoring rubrics, or processes.
- Identify next steps and deadlines for implementing changes.