

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: A Survey to Evaluate the Performance of the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs

Achieving Mission:

82% Eighty-two percent of respondents indicated that they somewhat agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed that the MCACA is accomplishing the mission of encouraging, initiating and facilitating an enriched artistic, cultural and creative environment in Michigan.

Achieving Goals:

- 91% Ninety-one percent of respondents indicated that they somewhat agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed that the MCACA is accomplishing the goal of strengthening arts and culture by increasing visibility and awareness of arts and culture.
- 90% Ninety percent of respondents indicated that they somewhat agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed that the MCACA is accomplishing the goal of **strengthening arts and culture by supporting arts education**.
- 85% Eighty-five percent of respondents indicated that they somewhat agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed that the MCACA is accomplishing the goal of supporting arts and culture as a catalyst for community revitalization and economic development.
- 84% Eighty-four percent of respondents indicated that they somewhat agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed that the MCACA is accomplishing the goal of **expanding and developing funding resources for the Council and its clients**.
- 83% Eighty-three percent of respondents indicated that they somewhat agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed that the MCACA is accomplishing the goal of strengthening arts and culture by recognizing, reflecting and celebrating cultural pluralism and broadening cultural understanding.
- 82% Eighty-two percent of respondents indicated that they somewhat agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed that the MCACA is accomplishing the goal of strengthening arts and culture by establishing and facilitating communication networks.
- Eighty-one percent of respondents indicated that they somewhat agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed that the MCACA is accomplishing the goal of **encouraging new**, **creative and innovative works of art**.

Satisfaction:

86% Eighty-six percent of respondents indicated that they have been somewhat satisfied, mostly satisfied, or completely satisfied with the interaction that their organization has had with MCACA during the past year.

Arts Program:

68% Sixty-eight percent of respondents indicated that their organization currently has an arts education program.

Priority of Arts:

99% Ninety-nine percent of respondents indicated that arts education should be a medium priority, high priority, or essential to the MCACA.

Grants Received by Respondent Organizations During the Past Three Years: (Multiple responses were allowed.)

- **50%** Program for Operational Support
- 34% Minigrant Project Support
- 24% Project Support
- 18% Minigrant Professional Support
- 15% Capital Improvement
- 11% Regional Regranting
- 10% New Leaders Art Council of Michigan Retention and Engagement Youth Grant Program
- 8% Arts Education Residency
- 5% Michigan Humanities Council Tourism Directory Program
- 3% School Bus Grants
- 2% Services to the Field
- 5% None of these

Importance of MCACA Grants:

- 98% Ninety-eight percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **Program for**Operational Support was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.
- 97% Ninety-seven percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **Project Support Program** was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.
- 94% Ninety-four percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **Arts Education**Residency Program was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.
- 100% One hundred percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **Capital Improvement Program** was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.
- Ninety-five percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **Minigrant Project**Support Program was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.
- 94% Ninety-four percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **Minigrant**Professional Development Program was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.

- 100% One hundred percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the Regional Regranting Program was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.
- 89% Eighty-nine percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **Services to the Field**Program was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.
- 100% One hundred percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **School Bus Grant**Program was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.
- 96% Ninety-six percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **Michigan Humanities**Council Tourism Directory Program was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.
- 98% Ninety-eight percent of respondents indicated that the state funding provided through the **New Leaders Art**Council of Michigan Retention and Engagement Youth Grant Program was moderately important, very important, or extremely important to the success of their organization.

Organization Types of Respondents:

30% Other

27% Performing arts organization

18% Arts education organization or school

14% Arts service organization

6% Visual arts/film/video organization3% Collecting or material organizationPublic broadcasting organization

Current and Anticipated Needs:

"Please briefly explain the current and anticipated future needs of your organization, and explain whether the MCACA grant programs are adequate to meets those needs. If not, what programs would be necessary to meet those needs?"

Overall, the current MCACA grant programs are adequate to meet the current and anticipated needs. The reoccurring theme throughout is the continued need of funding, specifically operational support. The organizations are grateful for the funds that are available and feel they are crucial to their existence within the community. There is also a need for increased funding as other funding sources diminish.

For further information and to read the open-ended questions in their entirety, please reference the Final Report.



Final Report: A Survey to Evaluate the Performance of the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs

Mission Statement: The Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) serves to encourage, initiate and facilitate an enriched artistic, cultural and creative environment in Michigan.

1. How strongly do you agree or disagree that the MCACA is accomplishing this mission?

(Respondents could only choose a **single** response)

Response	20%	6 40%	60%	80%	6100%	Frequency	Count
Strongly disagree						11.9%	62
Disagree						0.6%	3
Somewhat disagree						0.4%	2
Neither agree nor disagree						5.0%	26
Somewhat agree						6.5%	34
Agree						34.4%	179
Strongly agree						41.2%	214
					Mean		5.615
						rd Deviation	1.909
					Valid R	esponses	520
			Total R	esponses	520		

2. How strongly do you agree or disagree that the MCACA is achieving each of the following goals? (Respondents could only choose a **single** response for each topic)

(Respondents could only choose a single response for each topic)										
		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Total	Mean
Strengthening arts and culture by establishing and facilitating communication networks	Count	14	9	18	44	83	203	103	474	5.519
	% by Row	3.0%	1.9%	3.8%	9.3%	17.5%	42.8%	21.7%	100.0%	
Strengthening arts and culture by increasing visibility and awareness of arts and culture	Count	17	6	6	15	62	196	172	474	5.901
	% by Row	3.6%	1.3%	1.3%	3.2%	13.1%	41.4%	36.3%	100.0%	
Strengthening arts and culture by supporting arts education	Count	17	3	4	23	54	179	194	474	5.968
	% by Row	3.6%	0.6%	0.8%	4.9%	11.4%	37.8%	40.9%	100.0%	
Strengthening arts and culture by recognizing, reflecting and celebrating cultural pluralism and broadening cultural understanding	Count	18	3	9	53	71	193	127	474	5.622
	% by Row	3.8%	0.6%	1.9%	11.2%	15.0%	40.7%	26.8%	100.0%	
Expanding and developing funding resources for the Council and its clients	Count	19	5	15	37	50	167	181	474	5.783
	% by Row	4.0%	1.1%	3.2%	7.8%	10.5%	35.2%	38.2%	100.0%	
Supporting arts and culture as a catalyst for community revitalization and economic development	Count	17	6	12	36	57	162	184	474	5.810
	% by Row	3.6%	1.3%	2.5%	7.6%	12.0%	34.2%	38.8%	100.0%	
Encouraging new, creative and innovative works of art	Count	14	7	24	47	63	167	152	474	5.631
	% by Row	3.0%	1.5%	5.1%	9.9%	13.3%	35.2%	32.1%	100.0%	
Total	Count	116	39	88	255	440	1267	1113	3318	N/A
	% by Row	3.5%	1.2%	2.7%	7.7%	13.3%	38.2%	33.5%	100.0%	

3. How satisfied or dissatisfied have you been with the interaction that your organization has had with MCACA during the

past year? (Respondents could only choose a single response)

Response	2	0%	40%	60%	80%	100%	Frequency	Count
Completely dissatisfied							6.0%	28
Mostly dissatisfied							1.7%	8
Somewhat dissatisfied							2.8%	13
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied							3.7%	17
Somewhat satisfied							6.0%	28
Mostly satisfied							25.2%	117
Completely satisfied							54.6%	254
					1	Mean		5.959
						Standa	rd Deviation	1.670
					1	Valid R	esponses	465
						Total R	esponses	465

4. Please explain your satisfaction rating:

Response

We have rarely had an MCACA person (that I'm aware of) attend any of our openings or unveilings for grant funded projects.

Friendly, accessible staff!

it has been largely good. communication lines are strong, guidelines for grants are clear and we have been awarded a grant.

I have had outstanding service from the MCACA since I began the grant process in July 2013. Avon Players had never applied for a grant and I was new to the process. I truly appreciate that my questions (and there were MANY...Alison Loveday and Ellen Graham can attest to that fact!) were always responded to quickly and in detail. I've learned a lot about the grant process and feel confident about applying again this Oct.'14. Avon Players really appreciates the \$12k operational support grant from MCACA and the NEA.!

No complaints whatsoever. The folks at MCACA skate nothing but figure eights.

It would be nice to see more MCACA representation in the Upper Peninsula.

Whenever I have a question in email, I receive an immediate response.

Staff has been very responsive.

MCACA staff members are accessible and willing to answer questions

John and Alison are accessible and easy to talk with.

Some of the instructions regarding grant reporting is a bit confusing.

Still waiting on requested feedback on our grant application. Everything else has been very timely and clear.

The staff has been wonderful but we had some issues with the grant review panel.

They have been responsive and knowledgeable when I have needed them

Have had no problems - they have been very helpful in the grant application process.

Staff is helpful and responsive to questions; always willing to offer additional assistance.

We have received funding for projects, and feel that MCACA cares about us and our community.

Glitches with differing computer operating systems interfere with grants.

We have found them supportive, helpful and interested in our success.

We had a computer glitch with our tax information. I was being told it wasn't filed and we couldn't receive the funds until it was - but every time I logged in I was looking right at it. Eventually we worked it out, but it was frustrating that it was clearly filed when I went on the site, but it wasn't visible to you.

Recently a colleague of mine mentioned that a friend of hers was on a proposal review panel and had discussed a funding proposal with her outside of the formal review process. I did not realize that review panel members were free to

discuss the proposals outside of the panel proceedings without public notice and an open meeting.

Alison and Chad are amazingly generous with their time and so smart!

They have an open door policy and everyone is available to us when we have a question or concern. I was quite shy in the beginning of this process and thought it was Them and Us....but that is just not the case at all. I have attended meetings, received numerous emails and always they answer our questions and help us to move forward. This is a stellar organization and we are very fortunate to have everyone involved with this council. Thank you

Their customer service has been excellent. They always return calls in a timely fashion and provide help whenever possible.

When I phone or email I get a response within the day if not the next. They have given plenty of notice with dates and deadlines.

I find all of my questions answered quickly. The staff and officers are always helpful and really believe in supporting the arts.

I've had problems with the legislative letters requirements. Sometimes they don't seem to be received/recorded, but everyone is always very helpful and responsive.

They have always been available for feedback and questions regarding the granting process. They also have provided information to my organization (and others) for other sources of funding.

MCACA has helped enrich the lives of participants through programs at the zoo, who may not have been able to participate without MCACA's support.

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This past year was my first time writing MCACA grants and I am a new executive to the arts and culture industry. The staff of MCACA was extremely helpful to me and is a wonderful resource.

MCACA has been an important part of our programming.

Interactions with the council are friendly, predictable and professional.

Rural communities served much less than urban.

I feel MCACA works extremely well with not only Holland City proper, but with the outlying areas. We are pleased to support MCACA and have also been the recipients of grants that have supported our efforts in promoting the arts. We are grateful to MCACA for all you do for our great community!

The staff has been extremely helpful and responsive when needed. Then have been great partners in promoting the arts.

MCACA has approved funding for one of our arts projects. The communication has been minimal, but completely efficient. MCACA has the granting process down. This is really our only relationship with MCACA.

This high ranking comes especially because the MCACA has opened its grant review sessions to grant applicants. This provides a level of transparency and allows grant seekers to learn more about MCACA's priorities. Nice work!

People are open and friendly. Thorough in their explanations of policies and procedures.

I have always gotten a response or answer to any question that I have. The MCACA staff has always encouraged questions no matter how elementary or specialized they are.

At all times when I have needed assistance it has been accurate and given provided pleasantly. The staff has also been proactive in terms of alerting me to items that I may not have known about. They do a tremendous amount with a small staff.

All the staff have been extremely helpful and friendly with any inquiry - they go out of their way to help you with the process. Also very informative and supportive.

Final Report format is cumbersome

It would be really helpful to have access to comments about our grant application so we can address concerns in future years, but I have not been successful getting feedback after making a written request.

Accomidating and is a rewarding relationship

This is our first experience with MCACA directly. I have been very pleased with our interaction thus far.

A very clear and easy to understand grant system.

Haven't been involved with MCACA long enough to take full advantage of the relationship.

There do seem to be several opportunities each year to be in touch with the council - however it would be great if there were more seminar or conferences for interaction between the arts groups and the council.

communication has been clear and concise without losing encouragement and enthusiasm.

The staff is wonderful. My frustration comes from the inability to interact with the grant reviewers who make statements that indicate that not all information submitted has been reviewed thoroughly.

We were recently awarded a grant and I'm looking forward to implementing it in our community!

Our organization has had some help from MCACA, but one always wishes for more.

Response to all communication is immediate and answers all questions and comments.

Personal contact with staff has been great, they are always very helpful and respond quickly. The on-line forms and grant applications could be more user friendly. The grant and final report is time-consuming and perhaps could be refined.

The MCACA staff are incredible. Even with what must be a nearly overwhelming workload, each staff member takes all the time necessary to answer questions or help resolve issues. Their passion and commitment really shows.

Excellent experiences with every Representative I engaged or interacted with, and found exceptional support for artists and creators of culture.

It is always a pleasure interacting with the MCACA staff and with my fellow volunteers in the minigrant process. I am particularly impressed with Alison Loveday's prompt attention to questions and concerns.

The new program intstituted for regranters was a challenge yet rewarding as we worked through the glitches with the assistance of Alison. Those serviced were very appreciative once we worked through those mishaps.

The technical assistance and resources have been helpful.

Communication was frequent, quick, positive, and clear.

Staff is proactive in getting information out to the field and they respond quickly to questions and concerns.

When dealing with an issue it took my contacting another state agency to get it resolved.

I did not understand the grant evaluation process after listening in to the forum. We were denied funding.

Staff at MCACA seem to me always responsive and helpful. When we have received project support, the documentation arrives quickly and procedures are clear and straightforward. When we have not received support, there is always someone at MCACA ready to discuss the project and what we might do better or why it's not a good fit. I'm very pleased with the support of MCACA and feel the staff fulfills the stated mission.

Have had limited interaction but it has all been positive. Very helpful staff.

The MCACA professional staff is dedicated, talented, and very well trained. Every interaction I have had with the staff has been outstanding.

The OU Art Gallery has received prompt feedback to any questions that we have encountered in regard to the MCACA 2014 grant cycle. Each interaction has been met with genuine interest and toward resolving any confusion.

Interaction has been positive and funding in itiatives have increased to my organization

I was entirely displeased with the peer review process this year - one outlier was able to tank our grant funding.

I have no information but our school needs your help. Our district is canceling all art classes kindergarten through 8 th grade!!!! I have expired my ability to influence, educate and change this because I don't want my job in trouble. Can you help?

Staff are responsive and knowledgeable and they care deeply about their interactions with those of us in the field.

Always helpful when we have a problem

A great organization to work with. Helpful, good communicators.

MCACA has been helpful, responsible and generous

Council staff have been responsive and helpful.

We attended the grant review process, and left quite disillusioned. It seemed that the reviewers were all either artists, dancers, or actors and in one of two sessions we attended, not one of the reviewers was familiar with our facility. We felt this put us at a disadvantage and affected our awards. In fact, they seemed more impressed that two other like organizations, neither of which was asking for anything that added artistic or cultural merit to their facilities, had used professional grant writers to write their grants. Even though they gave both of these orgs critical remarks, we were shocked to find out they were both awarded an identical large sum, while we were awarded 0 dollars in the Capital Funding division.

Incredibly helpful, patient, and flexible with all aspects of grant applications and reports. Really a pleasure to work with...a great advocate for artists and organizations.

I am still waiting for MCACA staff to send us some important grant feedback from a December 13 grant review session.

MCACA staff are very attentive to my questions no matter how trivial. They are glad to see me wherever we might be and they take time to talk with me and find out how our work is progressing.

Our proposals are consistenty denied due to insufficient funding... but the large arts organizations that have paid staff to solicit funds from major donors always receive funding. It's the same in our economic landscape... the rich get richer,

the poor are left scraps.

Very accessible staff

Staff is extremely helpful and accommodating to local needs.

We have worked/communicated with Alison numerous time throughout the year, and it has been only a positive experience.

I have seen tremendous growth in the support of the art over the last five years.

Our organization did not receive the grant it applied for.

They are efficient, diligent and ethical.

on a scale of 1 - 10, I would rate it 9.

MCACA staff really worked hard to find a source of funding for my organization. I also like that my organization serves as the conduit for some of MACACA's annual grant funding in south-central Lower Michigan.

Very good communication. Someone has always been available!

I had/have questions along the way as a first time grant recipient and the responses are very quick and helpful.

We just had a delay being able to get the grant money, but otherwise can't complain, we are very grateful!

The new Artist in Education Residency needs a few changes, but that is to be expected, since this was the first year of it.

The Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum received a generous grant of \$35,000 in 2012, which was the catalyst for us to apply for a loan to build a new museum. In 2013 we applied for an operational grant and were denied. The explanation did not make any sense to us. The explanation did not seem to fit with what we thought the grant was for.

I have found that the staff at MCACA is always responsive, answering emails and phone calls. Also very informative, and willing to take the time to make sure I understand things.

We are updated regarding Council activities and programs on a regular basis. Any need for direct(phone or email communication) has been promptly addressed by staff at MCACA in a helpful and cordial manner.

Receipt of payment was slow.

Our experience with MCACA has been very positive.

Staff are approachable, helpful, & passionate.

Our questions have been answered in a timely fashion and your guidance as we worked on the grant application was helpful/timely.

The staff has been mostly uncommunicative & very slow responding to requests for feedback on our grant submission.

Good communication, always respond promptly to questions.

Alison has been extremely helpful and cooperative. I do wish I would hear from MCACA more often with information about how to positively impact the arts in our communities, how/when to gather etc.

It was difficult to get the comments made on my grant application.

MCACA representatives were very receptive in guiding the process and explaining criteria for grant apps. MCACA staff seemed genuinely interested in our organization and were committed to assisting us.

CASOE has been able to maintain communication with MCACA and receive clear and concise answers to grant questions.

Communication could occur more often.

I think the council does an excellent job in their communication and follow-up.

The communications I have received from MCACA have been clear, thoughtful, and timely.

We had problems with our final report and the staff really helped to get that sorted out. We also appreciate getting your emails introducing staff, changes to reporting and updates on what MCACA is funding.

staff members are helpful, upbeat and positive. Very easy to work with.

The staff is so helpful and always respond in a timely manner. They are professional and do a great job.

I have emailed MCACA reps with questions and asked for assistance and every time they have been helpful and timely.

Good communication with MCACA. Good customer service.

MCACA has provided funds for special education students to experience arts and culture along with their gen ed peers in a school setting. We are completely satisfied with our relationship with them.

Our internal communication between program director and supervisor re:MCACA needs to be strengthened.

They have been incredibly helpful. Even when they were letting me know that we were not selected for one of the grants we applied for, they explained the reasoning and were quite nice about it.

Our EastEnd Studio and Gallery organization needs to have better understanding of MCACA and we are striving to educate ourselves.

They are wonderful people to work with!

I have been involved with MCACA as a grant reviewer and a grant award recipient. It is always easy to work with MCACA staff and they are very focused on service their constituents.

Am too busy to have much interest

Very responsive to questions and they share input on panelists responses to grant applications and one-on-one help with applications. Staff is very welcoming.

Communication has been clear and timely, and the web-based applications are easy to use. I liked being able to watch the grant review process online, and appreciated the feeback.

MCACA is ALWAYS open and available when ever our organization needs advice, guidance, or clarification. If there is any lack of interaction it would be more as a result of our not taking advantage of interaction opportunities than MCACA.

We have worked closely with MCACA and have been able to expand the granting programs to many organizations in the counties in our district. We appreciate the level of support.

They are doing amazing things with such a small staff.

While we received materials in a timely fashion, the directions for completing forms and directions was somewhat confusing.

MCACA is supportive of the projects that are taking place in our community and are helpful in providing resources to the organizations who are facilitating these initiatives.

The staff is informed, helpful, supportive and great at returning calls/emails.

I had many questions about how MI funds in relation to other states for when I spoke to our legislators -- and John Bracey was immediately on it. whenever we have questions on grant proposal / website interface, every staff member is ready and so helpful to answer our questions.

The staff is friendly and quick to respond to any questions.

We have had nothing but good experiences with MCACA.

We had two different answers regarding a grant questions that we believe hurt our score and funding level.

No complaints. Very helpful.

MCACA team members are always available for conversation and consultation. All too often, similar organizations are not customer focused. MCACA is completely customer focused and supportive.

Staff always responds quickly and helpfully when asked. They do so much with so little - litle funding, tiny staff, massive service area. I am old enough to remember a time when there was significantly more staff and funding which helped serve those thorughout the state better. I think they do a great job and do so with a personal touch and cheerfulness not always seen these days. My only complaint is the MEDC phone system - if I need to get in touch urgently and not go into voice mail, the system sends me to a central phone person who rarely even recognizes that MCACA exists, much less helpful in connecting me with anyone else in the department. Once connected with MCACA staff, all goes well.

We are thankful for the grant and are just starting our partnership with WMCAT and are excited to give our students this opportunity in the arts.

I am new. I had a problem last year. John was awesome hewalked me through the solution and was very supportive.

MCACA staff has been accessible and courteous.

We were hoping for a larger grant. But the staff have been efficient, helpful, and the process is fair, so no real complaints.

The staff is fantastic. Organized, efficient and helpful!

Whenever I have had question's representatives have been helpful and gotten back to me in a timely and professional manner.

Mcaca staff have been very helpful and supportive to me and our organization!!

Prompt, courteous communication.

Communication is always prompt, helpful and professional. Funding disbursement could happen a little faster, but we understand the process and volume of funds to be processed can takes time.

We have had personal help retrieving passwords and grant files. Communication was immediate and very helpful.

MCACA provided an opportunity to expand the Arts Education program at Davis Aerospace which has not traditionally had an arts program. Our school was able to provide arts beginning with the 2012-2013 school year and with opportunities such as this has continued to grow and expose students to arts education.

They are knowledgeable, supportive and always willing to help!

Alison is always available to answer questions.

Every member of the MCACA staff has been outstanding. They have been patient and extremely helpful in assisting with reports, budgets, and one-to-one meetings.

My own interaction has been quite limited, so I don't have a lot of experience to rate.

My problem isn't so much with MCACA but your adjudicators who I feel from watching may not be doing their jobs.

Support of my musical organizations has been essential.

Everyone at MCACA have been great to work with!

MCACA staff have been ultimately helpful and supportive in all aspects of their grantmaking - from application and reporting processes to support for regranting agencies.

The MCACA is doing a great job. We would like to meet with MCACA leaders more often if schedules permit.

The staff is excellent - helpful, engaged, encouraging and expert in what they do. We wish they had more help and could get out to visit.

The grant application procedures were clear and easy to follow. Email communication prompted the fluidity of the process for fulfilling requirements and completing reports. Answers were provided where needed.

I have loved working with the MCACA.

Great experience

I am more than mostly satisfied. 99% of my interactions are spot on and they are a great resource and always willing to help. My only ineffective interaction was when I received two different models for a final budget. What they expected seemed very apparent/clear to them. The differences and level of detail in the two budget added to my confusion. We were in between accountants. I believe an accountant would have understand the directions immediately.

MCACA staff have been very responsive and also flexible.

MCACA staff is very responsive and supportive.

After a six year hiatus our organization applied for and was awarded a major capital improvement grant.

MCACA has always been very responsive when I have had a question. I have always been very happy with the agency's services.

The staff has been wonderful! I do know that by having only 4 full-time employees, their jobs are intense and their time is stretched thin. I would love to see the State of Michigan invest in another FTE for the MCACA so they can help all of our arts organizations even more! This is a huge job to coordinate all of the grants and reports, and having an actual advocate that was focused strictly on publicity and arts communication between all of our organizations would be a huge improvement and help bridge those gaps.

Any questions we have had and assistance we have needed has always been addressed quickly and effectively AND in a professional, pleasant and friendly manner.

Whenever I had a question or concern MCACA was quick to respond and assist me in my questions and concerns.

Received superior support with grant report questions

The MCACA staff is GREAT and work very hard with the load they have.

Attended grant workshop and received accurate and helpful information, have communicated with MCACA staff, via email and phone and have always received return phone calls and emails with, answering any questions I may have had.

MCACA staff are very helpful when writing grants, looking for ideas for programming, etc.

Could not ask for more

Our interactions have included grant peer review, grant application and reporting, and advocacy efforts. In each of these areas, MCACA staff have been capable and helpful.

MCACA information, processes, staff and resources are always readily available and thoroughly helpful in addressing my needs and the needs of my organization.

We were delighted to have received an award this year - our organization has received this award in the past as well and we are always honored to be chosen by the Council for support. However, the process seemed less organized this year. Our award letter had an erroneous final report date and no final report guidelines, despite contacting staff to ask for guidelines, we have not received them. That's the only area in which we have been dissatisfied, but the application process was excellent, we received good support from staff with application questions and the award notification was rather prompt and the initial payment, very prompt. We have had positive experiences in the past as well, with questions and assistance with the final report.

Quick response to emails. Traveling meetings are good. Review meetings over the phone are difficult to hear and understand.

Communication was excellent. Emails as well as phone calls were responded to within a day, and the advice and knowledge of the staff was invaluable.

We're very happy with how helpful and professional the interactions have been with MCACA personnel. They are always clear in their communication when we have questions or concerns.

Someone at MCACA is always available to and cheerful about answering questions or helping work through challenges.

Every questions we have had has been answered in a timely and friendly fashion.

Better each year

They are incredibly underfunded and understaffed

Sometimes having a little difficulty of what person to contact concerning a specific issue. But the staff is small, so we don't have any problems working things out.

MCACA Staff are very responsive to questions, inquiries and providing technical assistance. They are knowledgeable, flexible and helpful!

Completing the grant applications presents significant challenges.

I haven't had much interaction with them.

I have made numerous calls to the MCACA in the past year and they staff have been phenomenal. I have truly appreciated all of the help.

We asked for grant money to help fund our summer concert series and we were awarded it.

I have not had a lot of direct contact with the organization.

I am satisfied with the interaction my organization has sought over the past 6 months (since my arrival), but I would like to increase our involvement with MCACA so the relationship isn't just about an annual grant.

The MCACA MINI GRANTS enable remote, small populations to become aware of local and/or area artists and their works. They are often the only opportunity to bring higher quality artists for shows and/or performances.

Responses have been prompt and helpful

As I received a new grant the lack of specific instructions not related to organizations but to individuals made this very difficult for both the Grant people in workshops and those wanting to apply for the new Grant. The Grant for Professional Development needs specific instructions as we researched on the computer and found nothing like this Grant being offered anywhere in this country.

When we have asked for help we have gotten it promptly and efficiently. Web site has bee fairly easy to use. Lots of information available and workshops etc.

There has been no direct interaction with MCACA. Our interface has been throug the Detroit Department of Recreation.

There has been very little communication between mcaca and the Art Center.

Have not had a whole lot of interaction since we are a small group, but appreciate the mission of MCACA

Our contact via the Anton Arts Center has been wonderful to work with--knowledgeable, helpful, and good communicator.

MCACA was very supportive during our interaction with them and always available to answer questions.

As a receiver of a MCACA grant, we thoroughly appreciate the support.

Since MCACA has accepted funding requests only electronically, the choir that I am business Manager of, has been rejected by the Det. Arts & Grants twice. We had received funding for over 2 decades. Frustrating.

local council very proactive with communication and training meaca grant form submission fairly easy to do medp support is great and very patient

Our organization specifically made and supported the point that its programs are serving a large variety of community members in the greater Grand Rapids area (incl. age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, educational backgrounds), focusing on pluralism and global issues that are communicated through the arts. Yet, we believe that this was not taken sufficiently into account by the council.

While it hasn't been perfect it is a positive relationship

The grant programs are a great boon to organizations with very small budgets, and we're quite pleased to take be able to participate this year. The application process was fairly straightforward, and there's been a high level of communication, so we've been more than satisfied with our experience.

Any time I a question, I always have received great support.

Granting is generous and varied. Grant application process has been simplified in recent years. E-grant is great -

wonderful to not have to make and send 9 copies of proposals anymore! Thank you.

I received a professional development grant from MCACA in the past year so I am EXTREMELY satisfied.

I applied for a grant, and I never heard from MCACA. It was strange.

The only experience I had with MCACA over the last year was applying for a grant that we did not receive.

The Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs has supported our ACT programs with the mini-grant for the past two years.

Appreciated the grant writing presentation put on locally to go over the most recent changes. Our local grant committee is great, just wish they had more money to give out to all the deserving groups/projects.

All my expectations have been met by MCACA.

Local and State VSA personnel have been extremely encouraging and supportive in the application process for grants that support the arts in our school and community.

MCACA has been great to work with and always answers our questions!

The application process is very cumbersome and time consuming.

The Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs and the Saginaw Arts & Enrichment Council have done a great job of supporting and promoting the arts in our area - as well as our schools. They have been very helpful with grant applications, and promoting our programs.

I realize times are tough and the arts are the first area to take a hit financially.

I come to this from two sides - have worked with a regional regranter as a board member and panelist and have been an individual grant recipient. From both points of view MCACA has been good to work with and has acccomplished its mission. I do think the website for reviewing proposals is cumbersome and somewhat buggy - it doesn't work on chrome and doesn't work well on firefox.

It would be nice if MCACA could provide more information about the great work that partners are doing throughout the state on a more regular basis.

We have had limited interactions, but they have all been positive and informative.

Always available to answer our inquiries.

We have received a grant and have no problems or issues with completing reports, etc.

I never received notification that I was awarded the grant that I requested. When I asked my contact person, I was told I had received some of the grant and that I would be receiving an acceptance letter. I still have not received anything in writing from MCACA. I had to schedule the performance so I am hoping I will still be receiving the grant money.

They have been very helpful and supportive.

MCACA has supported our arts programing.

I now this is a grant and can not be anticipated but it is frustrating to have obtained past moneys consistently and now receiving less. Contracts are signed in September the year prior and with limited if any budget makes this difficult in a small community. It threatens future planning for fear of no funding.

Great communication and timely responses to requests.

All questions we had were answered clearly and quickly

Very supportive and helpful

They are responsive and helpful when contacted with questions. We have greatly appreciated the opportunities MCACA has provided us with their support of the programs and projects we have undertaken.

Always helpful and explains situations well.

We have been very impressed with the level of communication from the MCACA. The people at MCACA have been very helpful with any questions we've had.

Takes too long to get an answer on the grant and getting the money.

Help by phone or email has always been available, usually within the same day - sometimes within the same hour of initial contact for assistance.

Lorain Smalligan has been very accessable any time I had a question regarding MCACA and the grant process. She has also emailed us several times throughout the year to check on how we were doing and to see when our fine arts celebration was going to be held.

As a small museum I appreciate the focus of MCACA and the grant programs that contribute to our programs and events. Ellen Benoit from EUP Planning is an amazing person to work with. She is so helpful, every step of the way.

All interactions have been professional and responses have been timely. They are clearly on top of things and never lose sight of their mission by being caught up in an ineffective bureaucracy.

The MCACA's support of our organization has been overwhelming. Without their support are program would not be a success. It is so important to support our children as they are our future. I would also like to say that the Arts Council has always answered all my questions and are always willing to help out.

Everyone I have had contact with has been extremely helpful and friendly!

Communication is somewhat clear but could be more timely in tracking down and resolving issues

Grant applications are being funded thereby bringing art to our community.

Wonderful to work with...

MCACA has provided two modest grants to assist our organization in productions engaging MI artists.

We have had good success in receiving funding for our programs

Communication is detailed and thorough and support is made available. While I understand there are many projects to review, I'd like to see someone connected with MCACA visit and see, first-hand, our project.

we haven't had much direct communication however, they keep us well informed through email contact, etc.

The criticisms we received for our grant application were not applicable to the questions asked on the grant. The judges looked at our FB page and web site and made a determination from those, which we had NO IDEA they would do. We applied for money to pay local musicians for a musical and they criticized our dinner theater for having "limited menu" "Plastic chairs" "few FB likes" and not proving we were meeting our mission. We felt betrayed because we were not asked how we were meeting our mission, which we ARE 100% and we did not feel our plastic chairs or food menu had anything to do with producing a musical and needing money to pay musicians. It has been a continual battle to get respect as a TRUE arts organization simply because we serve dinner. We know of another local community theater that did get the grant and for a musical that is limited in its appeal and very dated. Our musical is in May and is almost sold out at 200 seats a night. It appears social media is important and we are mostly senior citizens and feel we need to really work on getting more FB "Likes" now since that was a criticism. We made one simple adding mistake on the grant which, unfortunately, showed making a profit and the next day we tried to fix it and were told no. This was a black and white criticism that we received, apparently we cannot seek grant money if we might make a profit, which is confusing to us. Our person writing the grant teaches a grant writing class at MSU for non-profits so it was a hard slam to take.

Have interacted with the City of Detroit Recreation Department.

We are pleased to be working with the council, their communication processes have been wonderful and we've experienced no difficulty thus far

The application process was very easy to follow and the grant monies were awarded and disbursed in a timely fashion.

We were pleased that our library was selected to receive an MCACA grant.

The Greater Flint Arts Council reaches out to the community in many ways. The monthly Art Walks. The festivals and community functions keep them connected

Valid Responses	254
Total Responses	465

5. Does your organization currently have an arts education program? (Respondents could only choose a **single** response)

Response	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%	Frequency	Count
Yes						67.5%	308
No						28.7%	131
Unsure / don't know						3.7%	17
					Mean		1.362
					Standa	rd Deviation	0.553
					Valid R	esponses	456
					Total R	esponses	456

6. How high or low of a priority do you think arts education should be to the MCACA? (Respondents could only choose a **single** response)

Response	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%	Frequency	Count
Not a priority						0.0%	0
Low priority						1.5%	7
Medium priority						16.0%	73
High priority						42.8%	195
Essential						39.7%	181
					Mean		4.206
					Standa	rd Deviation	0.760
					Valid R	esponses	456
					Total R	esponses	456

7. Which of these MCACA grant programs has your organization been a recipient of during the past three years? (Select all that apply.) (Respondents were allowed to choose **multiple** responses)

Response	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%	Frequency	Count
Program for Operational Support						50.1%	226
Project Support						24.2%	109
Arts Education Residency						7.8%	35
Capital Improvement						14.6%	66
Minigrant Project Support						33.9%	153
Minigrant Professional Development						18.0%	81
Regional Regranting						11.1%	50
Services to the Field						2.0%	9
School Bus Grants						3.3%	15
Michigan Humanities Council Tourism Directory Program						5.3%	24
New Leaders Art Council of Michigan Retention and Engagement Youth Grant Program						9.5%	43
None of these						4.7%	21
					Valid R	Responses	451
					Total F	Responses	453

8. How important is the state funding provided through each of these MCACA grant programs to the success of your organization? (Respondents could only choose a **single** response for each topic)

		Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important	Total	Mean
Program for Operational Support	Count	1	3	8	23	189	224	4.768
	% by Row	0.4%	1.3%	3.6%	10.3%	84.4%	100.0%	
Project Support	Count	0	3	7	25	73	108	4.556
	% by Row	0.0%	2.8%	6.5%	23.1%	67.6%	100.0%	
Arts Education Residency	Count	0	2	6	12	15	35	4.143
	% by Row	0.0%	5.7%	17.1%	34.3%	42.9%	100.0%	
Capital Improvement	Count	0	0	8	12	45	65	4.569
	% by Row	0.0%	0.0%	12.3%	18.5%	69.2%	100.0%	
Minigrant Project Support	Count	0	7	16	37	92	152	4.408
	% by Row	0.0%	4.6%	10.5%	24.3%	60.5%	100.0%	
Minigrant Professional Development	Count	0	5	11	30	34	80	4.163
-	% by Row	0.0%	6.3%	13.8%	37.5%	42.5%	100.0%	
Regional Regranting	Count	0	0	3	13	34	50	4.620
	% by Row	0.0%	0.0%	6.0%	26.0%	68.0%	100.0%	
Services to the Field	Count	0	1	0	2	6	9	4.444
	% by Row	0.0%	11.1%	0.0%	22.2%	66.7%	100.0%	
School Bus Grants	Count	0	0	2	3	10	15	4.533
	% by Row	0.0%	0.0%	13.3%	20.0%	66.7%	100.0%	
Michigan Humanities Council Tourism Directory Program	Count	0	1	2	7	13	23	4.391
	% by Row	0.0%	4.3%	8.7%	30.4%	56.5%	100.0%	
New Leaders Art Council of Michigan Retention and Engagement Youth Grant Program	Count	0	1	5	11	24	41	4.415
J	% by Row	0.0%	2.4%	12.2%	26.8%	58.5%	100.0%	
Total	Count	1	23	68	175	535	802	N/A
	% by Row	0.1%	2.9%	8.5%	21.8%	66.7%	100.0%	

9. Which of the following MCACA resources are you currently using to stay informed? (Select all that apply.) (Respondents were allowed to choose **multiple** responses)

Response	20% 40% 60% 80%100% Frequency Count
The Field Report monthly newsletter	37.3% 167
MCACA Facebook	21.7% 97
Phone calls to MCACA staff	46.7% 209
MCACA website	78.3% 351
Summer workshops around the state	13.8% 62
Other, Please Specify:	13.2% 59
	Valid Responses 448
	Total Responses 449

9. Which of the following MCACA resources are you currently using to stay informed? (Select all that apply.) Response emails from MCACA staff email from MCACA email notifications Local grant coordinator email with staff Regional MCACA email with staff Regional team MCACA emails **New Center Newsletter** Meeting with MCACA staff Emails from staff Email **Grant Training events** none e-mails emails to MCACA staff emails emails from MCACA Lora Frankel interaction w/director **Emails from MCACA** emails **Regrantors Meetings** direct emails emails from MCACA staff emails from John and Allison and other staff emails with staff email correspondence from MCACA Had not been aware of how using these resources could help us. word of mouth **Emails** emails emails of happenings MCACA Council Meetings, MFEA membership, MI Humanities, Our legislative representatives Not sure I have any contact other than our organization appling for a mini grant The Art Center Mt. Cl. None of the above. We have very little info about MCACA local rep email to MCACA staff Email to MCACA staff I have to seek out the MCACA None e-mail updates

the arts council in my town		
Regular email notification		
news, e-mails,		
Cheboygan Opera House		
email		
none		
emails to staff members		
Local Arts Council		
Newspaper		
email to local administration		
email updates		
	Valid Responses	55
	Total Responses	449

10. Please briefly explain the current and anticipated future needs of your organization, and explain whether the MCACA grant programs are adequate to meet those needs. If not, what programs would be necessary to meet those needs?

Response

Yes, they are adequate for our needs.

Our organization will continue to need program and operational support, as well as capital improvement support as we continue to develop our new facility. The grant programs offered by MCACA are currently well suited to our needs.

Our organization would benefit from a Capital Improvement grant. More clear guidelines relating to expectations of building ownership, research of other organizations taking the same steps, etc. would be appreciated.

Our organization has an artist residency program, which supports artists in the creation of new work. Artists are not required to participate in community outreach. For this, there is not a grant program that is a good fit for us.

Grants received from MCACA help us balance our budget. I think it's cool to be able to list MCACA as a supporter of our arts offerings! Receiving a MCACA grant gives validity to the programs that we offer.

Our organization needs general operating support for an arts education program; and support for special projects and opportunities, including professional development and community engagement. We applaud MCACA for expanding their funding to different programs that support arts education and young people. We would like to see MCACA continue in their role as a convener and resource center.

we continue to need operational support and we receive, on occasion, grants from MCACA for operations. the need for resources is always there, but we believe that it is NOT solely MCACA's role to fund our programs. rather, MCACA funding is part of our portfolio of support. we really like getting these grants from MCACA, we enjoy the connections the MCACA can provide us with other non-profits in the region and the state and recieving support from MCACA gives us a "feather" that we can use to influence other supporters.

Avon Players has relied on ticket sales, charity poker, and misc. donations to fund their seasons. With the changes in gaming rules, Avon did not participate in charity poker in 2013 and 2014. The 12K\$ Operational Support Grant that we rec'd really helped to replace some of the funds lost from gaming. We are considering applying for a capital projects grant for FY15. We believe that the currently offered grant program are sufficient.

I believe our organization benefits greatly from the support provided by MCACA, and that the survey done prior to the creation of the Capital Improvement grant program and the Professional and Organizational Development minigrant program provided valuable insight into those particular needs. I appreciate these highly effective programs, which address those continuing needs.

The "fit" is pleasingly snug.

Really would love to see copies of grants awarded to learn at grant writing workshops, to see an actual example or two would be helpful for first time grants. We were not aware of any summer programs throughout the state, including the UP. We need info on classes and what might be required for legal wording for releases in classes, what other forms people use to avoid liability. With so many children being autistic these days or with "special needs" how to we accommodate those children in small community art programs effectively.

Our organization is at a turning point as far as organizational capacity is concerned. Continued funding for organizational capacity building and operations support is important, and will help us as we transition into a new organizational structure, while allowing us to utilize other program-specific funding to increase programming capacity.

As our organization expands MCACA operational support is essential.

I think the POPS grant is extremely important for my organization. Our entire operation is cultural and that includes the day to day operations. But most arts funders don't recognize the importance of being able to just keep the doors open. With this economy, sometimes just being open to the public is a struggle, let alone programming.

We are a community theatre. Our needs are for operational support, assistance with equipment/facilities and assistance with board development. I belive that the MCACA grant program addresses these needs. However, with the recent economic downturn, access to operational support is critical to maintain operation without having to downgrade offerings.

n/a

We are a very young arts organization and we are slowly developing programs, particularly for the youth of our community. We hope that we will need support in the not-too-distant future for help in acquiring and/or renovating a facility for the arts in our community.

Continued funding for operational support and technology upgrades and additions are needs for our organization. I believe MCACA is positioned to assist with those needs.

Currently we utilize the granting program offered by MCACA for a specific annual project and anticipate seeking funding for this project at the same or increased level. In addition, it would be wonderful if we could reach additional resources for specific public art projects in the future. These projects would not only provide art to people of all ages, income levels, races, etc., they would also contribute towards our efforts to enhance our placemaking efforts. As a result, we anticipate our needs increasing and are unclear if there the necessary resources and grants are available.

GOS

Collaborative projects among several arts organizations. It would be good to be able to apply for a collaborative project among groups which typically receive operational support I see there isn't a place to submit general feedback. Is there a separate survey about the granting process (applications, final reports, panels, etc.)? That would be appreciated. General comment: it seems strange to me that the MCACA is housed under MEDC. General comment: it has been wonderful to see an increase in funding - it has made a notable difference in our community. Thank you for the great work that you are doing!

There will AlWAYS be a need for operational support!! We would want the \$#20,000 and could use more. The opportunity for leadership training and other educational participation is wonderful. We have not taken advantage of this and hope to in the future. The mini-grants have proven to be of value to us in that they provide essential funds for special programs that we want to promote...but do not always have funds available. Furthermore, the involvement of the arts and cultural council adds a positive note to our publicity...in house and public.

The Ludington Area Center for the Arts is in a stage of remarkable growth. The community would like to see the arts center provide more access for the arts in this area and have identified that access to the arts is critical in this area of the state. In order to provide this access the LACA needs critical operational funding for staffing, Capital improvement funding to help make the facility accessible and energy efficient. The MCACA grant programs have been very beneficial in these areas this year. In addition the LACA would like to see growth there for more access to funds and resources for education programming.

Current and anticipated needs are operations, projects, professional development and capital improvements. Our organization also benefits from the art residency and school transportation grants because the schools we work with receive these grants to work with us. MCACA adequately meets our current and anticipated needs.

Our organization will continue to introduce and educate Detroit youth about the significance of creativity, the arts, and the arts' influence on culture through a variety of mediums, including photography, digital arts, and public exhibits. The MCACA grant programs meet the needs of our organization.

We currently need every dollar that we receive from the MCACA. We will always need more. Always. More funding for the arts is necessary. More funding for Arts Education is essential to the future minds of this state.

Of course we would welcome increased funding availability for programs and outreach. We are not large enough to have ongoing education programs.

We are on track with continued need from MCACA for core support such as operational support and auxiliary support through mini grants, bus transportation grants, etc. for our developing community engagement programs. It would be great if there was a grant one could apply for to employ a professional grant writer.

Current and future needs reflect operational support .

Long term we hope to continue to make our downtown area more economically viable with a performing and visual arts center. Funding support.

Funding of local, community-based organizations, is always a challenge. Having a state-wide agency offer advice, provide models that work and answer questions will strengthen the arts and culture of our state.

Programming support and MCACA will help meet those needs.

The operational support for the performing arts and the Children's Summer Program provide funds that otherwise would

cause us to raise the performance fees and children's art class tuition. I believe that this would cause attendance for both of these arts to drop dramatically in our community.

I don't believe I'm informed enough to fully answer this question, as we are new to the grant process this year. It's probably fair to say that we have not completely evaluated our long range needs, since funding has been scarce and our attention has been focused on trouble shooting and short term projects. I can say that the grants we received this year allowed us to offer expanded arts-expression opportunities to hundreds of students and to bring an arts experience to hundreds of citizens, many of them from demographics that are usually unable to gain access to quality arts programs. Our future needs may include capital support. Our facility is in need of upgrades and we could offer more services to our students and to the community with improved facilities and equipment.

Capital and operational grants

We appreciate the granting support from the MCACA. We are always using capital grants for projects, as we have a very old building, and the MCACA grants are an essential part of keeping our place up to date. Operational funding also helps us incredibly, because ticket sales only cover about 45-50% of our budget. These are some of the few grants we qualify for, so they mean a lot to us.

Promotion for arts in general in current culture and continued funding with loss of locally owned corporations.

There is such a limited amount of funding for general operating support that every GOS grant we receive is critical, and we do not expect that to change. There are many general overhead expenses to make an organization function, and so many funders are averse to supporting those basic needs, or even to allowing the inclusion of staff/overhead costs into restricted project support budgets. With capital support, finding funding for big, splashy new capital projects is not always easy, buit always possible; however, finding support for unsexy capital maintenance/repair/replacement needs is extremely difficult. It is pretty much the capital version of general operating support and we are extremely grateful for those funders who understand and support these important basic needs because they simply do not draw broad public or private support.

Very disappointed with the MCACA grants this year. Our organization has received a grants in the past 25+ years. First year we did not receive which represents 20% of organizational budget. Timing of grant program is also a concern. Early fall is difficult as many arts programs are kicking off their seasons.

We, like all arts organizations, struggle to keep our art vital and alive, and in the public's eye. We have worked hard to improve fundraising efforts, we have created a lean budget and stick to it quite well. The MCACA grant enables us to meet our financial needs and stay viable in our community. A program that would fund one year of a new staff position would be very helpful.

We have many, but I am trying to finish this survey quickly without much time for a well-thought out answer. I will save this for a future grant request.

We are in the process of re-opening an arts center and hope to qualify for capital improvement grants in addition to POPS and POD funds

Operational support is so helpful. We can use those funds to support areas of the organization that might not be of interest for other funders when they provide restricted gifts. The increased levels have helped tremendously. We would like to apply for more grants, however, we run out of time to be able to make additional applications while at the same time starting our season.

We've greatly appreciated how MCACA has offered general operating support grants to Michigan organizations the past several years. If funding levels for MCACA programs continue to increase over the coming years as they have recently, I hope the Council will consider increasing the size and/or number of those grants. There are very few other opportunities to receive unrestricted operating grants in the arts field, so this MCACA program has been wonderful to have.

One of the future needs for our organization is both operational funds and capital improvements.

There is a need for capital improvements.

MCACA funding is an important part of our operating budget. It's great to be able to receive funding for operating support, because most of our other grants are program-specific.

Operational Support

We are currently focused on growth and sustainability. MCACA grant programs are helping us greatly with our operations and capacity.

The grant programs are adequate to meet our current needs. However, as expenses for systems and other infrastructure needs arise, we anticipate that current funding is not adequate. The Operational Support grant has been a valuable program for us because instrastructure expenses, such as databases, technology systems, etc. can be included. Though not related to the presentation or creation of works of art, these expenses are crucial in the efficiency and efficacy of arts organizations.

Funding received from the Michigan Council will be used for direct costs associated with the production of the concerts

planned for the summer and into the fall and holiday. Specifically, costs include compensation for Michigan professional performing artists (talent fees), including any possible featured international jazz artist, and members of the Michigan Jazz Trail Big Band who will be opening the concert. This funding will also help cover local production and technical costs, including costs associated with the venue and marketing, as well as a jazz clinic for high school students.

The operation support has made a huge difference to our organization and I hope this program continues. It would be wonderful to see the available money increase.

Majority of the cultural organizations in our area are underfunded at this time. This year MCACA funded several organizations, however several others were not funded. Our region needs more opportunities for funding until the economics of our area improve. Our organization is new to the MCACA grant program.

The operational support from MCACA supports the growth in our organization, without it we be able to maintain but develop new programs, educational kits or exhibits. The MCACA support allows us to hire more local educators and artist for our programs and allows us a larger marketing budget to spread the word on our services.

The Felt Estate is a cultural center for West Michigan. We hope to expand our ability to serve the community by providing more art experiences for underserved families in our county (Allegan). We will need operation funding to provide those programs. We also hope to improve the carriage house as a center for arts and culture, and we will need capital improvement money to do so.

I wish the grant programs wouldn't change so dramatically every year. We were disappointed that we could not apply for general operating support and capital grants this year. They would have been extremely helpful.

2013-14 was the first year my organization, The Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony did not receive a grant from MCACA. We were shocked and are struggling to make ends meet because of this. We have never been more involved in numerous community educational initiatives but all of these have had to be cut back dramatically since we lost your support. We've been on the phone with key MCACA personnel to understand what went wrong and are still trying to understand what happened. This unfortunate action cost us over 10% of our operating budget. This year we have a new Music Director and Executive Director but unfortunately, I have not been able to pay them for the last three months. It is very embarrassing and frustrating for our 39th year of operation.

We have program, education, professional development and capital needs currently and going forward. I believe that MCACA's grant programs are helpful and provide a huge and valuable resource for the areas we need financial support with. Without appearing to be overly greedy, it is always helpful to increase the dollar amounts given to my organization and others.

General operating and capital support

The program which we received funding for through MCACA is a formal education program incorporating curriculum standards across divisions. We plan on expanding this program in the near future, and continued support from MCACA will be essential to this programs future. The program, Living Learning Lab, is free to participants, so without financial support we cannot offer this opportunity. Many participants would not be able to afford to pay for this opportunity, so acquiring grant monies allows us to continue to offer this. The grant program so far has been adequate, but as we grow (and costs increase) we may need to seek additional funding.

Χ

We are in the process of rebuilding our organization. MCACA support is important to us as we build our sustainable funding model. MCACA funding serves as one resource in a multi-dimensional approach to building that sustainable model.

We are a small museum and operational funding support is critical. We urge expansion of this program and judging awards on need not size and power of institution..

Funding for education, capital improvements and operational support are needed in our organizations and we look to MCACA for support.

Our organization will soon be celebrating its 80th season of choral performance. Without MCACA funding, we would need to restructure our concert season. Our needs are basic operations needs...staffing, marketing, concert production. Current grant programs are adequate only if there are no significant budget cuts to MCACA.

Our organization continues to rely on operational support from MCACA. We could especially use additional staffing positions and matching funds to buttress programming dollars.

Trying to establishment new programs in undeserved areas of West Michigan. Seed money to research new programs is difficult and only covered in MCACA mini-grants.

As a community theatre, we always need support for productions we run during the season. The capital projects are also very important to us as we maintain a public facility and update our equipment and venue. We often provide young people with an entry into the theatre arts. It is important that we maintain current technical equipment so they learn the skills and techniques needed in theatre arts. The programs offered by MCACA help us do this.

I am not the person most directly involved to answer this question. However, I can say the importance of arts as they

relate to the history of our community and the impact they offer to our quality of life are undeniable. We have received a grant from MCACA toward a fashion show at the Felt Mansion and also to help renovate the Carriage House stage at the Felt Mansion. We have scheduled 5 outdoor concerts to be held there this summer.

Much of arts funding now must be tied to education, particularly at the community/grass roots level, and schools are desperate for arts programs. More opportunities for the arts and education communities to meet and develop relationships so that we can work more closely together would be critical.

Our organization funds major arts festivals and public art, which contribute to creative placemaking in our district. Most of our funding comes from philanthropic support; however, it is great to be able to count on state support too. Whether my assessment is fair or not, I see MCACA primarily being a funding entity for the arts. To me, MCACA doesn't seem to be a big player in the areas of arts policy, placemaking, or supports creative industries. For MCACA to get up to speed with national trends, it would be great for them to have a program that further supports creative placemaking efforts around the state. Funding from MCACA could potentially serve as a match for NEA Our Town, ArtPlace, Knight, and Kresge funding, to name just a few other orgs that support creative placemaking.

New leaders/youth support and operational support are especially important and will help us supplement funding from other grant and funding sources.

We cannot grow any more without a significant increase in revenue. we believe ticket prices and membership fee costs are as high as the market will stand and therefore cannot be increased. in addition we have controlled costs as much as we can. We are therefore attempting to raise more money through grants, donations, sponsorships and fundraisers. We have not been successful with recent grant applications through MCACA for the New Leaders Initiative and we will be applying for a. Capital Improvement later this year. In the next twelve months we need to raise money for general operating support, new programs and Capital Improvements.

We are an art center with a budget the ranges between \$200,000 and \$300,000 per year. We are solvent with a very small fund balance (\$42,000) and a small line of credit balance (\$13,000). The operating funds are essential to our survival. The capital funds allow us to do to a modicum of maintenance on our historic building. Serving as a re-granter allows us to relate to other agencies in the community and our administrative payment for that service is again essential to our survival. Although we are solvent, the price of solvency has been at the expense of our employees who make modest wages and have not had a raise since 2004: full-time director (\$38,000), full-time office manager (\$30,000), parttime exhibition and education manager (\$27,000) and part-time grant coordinator (\$10 per hour). Benefit expenses to the organization are next to nothing - the director does not need medical insurance for herself, the office manager receives 1/2 of her insurance paid by the Art Center and the Exhibition and Education Manager works too few hours to be covered (until October she is covered by her father's insurance, after that she is on her own). The organization does not have short-term or long-term disability insurance nor does it provide a retirement program. We have 12 sick days per year. Staff have two weeks of vacation. Neither sick time nor vacation time roll into the next year, meaning that if someone an operation or has a baby, most of the time off will be unpaid. Increasing the operating grant and the capital grant would be most helpful because it is the most flexible for us and most foundations/grant-making organizations are not interested in funding operations or capital expenditures. Beginning a grant for a fund-development position would do wonders for the organization. I think that we could raise more money from the private sector if we had someone dedicated to that role.

We really need funds to support technical improvements, such as website updates or development databases. Currently none of the grants will fund these types of necessary tools for improving our communication and tracking of data.

Organizational support, we have been able to leverage other funding streams in our community because of receiving organizational support. We plan on asking for professional development support this year. Our organization, Board, is going through a generational change over and is beginning a Board orientation and sustainability plan development in the next couple of years-we'll be going through heavy lifting in strategic planning and community cultural planning. It would be great to be able to apply for two of the larger grant and be able to receive two awards. Sometimes you need to be able to update computers and administer a great program or event.

We are a very small, somewhat event-focused arts education organization and MCACA funding is critical to our main student event. Our other events/workshops etc need to pay for themselves with tuition or fees. We hope that funding remains available to support our student activities but would also some day like to look at funding to support operation growth as we have somewhat stuck at same level for many years, have a new group of board members, have attracted a bit more corporate interest and donations and are ready to look ahead toward a more stable, productive future.

Operational support is always needed. Very few grants are available for operations yet that is probably the biggest need. Capital funding is new and is so impactful for us. Our project would not have begun for several years without support. Dealing with an aging infrastructure is problematic, while the organization continues to expand its reach with programs, building expenses cannot be ignored forever!!

Need additional funds for operations, renovation, programs, and capital improvements. We have received good support

on the capital side but need additional support. Have not received and renovation funding which is need to maintain a suitable facility with a minimum of deferred maintenance. Have received a modest level of operating statement which could be increased.

Operational support is essential. Many grants will help fund programs. Not many will help pay to keep the lights on. The construction grants are also essential, even fewer sources of funding for that need.

Anticipate our organization will require more reliance on the MCACA than past experience. Increases in Operational Support will likely be necessary.

Continued support of our visual arts program is an ongoing need. MCACA grants are supporting this presently and adequately.

Continued support for art and cultural programs.

The greatest need currently is for funding to support the day to day operations - staffing and keeping the lights on.

The future needs are in operational and programming support. MCACA plays an essential part in an array of funders and advocates who help our organization do its work. Without MCACA there would be a burden on our organization to find a similar regional advocate and funder, which may or may not even exist.

The current and future anticipated needs of our organization is to receive assistance in funding the programming at our organization. At this time, MCACA is currently meeting the needs of our organization and also what is anticipated in the future.

The Michigan Philharmonic has experienced a lot of growth - performing well beyond our local community and funding from the Council is vital for State support of our regional programming. More funding for the arts is essential to maintain and enhance vibrant communities. Michigan is on it's way back but without increased State support of the arts we will not be able to keep and/or attract young people to our state.

We are in the process of migrating from a 75% earned philosophy to a 1/3 earned; 1/3 contributed; 1/3 endowed funding model (a 20 year plan), the hope is the Council will be able to maintain current funding level with modest increases through the years an/or allow additional mission-driven special project or capital requests.

Our \$600,000 plus operating budget will continue to see a benefit from operating funds grants. This budget will likely continue to grow so it is nice to have operating funds available instead of having to devise new programs. We are also in year two of a three year renovation campaign for our building. We plan to apply for capital funding for the third year of the project. One of our future goals is to add a paid Technical Director position to our organization. A three year decreasing percentage salary grant program would be a great help for creating jobs that employ Michigan artists.

na

We typically need about \$30,000 a year to support our creative arts program for youth.

Operations funding is always needed. We will be looking for capital expansion and capacity building funds as well. It seems that MCACA does have programs in place that could help with these.

Funding can always be higher but considering the economic depression Michigan has pulled through and has been able to increase because of the leadership of the MCACA. Infrastructure issues are still looming and most organizations still need continued operational support.

Capital and operational grants are most important. Capital projects will not happen without these funds. Operational replaces lost funds due to inflation etc.

Full funding for organizations with longevity should be honored now and in the future. More funding should be provided for small organization with a history of work that spans decades.

The current programs meet the needs of our region.

Fundraising for both operations and capital becomes increasingly important as our institution receives less and less financial support from its governmental owners. MCACA funds to continue to grow our marketing is essential. The newly provided capital grants are a godsend. Many years ago state improvement grants were instrumental in getting matching funds from private donors. At that time those grants were larger and had a great impact. Even at the levels the capital grants are now is so welcome and do help to get projects off the ground and encourage private support.

Our most critical needs are diversifying revenue streams and increasing income. Funding from MCACA validates our work, and helps us leverage support from additional sources.

Capital improvements, mini-grants, regional projects and support for education programming.

We found the minigrant funding to be essential to our programming for teens in Saline. It especially helped those families who cannot afford to put their students in expensive local art classes.

Our organization, The Plymouth District Library, will be moving forward with additional art programming and projects. These plans include creating gallery for local youth and adults to exhibit, working with our K-12 art teachers, creating a digital media lab, becoming a active partner with our local art fair, etc. Many of the MCACA programs and grants will help support these efforts. I do have one concern in regards to the grant process. I view MCACA as supporting all types of cultural institutions including non traditional art organizations like libraries and historical organizations. I am concerned

that during the grant review process representatives from more traditional art organizations may not share the same view point. I would appreciate if MCACA would encourage grant reviewers to consider these non traditional art organizations as equal to the art organizations.

Bridging the gap between maximizing our arts program and operational support.

Given the high demand to fill the arts education gap in the public school system, our program is constantly seeking funding opportunities to expand and enhance its arts education programs. The MCACA grant programs are adequate to meet the needs.

The operational grant has been huge for our organization and far more beneficial to our overall efforts to fulfill our mission. It allows more flexibility to us than the program grant by allowing us to split the funds across several programs and the general operations as need through the year. Additionally the Capital grants have been essential to our efforts to restore our historic theatre. MCACA grant provided credibility to each of our projects and as such leveraged additional funding.

Χ

A repeat of what was granted to us this year would be helpful. Supporting a visiting artist was a wonderful experience for the students.

The needs will remain the same for operational support of our programming. We will also be applying for a project grant in 2015 for The Block, a new intimate performance space that has its own 501c3.

We need continuing support for operation and for our educational efforts.

Operation cost keep increasing and our funding is not growing. The type of theatre we provide to the community is difficult to sell and get underwriting and corporate sponsorships, though we are trying hard. We rely on the donations of our patrons and we use to be give an In-Kind donation from a large organization which is being discontinued due to budgeting concerns. This means, we are in need of locating an even larger amount of donations and / or grant funding. The funding currently available are adequate but the funding behind these programs goes only so far.

I am not currently in an organization, and do not have that connection to be able to facilitate programs I have created/will create. Having more available for individual teaching artists, or ways to connect and collaborate with arts organizations, would be helpful, especially once I graduate with my MFA in Applied Drama/Theatre for the Young. I would love the opportunity to establish sustainable programs in the city of Detroit. It is just taking a lot to learn about organizations in that area who might be willing to manage/monitor the program, and allow me to fall under the umbrella of that organization in order to acquire appropriate funding.

General operating support will always be needed.

I am pleased that MCACA has gone to operational support which is crucial and I would like to see that expanded in terms of award amounts.

We are very grateful for the grant support from MCACA. Without it, we would not be able to present some of our programming. MCACA allows us to bring quality arts programs to our community, and our community is a better place because of MCACA.

Craft House creates exhibition and learning opportunities for young creative professionals in Grand Rapids, the resources we received from MCACA will support new group initiatives. This is the first time we've received or applied for funding through MCACA, for this reason, evaluating the effectiveness of and/or additional needs of the grant are difficult.

Program funding for community free concerts. Support for bringing under-served K-12 students and 17-30 year olds on campus for interactive arts events.

We would like to expand the arts for social change shows that we are currently doing into more schools in our county. I think more localized dollars would help with that.

We are grateful for the operational support grant program. It is hard to find support for operations in general. 80% of our budget comes from the community through fundraisers, class income donations and membership.

Professional development opportunities. Capacity building support, especially in the area of marketing(institutional and programmatic) and creative fundraising.

We have two significant projects coming up during the next twelve months that will require our asking MCACA for support: a capital project to help us better serve our community of people with disabilities; an four programs focusing on young people who can better learn to express themselves through the arts.

Our annual exhibition budget is greatly enhanced by annual MCACA grant funding. Both presently and in the future, we depend on this support to present noteworthy group exhibitions and ethnographic shows that draw attention to our area for its innovative visual arts offerings. Our local and surrounding communities benefit from the attraction of visitors as a result. Our exhibition season is enhanced by the availability of the MCACA funding support. During times of economic duress, we minimize expenses to match our annual budget coupled with additional funding. Currently (FY2014), the MCACA granting program, with increased funding potential to pre-2008 levels, has enabled our organization to move forward in the realization of hosting exhibitions that meet previously held expectations. The future of visual arts in

Michigan looks bright as a result of the continued attention to increased MCACA arts funding and, in direct relation, we anticipate to continue to grow our visual arts programming.

Most important continues to be general operations funding.

Despite the research on the imporantance of educating in, with and through the Arts; and the points of pride schools have in their artistic accomplishments; most school administrators first cuts will be (or alreeady have been) in the Arts and Arts Education. Continued support from MCACA is essential for our students' success.

Help educate our district that art is essential!

Expansion of staff to support existing programs and the addition of new programs to address the community needs. Capital improvement money that will assist us in putting all our programs under one roof which wii aid in cost containment, support for programs and better serve the community.

More resources would allow us to expand our services and our reach. The current programs that are in place serve our needs.

Technical Assistance for both board and staff

We are grateful for Operational Support. We are able to apply funds where most needed.

The MCACA grant programs are a very good fit with our event, which is a free two day fine arts festival. MCACA has become a real catalyst for us to engage more local donors to our cause and help us continue a slow, planned growth.

On-going operational funding is our most important need. Also, MCACA efforts to promote the cultural attractions in Michigan to our neighboring states would be very helpful.

Non-profit groups are always in need of grants to keep operations and capital needs moving forward. Grants for Arts organizations working to create and make arts education more visible and obtainable are key their the success.

We are in need of unrestricted dollars, like the POPs grant to support our art education for people with disabilities. We have been able to obtain MCACA funding, but the funding was decreased this year. We are hopeful that we will be able to increase our funding next fiscal year.

Continued support in the form of grants, advice, and communication among arts/cultural organizations.

As a nonprofit organization that receives no tax dollars, we are dependent on donations, grants, memberships and gate sales, in-park sales, and fundraisers. MCACA grant programs are beneficial to our organization, and very much appreciated. We make a practice of not becoming dependent on any one grant program in case that it suddenly goes away; but we are forced to replace a missing grant program with another type of funding. Currently we are mid-way through a Capital Campaign that, once complete, will help us to become more self-sustaining by adding a major exhibit that will increase gate sales by at least 20% and extend our season. But we will still require grants and donations to continue to excel at spreading our mission of conservation and cultural education. If you are asking if we would suffer from reduced or absent MCACA grants, the answer is yes. Would it kill our organization, the answer is probably not.

As a newer organization just getting it's 501C3 status, I think it would be great to have a grant program specifically for new organizations/programs, some seed money for the grantees.

Operational support is absolutely critical to our survival as many funders require new programs that require new and additional resources which cost additional money, time, and staff. we love imagining and developing new programs but they are labor, capital, and time intensive. Given the well deserved increases to the MCACA budget the last few years, we'd welcome--who wouldn't--continuing increases in the grant award for the POPS program.

not sure what our future needs will be

Funding resources, networking opportunities with other arts/arts education professionals, promoting Michigan artists and arts/arts education resources

My organization anticipates the future need to be with operational support, capital support, educational in nature.

We plan on a capital campaign in the near future and the MCACA capital grant will be a great way to start the funding and leverage new gifts. We will be taking advantage of the New Leader grant in 2015 as well as continued requests for Operational support.

We are a small arts organization that require operational and program support. Yes, MCACA funds would help greatly. Operating support is critical and it is the most difficult to fundraise for. Without it arts orgs can't operate, please continue the support.

More operational funding would be advantageous for our current and future needs. Am happy that the Council reinstated the Arts REsidency programming.

We are no longer eligible for operational support due to changes in requirements - project support is now our primary option. MCACA has always been a vital part of programming support for us and was at one time about 4 times what we realize now. It would be great to have it back at that level again.

As a partner in providing information and support for the arts and culture to local communities we would need the regranting program to continue

Art in the Loft is always increasing our outreach to the community to provide a fine arts experience for all of Northeast

Michigan. MCACA is a large reason we are able to do so. Not only through our art education programs, such as "Ready, Set, Create!", but also our other arts programming and seasonal art exhibits. We currently are undergoing a large-scale construction project towards a new Culinary Arts Center, which will increase our programming to include all things in the culinary world. We know that MCACA will be crucial for Art in the Loft to continue to provide the community with high quality arts experiences.

Infrastructure, operating and programs

GACA continues to have financial needs to help with upkeep of the Art Center, establishing new programs and workshops, bringing in musical programs and encouraging more artists and community people to become involved.

As most symphony orchestras are experiencing lack of funds due a reduction in donations, our organization is in need of operational funds to continue its programs. A MCACA grant would likely be adequate for a successful season.

Operational and special programs funding. As of now, MCACA grant programs are adequate at meeting those needs.

Our biggest needs would be in the area of arts enrichment for youth.

I think MCACA needs more staff. They are doing a great job for how small the staff is.

We invariably need \$40K+ for programming. MCACA and other granters help us meet this goal. More money would be helpful if it were economically possible.

My organization is trying to build its capacity in order to fulfill its mission. The one-time grant we received will help us accomplish that goal. Opportunities for future grants in the future will help to make our next leap forward a real possibility.

The grant programs that MCACA offers support our current offerings.

The MCACA grant programs have been a strong support to our core mission.

The Artist in Residency has been an incredible experience and success for our children here at Boyne Falls Public School. I hope to incorporate this exceptional resource into our program again in the future. Thank you.

Operation budget considerations, project budgets are top priority for our organization. We want to make sure we can continue to provide a creative environment for the surrounding community. MCACA has provided funding for an entire outreach art program for at risk youths. So, for specific programming, MCACA allows for this to happen and is therefor essential.

Because of the grant we were able to offer an art program for our students this year. With our district facing huge financial issues, I question whether we will be able to offer a similar program next year.

Raven Hill Discovery Center is working to revitalize existing facilities and exhibits. That is an area that is not really addressed, except perhaps through capital improvement or operations?

1. Help with finishing our parking lot 2. Full time and part time employees 3. Restoration of artifacts 4. Museum display construction 5. Advertising The Operational grant and Capital Improvement.

Continued operational support will be necessary to keep our theatre open and to maintain high quality of performances.

We continue to need help with operational support, as contributions from individuals and ticket revenues just cannot meet the modest expenses we incur. The grants we have received have been vital in sustaining our organization. Any amount received from MCACA is indispensable, and we always take on the challenge of finding other funding to augment this.

Our most pressing need at the moment is addressing the noticeable drop in subscription commitment this season. Obviously, the operations support received from MCACA and NEA is crucial to our organization's well-being. Financially we are in a stable position, but are very concerned about this modest, but measurable decline in ticket sales. We would be interested in web seminars related to audience development and most pointedly, attracting younger audiences. Workshops requiring whole days away from the office(travel etc.) don't work well for administrators who are already putting in 50- 65 hours a week to stay afloat. Can't take the time. When we look around us and see what is happening to other orchestras in small communities, it appears there is a crisis looming.

Need more operational support so that we can use funds as needed to accomplish whatever program, educational, marketing, etc. needs the support at that time rather than appling for grants for specific programs which we may or may not get and if not we need to reajst our funding for all programs to fill the need etc.

Funding continues to be a challenge, so any advocacy efforts or increases in grant funding would be most helpful. We plan on continuing to apply for Arts in Residency grants to acquaint students with genres of professional dance. Our organization is working toward the revitalization of the City of Saginaw through the events we host highlighting cultural awareness and the arts! MCACA's assistance through grant support is vital to helping defray the costs of our activities.

MCACA funding is important to supporting our arts and arts education programming. We are grateful for the NLACM grants which have enabled us to partner with and serve youth with our programming. Needs for capital improvements and sustaining infrastructure that is not always the most glamorous project, but is essential to continuing to serve the public.

We are in the midst of master planning for 2017. This project will include reinstallation of our collection and revisioning our surrounding property. Creative Placemaking is a relevant area for the MCACA to consider. It's rather different than capital improvement and a standard 'project'. Another option is to provide support for planning (master planning, strategic planning, etc).

Support through the POPS program is very important to our institution, not only because of the actual financial piece, but because it links us with the arts and culture organizations throughout the state. Diversity of funding is critical to us, and the revenue stream that MCACA represents to us makes a difference.

program support

We offer a Fine Arts Day for select students in the 11 County Public School Districts. We intend to continue this one day activity to provide students with a chance to expand their exposure to high quality artists and experiences led by these resource people. The mini - grants allow us to offer a new area each year for student learning.

As always operational support is helpful; however, support for launching & growing our educational programs and community development projects would have even more impact. The lack of timely feedback from MCACA staff makes it very difficult to prepare future grant requests.

Ongoing operational support is essential for the KSO.

MCACA funding has been crucial to the success of our summer teen programs, providing small stipends for interns and professionals to teach teens.

Funding remains a huge challenge. We are seeing private sector donors declining their support. I would hope MCACA has more funds to award in grants during future years to help counter this development.

Currently, MCACA grant programs are sufficient.

We have major capital project issues to tackle, and funding assistance for that will be critical to our success. I don't think available funds from MCACA are nearly adequate in this area - not just for my theatre but for all of us. Of course operational support is always extremely helpful. Its been great to have the increased opportunity in this area.

Since the 1990s, our organization has, through various uncontrollable circumstances, "lost" major corporate donations and large individual donors in the amount of approximately \$170,000. In addition, the MCACA funding has also decreased. As with other performing arts organizations, ticket revenues do not support expenses, contributing only about 20%. The organization has cut overhead and expenses as far as possible without compromising product quality or terminating educational components. "Friends" are the major support of the organization. The MCACA grant programs are critical to our organization and very much appreciated. However, the recent changes in granting criteria limit the type and amounts for which we may apply. Therefore, these limitations pose a distinct challenge and hardship for this organization.

Our organization is currently waiting on a determination letter in response to our recent grant application for the NLACM funding. The funding would be a significant aid in the implementation of the project which we submitted an application. Our organization has expanded its scope of services to provide more Arts and cultural enrichment programming. The MCACA grant programs are adequate in helping with particular expenses but does not meet the total needs of our organization.

Uncertain

We anticipate needing funding in the area of renovation and capital improvements. According to the current areas of support I believe the MCACA programs can meet those needs.

Funding is needed to support new programming risks and arts education.

Although our organization has a very large budget and our MCACA grants are small when taken as a percentage of our total funds, they remain a vital and necessary part of our funding strategy. Receiving support for operations provides invaluable budget relief to our organization, allowing a greater part of our own revenues to be used toward scholarships/financial aid and to fund necessary maintenance. The MCACA Capital grants are a wonderful tool for us to fund deferred maintenance and necessary projects that are less marketable to donors (restrooms, roofs,etc). The matching aspect of the Capital program also provides us with a powerful tool to market those less "sexy" projects to our donors.

Our MCACA project funding is very important to the success of our project for this year, however we will need future support for the project to be ongoing. Assistance in developing sustainability for the artistic project would be helpful in meeting our needs.

due to the limits on what we can request for operational support based on our operating budget, it is really not feasible to include special projects requests as part of our operational support. The ability to apply for special projects funding separate from operational support would allow us to be much more innovative with our programming. As a multi purpose cultural organization, a better definition of what "culture" represents would be helpful. This organization tends to view culture as a holistic term including history, science and natural history, popular culture as well as the arts, all woven into a

fabric, rather than culture as a segmented area of study specifically relating to just art. We incorporate the arts into all of our exhibits, programs, etc. as a result of that perspective.

I'm not sure

Financial help is a need of our organization. MCACA has helped tremendously in this regard.

The Operational Support is essential and represents 5.5% of our budget. Of course we wish more funding were available but the allocations in recent years have been extremely helpful in our "funding pie." Our organization continues to grow and serve more people - we've experienced slow and steady growth and will continue to need to have a diverse funding base - MCACA is an important part of the mix. Our local foundations continue to change their focus based on current "hot topic" national trends and more often than not - the arts for arts sake and arts education do not often fit. With MCACA we don't have to try to fit a square peg in a round hole to get funding for the arts - funding is based on quality and program excellence as it should be.

q

Future needs would be to continue the Residency in Education Artist as well as capital outlay support (new drapes), N/A

It has been exciting to have increased MCACA funding again (thank you Gov. Snyder!). That means we can maintain and build robust programming in our rural, economically challenged area. In addition to POPS funding (THANK YOU for Operating support -- SO crucial to building strong ongoing programming to serve communities) we anticipate additionally applying for capital support in the coming 24 months.

We currently are looking for funds in order to perform needed repairs and maintenance on our building. We are also seeking funds for traveling exhibits.

The GIRESD has just begun to explore arts and culture opportunities for our severely impaired students, so we would like to be able to participate in another grant opportunity in the future with an artist in residence, but we realize that other school districts also need this wonderful opportunity!

MCACA grants cover the anticipated future needs of the organization

We are hoping to bring back the youth education element to our festival. The grant we received in 2013 made our Youth Showcase event possible. The hope is to grow the event to involve more area schools and students and have more college students involved in the process and execution of the event. In the future this could become a mini festival in itself. The New Leaders grant would continue to make that dream possible.

Our school systems have fewer and fewer resource for art education and EastEnd is filling this gap with students from all over Calhoun County including Marshall, MarLee, Albion, Battle Creek, etc. We recently contracted with Meredith Lane to be our Art Education Coordinator in order to make major improvements in our art programs for our citizens of all ages. MCACA has strongly supported our art programs as well as many other non-profit groups; however, our new offerings will require more resources and MCACA can help us greatly in this funding.

We are currently a regranter for three rural counties, and losing the administrative support to our budget would hurt and my fear is you will not get that many applications from our region AGAIN with this new regional prosperity from the governor's office.

Operation support from MCACA enabled our organization to become financially secure after several years of crisis. Our operation support funding from last year made it possible for staff to focus on stabilizing the organization. Funding this year has allowed us to build our capacity and future funding will allow us to provide additional services to our members. We see MCACA funds as an investment in our organization that allows up to use the resources provided to become a stronger organization. Without the MCACA operation support we have received, we would still be an organization struggle to become stable. Instead, we are a strong organization that is growing to serve even more people.

If our data shows student academic growth, we would like to continue this program in the future.

We are a community foundation and manage capital and endowed funds in support of the arts in our community. We have been the recipient of a capital improvement project for the benefit of a local organization and plan to partner with that organization and others to apply for MCACA funding in the future. Thanks for your support!

We have purposely not applied for any MCACA grants for the last few years as we were never paid the balance of a past grant. We did apply this year and received a small operating grant. With local funding cuts and more hands reaching out-grants are becoming more difficult to receive--operating grants in particular. Funders prefer to fund programs--can't do the programs with no lights, heating or staff. We are in desprite need of that kind of support or education of the public on the importance of art and its part of making a healthy individual and a heathly community.

Our long-term vision is to produce a multi-show season: an eclectic mix of new works, re- imagined classics, and bold adaptations produced over the course of the year. During our off-season, we plan to build a residency program in the Traverse City area where, without the pressure of a production, artists can master their craft, hone their skills, train with new techniques and evolve their creative process in the beautiful pressure-free setting of northern Michigan. These artist residencies intend to reinforce the masterful level of professionalism in our productions, build our upcoming seasons,

develop new works and encourage exciting new artists to join us who might not have the time to commit to a production right away. The future of Parallel 45 will be an ensemble of artists who, having fallen in love with the beauty of northern Michigan, return year after year to enjoy an artistic community away from the cities from which they hail. Although new artists are introduced over time, there will be a core company of actors, designers, writers, dramaturgs and composers who, over the course of many years, will form an evolving theatrical process that is strong enough to create a sense of safety, but fluid enough to make room for magic. This process—challenging, stimulating and founded on trust--produces bold, innovative, and beautiful works of theatre, both in performance and on the page. The board of Parallel 45 is committed to our vision of the future, wherein we produce a year- round season and residency, and we recognize that it is impossible to create an artistic product of the high caliber mentioned above without exacting care to nurture and safeguard the component parts of such a product: the artists. While we provide housing, food, general liability insurance, mileage reimbursement, and worker's compensation, we feel it is our duty to take solid steps towards providing a healthy, living wage for the high-level of creative work our artists bring to the table. In order to achieve this vision, Parallel 45 is dedicated towards the creation of a full-time administrative staff that would make the sustainability and long term success of the organization a priority. Our long term goals of hiring a small staff of dedicated administrative professionals will ensure that the mission of the organization is achieved on a lasting basis. In this way does our organizational direction align perfectly with MCACA programs for raising operating funds.

We look to MCACA every time we design a new program. We need to expand our space for arts experiences and we will apply for funding to help us with that. We applied in 3 categories this past season, but unfortunately our narrative section was not attached properly so the panel did not understand the programs. It was an absolute heartbreak for me---i am the one who wrote the grants. We do care about MCACA and are always honored to be funded; it is prestigious. Presently we have a NEA grant and it has given us leverage for additional support. Creative 360 is a 20 year non-profit that has important and effective arts programs for all ages and abilities, but we also suffer from a lack of operational funding. We are anticipating a future capital campaign so we are excited to see that the MCACA has reintroduced this funding area with their grant program. We can use these grant funds to leverage other funding requests. We would like to see the MCACA offer Minigrants to those organizations that receive other grant funding (ie. POPS). In the past this has allowed us the to opportunity to provide artist-residencies at the school district and other outreach programs that are in additional to our yearly offerings.

The Operational Support grant program is critical to our organization. While it would be a plus to secure project grants, there are limited opportunities to secure operational support which provides the means to move our organization forward. Hopefully the day will come where arts organizations will be allowed to secure support through both operational and project funding.

I have forwarded this to our Director for responding as our future plans are currently being formed for our next fiscal year starting July

Kent District Library is committed to providing the people in Kent County with free access to a broad range of arts and humanities programming, both interactive and educational. Funding for the kind of quality programming we seek to provide requires KDL to search for private funding sources and the grant funding from MCACA is vital to our success. Increased funding is needed for the Michigan Traditional Arts Program, especially to sustain the MI Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program, MI Heritage Awards Program, the Great Lakes Folk Festival, and the other ongoing activities of documenting, presenting, and increasing awareness of our state's incredibly diverse and rich traditional cultural assets. The MCACA grant helps our organization in ways that others have not. It helps us great deal.

ina

Operational support is an ongoing need for our organization. Ticket sales alone do not cover our budget, so we rely on individual and corporate sponsorships and grant income to supplement our income. Mini grants allow us to fund extra outreach to lower income and at-risk youth in our area.

To propel the mission of our Detroit based nonprofit arts organization we are looking to deepen our reach through educational programming and community engagement while also expanding partnerships with other anchor organizations within our immediate community. The grant programs through MCACA have provided resources to make our current and future initiatives possible.

Our future/present needs include funding for: Capital improvements and purchases; Arts Education pilot project expenses; and Artistic Fees for festival artists (festival is growing each year) and marketing expenses.

Operations (including the non-sexy line items like admin, insurance, IT); endowment / capacity building.

As a community theatre with an historic building, we have various needs from operational to capital improvement that we would not be able to accomplish or complete with MCACA grant funding.

A big concern is the lack of operational support available from foundations and corporations. The POPS program is important to us and central to the role of MCACA. Our capital needs are great. The capital improvement program has been great.

We consistently have needs in operational support, as most non-profits do. Our capital improvement projects, while important, generally take a bit of a backseat to programming support needs. The MCACA grant programs are currently adequate to meet our needs.

We will continue to seek grant support for projects. I would like to see more efforts in facilitating collaboration between arts organizations and corporate entities.

General operation is the most helpful. It allows us to react to opportunities that don't have resources behind them. More state funding for minority arts programs due to the institutional racism and regionalism practiced by most major foundations and corporations.

Our largest area of need is in operating support. It is increasingly difficult to receive operating support dollars in Michigan. Second area of support is in capital projects - both essential maintenance and in launching innovative new programming - ones with risk. I believe MCACA supports these activities well as does the State of Michigan though allocations of funding for these programs. Thank you for working so hard to support the variety of organizations in Michigan

1) Ability to participate in cultural economic development endeavors as a partner - not as an afterthought. To do so requires MCACA regrantors/arts groups to be on the radar more as an economic driver -- additional advocacy, awareness among other groups is needed...and maybe an incentive to keep arts and culture at the table. 2) Ability to extend reach to a geographically challenged region along with services that build capacity, business sense and collective impact. This is especially important for a region that is filled with many small, underfunded organizations that strive to serve their stakeholders well. Additional funding for services/technical assistance would be helpful as well as ability to access technology for greater outreach and connectivity.

Growing needs for innovated arts education programs in urban schools. I think MCACA has a nice grant program that values arts education, but as always a larger investment from the State of Michigan would be valued.

Programs are adequate.

We would like to maintain and expand our current partnership with WMCAT to give our students an integrated experience with the arts and humanities.

More robust funding for our innovative and value added initiatives -- particularly at the regional level. Cultural leaders in each region throughout the state have their fingers on the pulse of what stimulates the region. Synthesizing our ideas and initiatives with economic development is good for Michigan and its distinct regions.

That needs to be answered by our Director.

As the regranting agent our future needs relate to increasing our overall budget. We are facing a continous reduction in staffing and in budget. To be able to provide the best service to the community we will need a new computer, printer, and an additional staff person.

Capital Improvements will be essential over the next couple of years as we continue to plan for growth and to ensure adequate facilities for arts education. Also, Operational Support is essential as we look to the future and design programs to achieve sustainability.

Our most pressing need is for increased operating support for two or three critical years. We recently filled a newly created Director of Development & Communications position, and it will be an estimated two years before our "investment" pays off and the income she generates exceeds her expenses. The current MCACA grant programs are not adequate to meet our needs. A capacity-building grant opportunity would help.

During the years the MCACA had very little funding to award, most organizations survived, including the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum. Like most nonprofit organizations, the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum will always need support for operations, exhibitions, community outreach projects, and arts education programs. MCACA funding has more to do with enhancing what organizations do, making programs and operations more robust, exhibitions more interesting, outreach projects more diverse, and arts education programs more plentiful. That is why Gov. Snyder's increased funding to the MCACA is so deeply appreciated by all of us in the field who are trying desperately to make a difference in the lives of children and adults.

We would like to see more support of arts support organizations, arts councils, and other intermediaries in local areas throughout the state. also more support for marketing arts and culture, so we can as a sector gain greater impact from greater visibility - and more participation and engagement of citizens!

I often see young organizations that are in need of an umbrella organization to get them going.

Our district has a double whammy, rural and high poverty. MCACA allows exposure to arts and cultural events and venues that the students in our district would not have exposure to without the funding help of grants from MCACA. Organizations like MCACA do a service for the whole community when they support arts education funding as the students educate the families and the families share with their neighbors and the whole cycle repeats. This arts education is the grass roots of expanding creativity and creative thinkers for the future work force of Michigan.

Very satisfied

As a result of loss in funding due to falling property values/taxes, our organization has placed a high priority on identifying grant funds. Without MCACA grant funding, programs offered (for all ages) would be greatly reduced in number and impact.

The MCACA grant program is adequate for supporting our organization's needs. With initial funding from MCACA, our program has grown so we are able to secure support from other granting organizations.

We are hoping to expand services and connectivity throughout the region among the arts and cultural organizations, while also pursuing the potential for collective impact. MCACA provides much including access to thought leadership as well funding. However, as we launch this major effort, additional funding to support convening, community building, outreach and technical services to engage and organization our artists, arts educators, arts and cultural organizations and community leaders in this effort could be very helpful. Even if additional funding were available for a one time seeding period.

The financial support to the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra is essential to the orchestra's mission and vision. The POPS granting from MCACA provides 10% toward the operational budget. As our organization builds sustainability the education portion of our mission, along with our newly hired music director's goals, will depend on additional funding beyond the established Concert Season.

Now more than ever

Our needs will continue with a need of funding for project support for various initiatives for art and design education. Our school program continues to need support with materials, supplies, and exposure to the arts. As a new art program the Art Residency has afforded both the instructor and students a unique opportunity to learn historic arts and crafts through Pewabic Pottery. The MCACA has been amazing in helping to support our Art Education program. Without the funding, our school would not have been able to participate in the program.

Operational support, unrestricted, helping us do what we do well.

Increased grant funding has been a godsend to local arts organizations who have struggled with funding over the past several years.

The greatest support my organization needs is operating support. We schedule programs across the state and receive programming funds from numerous sources. However, it is extremely difficult to secure operating funds. MCACA funds has helped our organization operate the office and service our state affiliates.

operating support and capital/maintenance needs. The level of need always exceeds the level of available funding.

As an educator, future grants would best service my students if the granting period began at the start of the school year in September.

We need the continued support of our major funder. That's not something that MCACA is designed to accomplish. But MCACA helps us with other important functions.

We have new initiatives that we are working on which would be helped with I put from MCACA

Operational support - yes, adequate and essential.

our current and futere needs include: Lighting and sound equipment as well as program funding.

Current needs are operational and capital in nature, and MCACA has met those needs well. Future needs will be the same, and increases to available amounts of operational funding would be nice. Additionally, it would be nice to see artist residency or arts education funding made available to nonprofits that work outside of the formalized educational system.

Working on the creation of an arts council. We may have the need to develop an arts and cultural facilities plan and encouraging. We are expanding our public art program. MCACA provides excellent support through funding and technical support for our programming.

The arts are an important and vital contributor to job opportunities and quality of place. Sustaining our vibrant, engaging communities across the State of Michigan by maintaining access to arts and culture is essential to attracting the people and the jobs we need to grow. We would particularly appreciate programs that continue provide general operating support, as it seems to be becoming more difficult to obtain funding that is needed to simply "keep the lights" on at our arts and cultural organizations. That said, funding for our extensive educational programs would also be welcome. Based on the questions in the survey, it is our impression that increased funding for education is being considered by MCACA leadership. There are numerous studies that demonstrate the cognitive and other benefits of arts education for young people.

We continue to need updates to our facility and equipment - which allows us to provide the best customer experiences. Funding these kinds of things is very expensive. Perhaps a matching system that would be 60% state funds and 40% facility funds... instead of 50/50% matching.

Capacity building, program expansion, and capital funding are all on our radar and we will look to MCACA for funding and guidance in all areas.

Further funding support is required to implement the curriculum designed through MCACA Project support. Our organization will be seeking funding support from MCACA and other funding sources (Crayola, School Foundation, PTSA,

individual/ corporate donors)

I am interim director so cannot answer this question

I don't do all of the grant-writing and development work for our organization, so I don't feel sufficiently equipped to answer this question!

Our organization needs funding for a permanent staff and operational expenses. We have managed to accomplish much with a volunteer board and contracted artists, but need to be able to afford a permanent staff to grow to the next level. We anticipate using MCACA programs, combined with other support to meet that need.

Operational support is SO very helpful and appreciated.

Continued support for our Art Walk in downtown Tecumseh

Our anticipated future needs are: 1. Multiyear Grants - Not sure the programs can meet these needs because of State of MI budget cycle. 2. Travel Grants - We focus on folkways and need support to travel different places. 3. Arts Education/Residency (not funded through school)

MCACA is vital to our organization in order to bring in high quality artists and programs.

Operating support continues to be crucial for us, and the New Leaders program will also continue to be extremely important in promoting professional opportunities for our staf in the future.

Funding assistance is needed to help continue educational programs and activities.

Operating support is always the biggest need for our organization. MCACA is one of the few funders that provides general operating support. Without operating support, there can be no projects, educational programs or performances. Most funders underestimate the importance of operating support to every project. Most arts organizations are understaffed and the POPS program has helped us avoid cutting back on essential staff time.

Our organization's needs are focused on maintaining and expanding the variety of programming offered by our organization, including significantly increasing our involvement in community engagement activities. The MCACA's current grant programs should be adequate to meet those needs.

We are currently in a period where we need to raise general operating expenses for the day-to-day operations of the organization as well as operational support for specific programs and recordings. MCACA grant programs provide funds for specific programs and we will be applying for grants in the future.

MCACA's grants for operational support assist us in maintaining our mission and focus.

We currently utilize funds for our outreach educational programs. In addition, the bus grants have allowed schools facing hard times to fund a trip. However, I feel that when I share that information for the grant writing for buses, that I am also sharing the rest of the state with them. They may then pick someplace farther away instead of supporting a local place that shared the busing grant availability with them.

Without MCACA Operational Funding we could not continue our operations at a level to provide cultural opportunities to our community, especially to the under served portions.

The council is under funded and essentially ineffective.

MCACA is a tremndous support to our program goals of reaching students and communities who otherwise might be unaware or unable to participate. We focus our MCACA funding request to our biggest program area. I only wish we had similar support for our smaller programs. We will keep looking! Thank you.

Being used to government budget cuts over time - we feel fortunate to have what MCACA offers right now. One area we could use some help with would have to do with development, where MCACA might offer funding or its own experts to analyze what can be done within Michigan arts organizations to plan for the future and increase the ability to privately fundraise.

Grant funding we receive from MCACA is extremely important to the Tecumseh Center for the Arts. Because of the funding we receive, we are able to enrich our community with live theater performances. In addition, we are also able to provide the opportunity for thousands of school age children to perform on stage or enjoy a performance at the theater.

We are located in an economically depressed area and would probably not survive without the grant funding from MCACA. In the last several years we have been able to make necessary repairs to our Art Center, bring in well-known Michigan artists to exhibit their work, increase our offering of workshops and special events, and increase our outreach to budding artists and students.

Our organization provides arts and culture experiences to individuals with disabilities and or mental illnss and other segments of society who do not have equal access. MCACA must continue to stay abreast of these pockets of society and how their barriers affect the future of art and how the current generation of youth utilize/access the arts.

Our organization needs a stable funding base. MCACA funding helps, but we need to expand our fundraising base.

We continue to look to expand the ways we use art to explain the consequences of structural racism and we will be looking for artists in residence to support the digital media campaigns of our youth leadership programs.

Operating support remains a key need and is not readily available from other sources. Increased levels of support by peer

review process would help to meet institutional goals.

The general operating and service to the field support provided by MCACA is critical to our programs for two different reasons. The flexibilty of general operating support is critical to the overall health and capacity of the organization; the majority of funding received is restricted to specific programs/needs which can be limiting in terms of addressing the most critical overall operational needs of the organization. In contrast, the service to the field support is critical to our annual conference which provides a critical service and critical resources and visibility to the field however the project itself is underfunded, as most foundations do not fund convenings or understand the value of such a project.

Operating support is vital and deeply appreciated.

Operational support is vital

Provide funding for future educational programming; assist in developing statewide partnerships; continue partnership and Services to the Field funding; continue presenting educational workshops to assist members in grant writing/development; assist in developing the arts and cultural component of local festivals and special events. Assist in developing a complete listing of Michigan artists to be featured on the MFEA website. These artists would be available for event exhibits.

At this time, my organization alternates which project will submit a grant application. I think we will continue to request support annually but will continue to limit our requests.

We would like to expand our Youth Theatre education program. This will require adding to our staffing and better integration with local educational institutions. We expect the MCACA grant programs are sufficient to meet those needs.

Our organization, like many others, faces economic issues related to funding on several levels. Not only are we in need of general support for operations, we are now facing program reduction or elimination as a means to keep the doors open. We have tightened our belts as far as we have been able, much of it through reduction of staff and staff hours, and reduction of professional programming. At this point, we are still able to remain open and continue to provide quality services to our community, but that could change in the near future. We rely on donors and local businesses to provide part of the necessary funding for operations and programming, and with the economy taking a hit over the last few years, our sources are also tightening their budget belts. Also, part of our funding has been through the local government, and since the State of Michigan has cut back on funding to its cities and municipalities. Arts organizations such as ours are one of the first things on the city's chopping block. We estimate that if nothing changes, we could be looking at closing our doors by 2016. We are being proactive, of course, in finding a way to continue on past that time, but our hands are somewhat tied at this point. MCACA is doing a good job in helping out overall, but it really doesn't have a way to target and aid organizations who, though vital to the communities they serve, face closing. Perhaps you don't want to put money into those organizations, but believe me when I say, there are those organizations that through no fault of their, own may disappear simply due to economics of the day. We serve a mostly rural area, where kids from 3 to 93 have the opportunity to perform onstage, and an even greater range in age has the opportunity to attend a performance. We have several non-profit organizations that call our venue home. If we were to close our doors permanently, all of those organizations - affecting more than 1,000 people - would in turn face closing themselves. If there was a way for MCACA to get involved in a more of a supportive, advocate way with those local communities, perhaps an advisory capacity of sorts, it's possible that it may go a long way in helping to keep these much needed Arts organizations alive and well...

Operational support has been extremely helpful to our organization and has been adequate and appreciated. MCACA does not fund our proposals. In the letter to decline funding it states that there is insufficient funds for the number of proposals it receives.

As a rural community we are dependent upon state support through the operational support and capital improvement programs. The new leaders programs has also made it possible for us to retain and attract young artists to our community where opportunities are scarce. We would love to see these programs expand and perhaps be more targeted to developing programs. Many of the well established arts organizations in larger communities have a larger economic base and are not as needy as more rural areas with less population and fewer resources. Thank you for your support. We're in the midst of a capital campaign one of the goals of which is financing capital improvements. I'm not familiar enough with the grants for capital improvements to know if that will be helpful or not.

Mostly our needs are Operational support for the organization and Program support for our individual programs throughout the year. MCACA has been extremely generous this year through Operational support and we wish to thank them for granting us the help we need.

Money is always needed to enhance our growing list of activities.

If we remove the philanthropic value of arts and arts education and only concentrate on the economic impact of the arts and culture institutions across the state, the small amounts funded by the State hardly measures up to impact delivered annually. MCACA's budget should be tripled again for the good of our state's economy (not to mention better communities).

It is crucial to our society to educate children about the arts; whether it is music, visual arts, spoken word, poetry, etc. It is crucial to build a future audience for the arts and important to introduce this viable entity at an early age. Our organization goes directly in the environment of middle schools and elementary schools introducing them to jazz music. The Michigan Council For The Arts and Cultural Affairs provides about 70% funding for these presentations. We always need more funding and I am hoping that we can improve our tier level with MCACA. Need I say more except for a big Thank you!

Operational support has been essential and has allowed us to fund our most critical programs. We anticipate the need for continued, and if possible, expanded operational support. Additionally the capital funds have allowed us to take care of building issues that we would not have been able to support. Matching support is a good way to leverage our organization to being committed to the work, however, a smaller match (say 25-40%) would help us even more.

The Chamber Music Society of Detroit highly values the MCACA's support to arts organizations; institutional sources of funding for non-profit performing arts organizations are increasingly harder to find.

Expanding on our Arts Conservatory and increase dance programs in the elementary and middle school.

vvv

MCMCA grant could provide added funding to increase and/or expand programs to underserved populations in the Great Lakes Region. In my experience, the funding award is less than half of the requested amount so whatever program was described in the application would have to be cut/reduced within the terms of the grant.

We are currently participating in Arts in Motion, paid for out of fund-raising. We would like to continue, if grant money was available.

Our program is closed.

We have start up programs that need additional funding and without resources we will not be able to create these experiences.

My goal for our organization is to have STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. I have worked to develop a computer lab to teach technology/computer skills to Spanish-speaking adults and their children. Presently, we have the Drama program thanks to MCACA and I am working to add a Digital Arts for Children. We would like to continue, to strengthen and to expand the Drama program. There are many aspects to the program that can incorporate self-esteem, cultural identity and leadership development. It is an important program.

We are the only DV shelter in Barry County Michigan and the mini grant we were awarded allows us to to install a new outdoor play structure, a bike track in the back yard and work with local art students and young shelter residents to paint our privace fence in a really cool way. We could not afford to do these things without the grant.

don't know

The Music On the River free concert series meets our needs at this time and the mini-grant is adequate for that purpose Adequate

We have an art program for people with severe disabilities. The people attending it love the program and have produced some remarkable works of art. I'd like to know more about the arts council to see what they have to offer.

Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum is looking to expand educational programming and outreach as well as revamp many of our exhibits to fit Michigan core standards. We will continue to rely on MCACA support through this expansion, and will probably seek grants from MCACA we have not previously sought.

The MCACA Mini-Grant Program is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT for our organization to provide quality artistic programming/exhibits during the summer for both residents and tourists. We are just starting to work with a second year of a Professional Development grant; hopefully it will be as beneficial as the first grant was. The amount given for Mini-Grants has not risen for a number of years, while costs continue to go up--more funding in this area would surely help us better meet the needs of both our organization and the population we serve.

Our current Rotary Grant is designed to facilitate assessment and strategic planning for our organization. Funding assistance will be essential to our achievement of the strategic plans that are developed. The support of MCACA in this area will be important for timely achievement of our goals.

As is always the case, funding for the arts is the first to be reduced or eliminated. In order to keep our existing programs in place increased funding will be essential. Our five county schools systems have eliminated all but two arts and music programs leaving our schools with little to no cultural programs

I am not currently aware of the programs...so I cannot state opinions. I only can say in general the needs are better known by my contact...The Art Center,Mt. Clemens, Mich. and I trust them that all venues will be considered for this area of Michigan.

It is so important to support the arts in public education. Art program continues to be cut, and yet it is one of the most important lessons and outlets for our students. The need for creative thought and expression has never been higher and your support has been crucial in taking it to a higher level for our schools.

The largest need of our organization is spreading the word about our wonderful festival. Grant money from MCACA has

assisted in additional marketing and advertising.

We are currently seeking funding for a new stage for our outdoor amphitheater. Do you have stage designs available? I would like to add a fine arts element to our summer interpretive program, its one of my goals. We are anticipating adding a weekly wood carving night at our center.

We have needs for operational support. We don't receive regular communication from MCACA. But I guess it's incumbent upon us to seek information.

Our current and future need is to have a building in a location where we will be more visible. We will then be able to become more self sufficient. We would need a program that would help fund a building.

We could use Capital Improvement assistance and plan to look at other grant possibilities besides the MiniGrant program. We have attended workshops in the recent past that have been very helpful.

Not sure yet

Every summer we host the Summer Reading Program to keep kids involved in reading during the time that school is not in session. As a part of that we have artists/performers come to our various locations to expose kids to the arts during the summer as well. A portion of the funding for the performers comes from the mini-grant program. If it weren't for the mini-grants we could still offer the reading portion of the program but wouldn't be able to hire as many artists.

We appreciate and rely on the funding we receive from MCACA to provide quality art education and performances to our public school students. Without this funding which provides us with a foundation for our own fundraising our arts program would be barebones.

The more mini-grants you can provide for artists the better :)

Need grants for historical storytelling.

Current needs are on auto pilot, but future needs include art education for special needs individuals. Better funding for small organizations that have been around a long time and are ready to grow would be helpful.

Helping to bring in artists from outside our area is a huge benefit.

n/a

Our organization badly needs grant support to expand our staff. Both mini-grants we've received have gone directly through our organization to fund a local artist. This is good PR for our organization and good for the local artist, but we need operational support in dollars.

Not sure as I am relatively new to the program.

there is a consistent need for funding to assist bringing arts to undeserved, under represented areas and individuals. It is important for communities to be developing supportive, rather then competitive arts collaborative. SO often organizations that do similar things try to out do and close themselves from other. Arts are important for every person and we can not begin to meet all of the needs if we are sectioned off. It is hard to have operational costs as well as supplies. thanks We depend on grant funding and donations for our programming. In the future, we will again work with MCACA as this experience has been so positive.

We have used MCACA to fund several programs during our Summer Reading. We could not bring in the quality nor quanity of cultural art programs without the funds from MCACA.

The future of the Plymouth Oratorio Society is good. Obtaining funding each season for a classical CHORAL group is always difficult. When the Det. Arts & Grants rejects our application, we are put in a challenging position. I don't know what they find as a weaker proposal then the previous 25 proposals. The paper applications were always accepted and funded to a certain level. Now they are rejected. The POS continues to offer the finest in classical choral music to the western Wayne county area. We will persevere to obtain solid funding. Some level of funding through the Det. Arts & Grants would definitely make the success of the POS in the future.

grants to supplement our regular program to bring cultural activities to our community continue to be our highest priority. Continued support in the mini grant area

BCSRA has a summer program that takes place once a week. Music from the Marsh is attended by a varaity of people of different ages and backgrounds. We receive many positive comments on our preformances

As a non-profit organization that consists entirely of community volunteers, our board and affiliated supporters are investing countless hours every year to organize the annual international film series. The program is free of charge. It has been expanded over the years to meet the needs of our changing audience, and now includes four different educational components, to which the public has responded favorably (audience numbers have increased!, feedback has been very positive!). Yet, as funding sources have been cut or greatly diminished on all levels (MCACA, schools, colleges/universities, arts organizations, private donations) it has become increasingly difficult to continue offering this

colleges/universities, arts organizations, private donations) it has become increasingly difficult to continue offering this high-quality program. In order for our organization to continue offering this educational art program - we are approaching our 9th season in 2015 - a strong and continued commitment of MCACA (through mini-grants, project and operational support) will be needed.

Since our organization has lost almost all local support, the MCACA mini grant is helping us to keep operating.

Our group is a 501 (c) 3 and the purpose is to educate the youth and adults regarding the history, heritage and importance of the Theatre Pipr Organ. These goals are best accomplished by bringing the audience to the theatre for instruction, demonstrations and concerts on the theatre pipe organ. This process, though very effective, is also very costly. We require financial assistance to present these events for our community of youth and adults.

We're always looking to expand, but to bring in national figures to our program, we would need a sizable grant. I have not yet explored the extent of available grants to see how that would mesh with our future goals.

With an ever tightening budget of a library, the grants that MCACA offers are extremely important to us now and in the future.

We will continue to use the Mini-grant program and Capital Improvement program. I would like to be able to apply for more than one mini-grant/year. We will probably apply for a Programming Support grant in the future. We will soon be planning a Capital Improvement project and will need help. We check the touring program list when we are selecting musicians for our music festival concert series. Sometimes it seems outdated. When I lived in Wisconsin I worked for a school and applied annually to the Wisconsin Arts Board to hire artists through a residency program that was very well developed. We were able to do 1 major project each year and it was extremely enriching for the students. The artists on that list were very well vetted to make sure they were accomplished artists as well as excellent teachers. The impact was great because they stayed at the school for several weeks or months - much better than a one time assembly program.

We need financial support to create and implement start-up programming relative to the mission of our ethnic cultural center.

I am an individual artist, not affiliated with an organization. I appreciate MCACA's support of the ARts COuncil of Greater Lansing, an organization which has helped my professional growth immensely.

Our elementary school does not have an art program and our art teacher at the high school is only there 1/2 day each day. Funding from MCACA helps us provide a large school wide art project/installation that is meaningful for all the students in our elementary school.

My organization will be looking more at economic development (creative economy). I will have to look more into MCACA programs to see if we are a good fit. I would love to get updates from MCACA via emails.

Minigrant program is wonderful. Would like to see an expanded mini grant professional development program.

The funding in the MCACA grant programs is not adequate, but I'm sure everyone wishes they had more money in their gran programs so . . .

We anticipate applying for future minigrant opportunites. We also anticipate developing a program or programs to entice youth to use and visit our facilities. Not sure what form that will take yet, but we could be applying for grants that enable us to bring in artists and instructors to work with the kids.

Can you folks fill pot holes so can drive on safe streets?

Peace Pizzazz is an annual children's arts fair that has followed a similar format for six years. Our needs change very little, and MCACA has provided adequate support to ensure our success on an ongoing basis.

General Operational support is crucial, it allows us to use these funds to create new educational programs, run the current ones that we have and bring back events that would not be possible without general support to pay for staff time.

The students with special needs at the CCISD Learning Center benefit from art education in many ways, including skill development, leisure-time activity, self-expression, and social skills development. At the CCISD, our goal is to serve the educational needs of all citizens through leadership, cooperation, and quality support services to the community, including private and public agencies, in an atmosphere of open communication and mutual respect. Arts education needs will continue in the CCISD classrooms and local programs, and professional development needs will continue for our teachers, the teachers in local districts, and art educators.

Not sure how to answer current and future needs. A MCACA grant is a huge help though!

Continued support of our summer concerts series

Future needs will entail adding more types of art into our community which is severly underserved in culture and art.

We anticipate applying for another mini grant this year

Our organization runs very few programs. We have been running an art program for the past 7 years that started off small and continues to grow each year. Without the support of the MCACA grant program our program may not have developed into what it is today.

As we continue to develop ideas for new arts programs at our school and in our community we rely on the MCACA for guidance, support, and funding to make our programs a reality. The MCACA support has enriched the experiences for our students and entire community.

At this time the grant program is adequate.

Very pleased with the mini-grant partnership made possible by MCACA. Wish it to continue.

Operating support is essential for our smaller organization. It's helped us to expand, make better use of our resources, and continue to serve our smaller region.

Wearing (former) regranter board member hat - more support for regranters would be a good thing because it is resource intensive to support these grants and really helps grow the arts in the state. As an individual artist I am delighted to see the re-emergence of some support for individuals. I would love to see the Creative Artist Grant program revived - Michigan lags behind other states in its support of creative individuals.

As a small organization that is working to grow, both in size and scope, having access to information and resources about additional sources of funding is essential. MCACA does provide that information. However, it is difficult to access substantial amounts of funding as a small organization. A mid-sized grant program would be a helpful addition.

We must expand our programming to offer more performances or more shows throughout the summer. Because we are an arts organization without its own building, we must pay rent to both rehearsal and performance venues. These could significantly increase with a larger number of shows. The associated royalty costs will multiply as well. The MCACA is well-suited to meet these needs, and we hope to grow our relationship with the MCACA as we grow.

Capital Improvement grant money for maintenance on our two large facilities. Minigrants sustain our artist of the week programs and speaker's series. Both grants meet a portion of the expenses. Without MCACA support we would not be able to offer these programs to our community which has the highest unemployment rate in the state and is in need of additional help. We are underserved and underdeveloped community.

Part of our library mission statement is to strive to meet some of the cultural needs of our community. This is accomplished in several ways. We bring in programming such as musical entertainment and speakers. Sometimes it is difficult to find funding for these programs. In the past I have applied for a grant for a concert series that we sponsored, but there was so much paperwork that it wasn't worth the \$300 that we recieved. We recently have been granted a Mini-Grant to have an outdoor mural done on our wall. The minigrant application wasn't to complicated so I am hoping that the follow-up paperwork will not be overwhelming. This grant was for over \$2K so it is worth doing the paperwork. It is important to have simplified grant applications and follow up reporting for small grants to fund special cultural programming for organizations such as our small library.

Our organization needs support in providing cultural arts programs to the people in our under-served area. We like to be able to provide daytime and evening programs for both adults and children that they would otherwise not have exposure to and that would enhance the importance of reading and lifelong learning.

Mini-grants for Professional Development Artist in Residency Grants

We look forward to a busy summer reading program with art and cultural events for all ages.

If we didn't have the MCACA mini-grant, we would not be able to offer quality programs and art education classes here at the Library in the summer. Please continue offering the mini-grant in Region 19.

MCACA grant funding is extremely important I our small community. It mobilizes people, brings business into the community and provides an avenue for the arts which we do not have. We have a series of 6 concerts in the summer bringing hundreds of people of all ages to each event. Without the grant we would not have the program. In a tourism community, population of the village of 1100, financial support would be slim if any and most likely funneled to a functional need and not an art (concert).

without the continued support of MCACA to help our program, the Manistee Jaycees would have to seriously cut the budget of our program, which would affect the quantity of free concerts we could provide to the community and the quality of artists we are able to hire.

Ongoing support for relevant live theatre, especially when a play is about a social issue such as A Raisin in the Sun or Next To Normal. Both shows have potential to erase stigmas in communities.

A major current and anticipated need of our program is continuing financial support. The MCACA grant for operational support provides us the opportunity for assistance with those needs.

We received \$4000 to support our first festival of the arts this summer. Without those funds we could not have proceeded. We hope to have a highly successful event and re-apply next year.

Bringing artists into the schools is a very important component for children. MCACA has been very supportive in providing for these visits.

MCACA mini-grant served as the spark to ignite community interest and support of the Devils Lake Festival of the Arts. Currently we have only taken advantage of MCACA's Minigrant program support program, but training for completeing the CDP and grant applications. We have considered applying for MCACA's Program for Operational Support and/or the Capital Improvement grant, but have not done so yet.

We are am Arts integrated high school. We have worked with MCACA to showcase our students and to support senior and veterans associations.

The Minigrant program brings cultural programs to our community which consists of a low poverty level. Our children would not be exposed to the cultural and humanities programs if not for these grants. We have an attendance of well over 100 children at each program the MCACA sponsors. Having a small rural library with a small budget does not allow us to have these programs without MCACA help.

We are expanding arts education in our school. While we have had art instruction as part of our curriculum for years, this was the first year we were able to offer music education. Being a recipient of a 2014 MCACA grant helped immensely with the start and quality of the music education program by providing access to instruments that we otherwise could not have afforded.

Since we do not have a complete arts program in our school, the Arts Minigrant is essential. Since the people of Schoolcraft county have limited opportunities in the Arts, the Arts Minigrant is essential. Since upcoming artists do not have a forum unless it is provided by our project (supported by the Arts Minigrant), the Arts Minigrant is essential. Since there is not a good music forum where people of this area can go to hear Michigan Artists, the Arts Minigrant is essential. Since there is not a good music venue in this area to bring in tourists to help the local economy, the Arts Minigrant is essential.

Future needs are unknown at this time but our organization is incredibly grateful for the support of the MCACA on our recent mural project.

Continued POD grants are essential for us to be able to do staff training and increase our level of profesisonalism I am filling out this survey the best I can but do not actually have direct interaction with it.

The MCACA grants have been very helpful in our program and hope to continue receiving them.

It would be great if the individual professional development mini grants for artists would include reimbursement for international opportunities. My field has very few options at my professional level in the USA. I have already attended, or been a staff/lecturer/presenter, at most of the US options in my specific performing arts field. I use an instrument invented in another country and travel there annually, but have never found a way to help finance my quest to improve as a musician.

We anticipate continued need of funding for our fine arts program in the years to come. We have been a previous recepient of the MCACUL grant, but this year the grant allocation was smaller so we will most likely consider additional grants to help meet our funding needs.

We will be needing funding for website and social media development, new signage, branding, etc and support for our Youth entrepreneurship programming.

We are seeking capital and operating support with a new business model.

Our needs will be the same as previous years. Either the POPS or minigrant programs suit us just fine.

We will continue to need the support of MCACA grant program. Our program is a success as a result of their continued support. Our children benefit so much as a result of the program. Many of our youth have gone on to be involved with high school shows, college shows and some even have gone on to be in the Young Americans. Our organization is so glad that the mini-grant program is available and it really helps our organization to continue to give the children a chance to learn all about productions and putting on a show.

Technical upgrades to building equipment and maintaining older buildings to house art programs.

We use the grant program to enhance our organization, but it isn't necessarily essential for the success of our organization. I anticipate using the mini grant program once again to provide our children and families in our programs the experience of a professional artist.

We are a non-profit environmental education organization in downtown Bay City. We have a number of community partners and neighbors - including the Studio 23 The Art Center across the street. Our mini-grant is helping fund a start up partnership program combining arts and science.

You folks do great work!

Being a small rural community, the Regional Regranting program allows us to enhance the availability of local residents to enjoy various forms of art and music.

Participation

We are closed.

Funding to bring art awareness to our local high schools, professional development for our teaching faculty, future capital project support. Increased funding would be greatly appreciated.

We have a strong art program at our school. Our students tend to excel in creative fields so art and music must be available. As a non-profit, it can be difficult to receive funding not only for replacing supplied but also for creating new programs. Through our mini grant, we were able to introduce high quality Orff instruments into our school and enrich our newly formed music program. This support also sits well with our teachers who already struggle to get the things they need.

We are able to have a special event and programs that utilize the support of some funds we have received. These activities need this support due to limited funds available. Thank you.

We need to look into the other programming MCACA offers such as Operational and Porfessional Development. The mini grant program allows us to build new exhibits and hire performers for our childrens museum.

As in the past, we expect to engage MI artists when feasible. We expect an expansion into more musical and theatrical

efforts consistent with summer stock theater venues elsewhere.

Being able to carry on our cutural programs for the community

I work in an urban school. I use my MCACA grant to diversify the learning in my classroom to meet the needs of my students, especially to maintain an enriching atmosphere so that all can benefit and progress musically, no matter if they study music privately.

Art Rapids! will continue to need financial support as we build the Walk of Art to its full potential. The goal is to have the project become self sustaining when we reach the objective of our agreement with Antrim County to have 30 sculptures in the county's Elk Rapids Day Park. We are halfway there in the Walk of Art program's second year. MCACA minigrants allow us to pay our exhibiting artists a \$500 installation stipend. If and when an artist sells a sculpture, we will receive a small percentage of the sale to support future stipends and our organization's work on behalf of the arts, artists, educators and students.

my organization needs some funding. grants are adequate when we get funding.

We are a very small non-profit serving the elderly-by giving them access to the arts that they would not normally have otherwise. The Macaca grant funding is crucial to our ability to reach the amount of people we are on an annual basis. These people are under served through many other funding outlets.

As an liberal arts institution of higher education, we have a wide variety of programs and projects that would benefit from MCACA grant programs, including our broadcast and cinema arts degree program, our lyric theatre group, and our programs focused on making higher education accessible for underserved populations. The grant programs available through the MCACA are currently adequate to meet our needs.

Our needs: A facility to rehearse either free or low, low cost. A facility to store our theatrical pieces: sets, set furniture, costumes, props. New stage curtains in the school we perform in - the school has NO funds and considers the stage a zero priority Reliable volunteers, especially with theatrical technical knowledge. I have not pursued whether or not MCACA has grants that could get us rehearsal or storage space. We have one hired employee. We are a small organization and all of the grants required much paperwork and research and creative writing. I personally feel applying for a grant at MCACA requires a hired professional, whom we cannot afford, so we do not plan to apply for grants. The applications are too detailed and confusing and it is difficult to accept rejection after all of the time and hard work put into the application. I think you need to consider spreading it around better rather than large sums to the few. I do not understand the emphasis on youth education. We are a community theater producing live play productions, all volunteers. Most volunteers on and off the stage have day time jobs. We rehearse at night. Our schedule is not conducive to incorporating youth education. We are not teachers or educators and do not see how expanding to include teaching children would be feasible when we can barely get by with the volunteers we have now. There are other local children's theaters that are doing that and children are their focus as it should be. Our focus is producing semi-professional productions. I cannot seem to go back to an earlier question, but in order to meet grant requirements we invited every high school in the Lansing area and the Coalition for Literacy to attend our final dress rehearsal for free and offered a tour and talk-back after the show. Not one single person showed up.

Our organization is very appreciative that this council exists and offers support to small organizations like ours. The fact that grants are even available in today's political culture is impressive. Please keep the mini grant programs going! We utilize the minigrant program for art education. Since art education is not our primary service we would probably not have the education program without the grant.

Educate youth and others in vocal music especially in the area of barbershop harmony and history.

As a first-time recipient of a MCACA grant, we are anxious to form a long successful relationship with the MCACA. We feel that the programs and funding that your organization provides will be well-suited for assisting the arts education, performances and community outreach events that the Link School of the Arts currently provides and will further develop in the future. Currently our biggest need is the expansion of our facility, staff and programming. We've been housed in the same building in Troy since 2002 and are, literally, bursting at the seams! If we had fynding for a larger facility, classrooms and staff, then we could expand our cultural outreach programs, continue forming our professional ballet company and increase the excellence and reach of our live performances.

We run a four-concert series here focusing on local and regional artists. The MCACA minigrant program allows us to host larger, more expensive concerts and provide our guest artists with optimal compensation for their efforts.

to continue support with the ACT program offered to our students

We received a grant for arts & cultural programming this summer. We look forward to a continued partnership with MCACA grant programs for future arts & cultural events and programs at our library.

Our current need have been the Minigrant project support. We have added new classes to our program and are anticipating that the Program of Operational Support will be needed in the future

Valid R	esponses	427
Total R	esponses	442

11. Which one of the following organization types best describes your organization? (Respondents could only choose a **single** response)

Response	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%	Frequency	Count
Arts education organization or school						17.9%	76
Arts service organization						14.2%	60
Collecting or material organization						3.3%	14
Public broadcasting organization						0.0%	0
Literary arts organization						1.2%	5
Performing arts organization						26.7%	113
Visual arts/film/video organization						6.4%	27
Other						30.4%	129
				ı	Vlean		5.099
						rd Deviation	2.746
				1	Valid R	esponses	424
				-	Total R	esponses	424

11. Which one of the following organization types best describes your organization?

Response
Friends organization
arts and agriculture organization
Children's Museum
Public library
Museum
Government
arts education organization, performing arts, visual arts, wellness
multi-arts organization and facility
Community Development
Municipal
childrens museum
Historic Museum
Historic Venue, Cultural Arts center
Musuem
Zoological garden
х
historical/education performance
Community and Economic Development Org
Museum
Public Art program
Cultural Organization
local government
Community Organization
Regional Regranting
Zoo

Teen Center Library Festival & Arts Education Х **Public Library** Health Center arts center a Zoo specializing in cultural education Cultuarl Regional Planning Gallery, Fine Arts Education Facility **Public Library Public School** Center Program for Special Needs students center that connects science, history and art for all ages Civic art center Intermediate School District Arts Council library with strong eduacational components for young artists and students Arts Education + Public Broadcast + Performing Arts Community coalition hisgtory center incorporating most of the above History Museum Special Education School District community development organization Government foundation Art Center-exh+classes **Public Library** combination of several of the above Museum Science Center/Museum public library Nonprofit support organization Government museum Public School for students with disabilities non profit that provides art/culture exeriences as one part of our programming **Diversity & Inclusion** Statewide festivals & events nonprofit organization promoting arts and culture. Non-profit arts organization Comprehensive Arts Center Children's Museum

non profit Community/Cultural Service domestic viiolence shelter Community service organization Community Rehabiliatation Organization Children's Museum History/Art Museum Gallery State Park Visitor Ctr Multidisciplinary arts and cultural center Historical Society with programming collecting and arts historical services **Cultural Diversity Educator** Intermediate Sch Dist public library K-12 school great venue with audience Preservation and education **Public Library** library art center with comprehensive programming ethnic cultural center Individual artist & teacher Comm Dev with an art component Non-Profit Service public school Festival community **Downtown Development Authority** Parks and Recreation children's residential treatment Maritime and Historical Museums public library Township Public Library Regional Educational Service Agency Library **County Library Recreation Authority** Non profit service organization historic renovation **Historical Society Public Library Human Services** History Museum Cultural institution

educational agency			
music therapy - primary type, arts education - secondary type			
multi disciplinary organization			
early childhood organization			
Environmental Education			
Community Foundation			
after school			
K-12 school (Learning Disabilities)			
Parks and Recreation Department			
liberal arts university			
Human Service Organization			
Church, non-profit			
Public library			
	Valid Responses	130	
	Total Responses	424	