

**Indigenous Arts Project Grant
September 4, 2018
General Expert Panel Comments**

Comments made by the expert panel during its assessment of applications submitted to the September 4, 2018 deadline are outlined below. Please note that these comments provide a summary of the Expert Panel's assessment and do not necessarily relate to every application submitted to this deadline. **The Expert Panel does not provide individual comments.**

- 1 The expert panel would like to thank all applicants for putting in the hard work, and taking the opportunity to apply. We recognize your efforts are having an impact on the whole of our community.
- 2 Support material demonstrating previous artistic activity is essential to the panel's assessment. Also, please include invitations, letters of support, quotes for costs, and information about courses where appropriate
- 3 If you have been funded before, please do not assume the expert panel has access to work you submitted for another project. Each application needs detailed, specific support material to give a clear idea of what you propose.
- 4 If additional help is needed in preparing and/or choosing your support material for your proposal, please reach out to the AFA consultant(s) before the deadline, as we are happy to help.
- 5 We encourage you to continue to create your art and apply again in the future.
- 6 Please share this Indigenous grant funding opportunity with others.
- 7 Please do not assume that panelists know who you are or know about your artistic practice, as a lack of information makes it difficult to assess.
- 8 The panel appreciated recognition of the importance of cultural protocols, where Elders and other community facilitators were properly compensated.
- 9 The expert panel appreciated projects that demonstrated an opportunity for growth in your artistic career and the development of the discipline.
- 10 When your project involves mentors, please identify your mentors and explain the reason behind the choice, as well as a breakdown of what the mentorship will entail.
- 11 Project descriptions that did not demonstrate genuine engagement with the identified community were challenging for the panel to assess; particularly when dealing with sensitive issues.
- 12 The expert panel appreciated applications that demonstrated respect for traditional knowledge by including information on how it was obtained and their right to share it.
- 13 There was greater support for projects that illuminated the histories, cultures, traditions, and contemporary experiences of Indigenous Peoples.