

Summary of COVID-19 Outbreak on MMI Grantees: Tailored Support, Summer Beats and Institute for Nonprofit Excellence

The following feedback was collected between Tuesday, March 17 and Monday, March 23 via phone and email check-ins with 13 of the 14 current MMI grantees in the Tailored Support, Summer Beats and Institute for Nonprofit Excellence programs.

Organizations Participating

Program Development Institute (PDI): Blues City Cultural Center, Caza Teatro, Hattiloo Theatre, Memphis Youth Century Program, Perfecting Gifts, Princeton James Productions, Young Actors Guild

Institute for Nonprofit Excellence (INE): Angel Street, Harmonic South String Orchestra, Memphis Blacks Arts Alliance, Memphis Jazz Workshop, Raising the Bar, Memphis Slim House Collaboratory

Staffing

7 of 14 grantees have 1 or 2 paid staff

4 of 14 have unpaid EDs who run the organization

3 grantees have more than 2 FT staff

100+ staff across all organizations in Contract, Full and Part-time positions

- Together, grantees contract with more than 65 Memphis musicians and artists to conduct programming and program delivery.
- All but two of the 13 grantees reporting have contingent staff that are unable to work and be paid due to suspension of programming.
- No grantees have had to release FT staff so far.

Current Programming

- All grantees have ceased regular programming and upcoming performances through at least the end of April or the first week of May.
- Partners estimate that **2,618** young people are not being engaged in music-forward engagement as a result of the suspension of programming.
- One former grantee, PRIZM Orchestra, has cancelled summer programming due to concerns about international travel of many faculty members.
- 4 organizations are thinking through ways to offer programming and or mentoring digitally. 2 organizations plan to debut programming within the next two weeks.

Funding

- Partners estimate a combined loss of **\$101,900 to \$138,900** due to loss of tuition, contracts, grants, earned revenue and cancelled fundraisers through early May.
- If summer camps, concerts and performances are cancelled, that could lead to an additional loss of nearly **\$200,000** in lost tuition, contracts, performances, fundraisers and other revenue, not including grants.

Greatest Challenges – Top 5 issues most often cited by partners

Loss of revenue: Partners are concerned about grant competitions that may be delayed or retooled in light of the current situation.

Uncertainty: will schools reopen? How long will society be on lockdown?

Future Planning: What will the demand be for camps, events, concerts or performances that bring large groups of people together once this moment has passed?

Technology: Which computer applications are useful/affordable for live streaming programs or conference calls with students, families and staff?

Staffing: Concerns about musicians who aren't able to earn during this crisis. T. Dyson of Memphis SlimHouse also warns that often musicians have a tab during their gig so they can eat at the venue then have food to take home. As a result, many of those performers may also be going without food and experiencing food insecurity.