

**Meet the Grantmakers: Funding for the Arts - April 15, 2009**

**What were the most useful and effective parts of today's session?**

<p>The pre-formatted questions on the hand-out were fantastic, along with the speed at which the panelists went through each question. I felt very informed through all aspects of the symposium.</p>	<p>Anneliis Beadnell, <i>Independent Curators International</i></p>
<p>Good mix of funders who were all knowledgeable and open and a well prepared moderator who asked good questions and kept things on point.</p>	<p>Barbara Perlov</p>
<p>That 2010 will be a challenging year to rely on support from foundations. I am a seasoned grant writer and fundraiser and it was inspiring to hear the overall agreement on urging arts organizations to: be more fiscally savvy, know their organizations assets and capacity, think outside of the box and articulate impact through societal benefits of the arts. Everything I learned has to do with how to position a nonprofit for survival. The necessity of transparency was emphasized, as was the critical importance of a mobilized Board. It is always good be reminded how important the 990, audited financial statements and budget are: they went so far as to say they provide the basis for assessing an organization's worthiness to fund or not. I was surprised to learn about the challenges for a first year (or non Roster grantee) to be considered for funding. It made me realize the value of new money vs. established money.</p>	<p>Catharine Vaucher</p>
<p>Hearing MetLife and Amex's funding plans. Being given a chance to talk to the panelists.</p>	<p>Emily Peck, <i>Americans for the Arts - New York City Office</i></p>
<p>It was really nice to hear major grantmakers speak without the overall fatalistic feeling that has pervaded all such events in past months. There was a positive feel that honestly was very refreshing. I also really appreciated that there was so much time to meet with the grantmakers one-on-one.</p>	<p>Erin McMonagle, <i>Weeksville Heritage Center</i></p>
<p>I find the ability to meet and network with colleagues, especially in such tough times as these, invaluable. The information that the panelists have to offer plus the questions brought up during the session make workshops like these very special.</p>	<p>Frank Juliano, <i>Bond Street Theatre</i></p>
<p>The most useful and effective parts of the session were the panelists' responses to the questions about how the recession has affected their foundation/corporation's giving and their comments on the characteristics of their grantees. Also, the opportunity to speak with the grantmakers</p>	<p>Harini Angara, <i>Behind the Book</i></p>
<p>The candor of the panelists</p>	<p>Harriet Taub, <i>Friends of Materials for the Arts</i></p>

Current trends, suggestions, do's/don'ts	Helen Wu, <i>New York Chinese Cultural Center</i>
Info from granters on what their trends are in this economic climate... changes they are and are not making	Jonathan Hilton, <i>Creative Alternatives of New York</i>
The panelists were very forthcoming and interesting also honest. Appreciated hearing the connections between a corporation's business and its foundation strategies.	Ken Park, <i>Art Students League of New York</i>
It was very useful to receive advise from senior grantmakers who play such an important role in today's funding environment. Happy they were willing to share their expertise. Questions from the audience were useful too.	Marietta Ulacia, <i>Dance Theater Workshop</i>
The time to hear in-depth perspectives made a real difference to my understanding.	Mary Dugan, <i>Harmonie Ensemble New York</i>
It was useful to have a list with the moderator's questions, and particularly helpful to hear about modified grantmaking plans for 2009-10.	Mary Ellen Obias, <i>National Dance Institute</i>
Hearing how the foundations are managed and their goals and decision making processes.	Maureen McGuigan, <i>Lackawanna County Department of Arts &amp; Culture</i>
The built in time to meet with the panelists	Megan McLain, <i>Morgan Library and Museum</i>
Listening to the candid feedback from panelists about how to get on their funding radar.	Melissa Sandor, <i>American Craft Council</i>
Assessments of the state and future of grantmaking among diverse entities and as a whole were extremely helpful.	Nathan Davis, <i>Apollo Theater Foundation</i>
Since I am new to non-profit funding initiatives, it was great hearing the point of view of grant makers and adding a face to a name.	Reena Kashyap, <i>Clay Art Center</i>
The panel was a diverse mix of funders for the arts and their responses were very straightforward and honest.	Sheila Lewandowski, <i>Chocolate Factory Theater</i>
Honesty of funders in discussing decline of foundation funding	Siri Horvitz, <i>Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts</i>
Q & A	Velda Murad, <i>Carter Burden Center for the Aging</i>
I got practical ideas to implement in specific areas. I.e. going to a Foundation and asking them if we can change the funding objective.	Yvonne Simons, <i>Anne Frank Center USA</i>