

# Department of Education and Early Learning

Topic: Youth-Led Social Justice Mini-Grant

Audience: NECRCC Presentation

Date: Friday, February 11, 2022



# Background & Priorities



- \$1.5M Citywide commitment in response to rise in hate crimes and bias aimed at AAPI community
- \$100,000 allocated from DEEL's 2021 budget (FEPP Levy)
- Purpose of funds for mini-grants to youth-led groups and clubs for special projects focused on issues of racism, discrimination, and bias

Low barrier

Youth-friendly

Inclusive

Non-competitive

Encourages innovation

Compliant with City protocol + gift of public funds regulations

# Timeline & Overview

- Apr-Aug- Grant development
  - Jul 9 + Aug 18- Seattle Youth Commission
  - Jul 20- Youth Survey
- Sept 14- Release grant
- Oct 5-8- Information and technical assistance sessions
- Oct 25- Applications due
- Nov-Jan- Application review period
- Feb- Applicant notification

“Youth leadership on social justice projects is important because we have diverse perspectives to share based on our lived experiences... It’s important youth have opportunities to design and lead our own projects so that our experiences and ideas aren’t excluded.”

- Seattle Youth Commissioner



# Applicant Notification

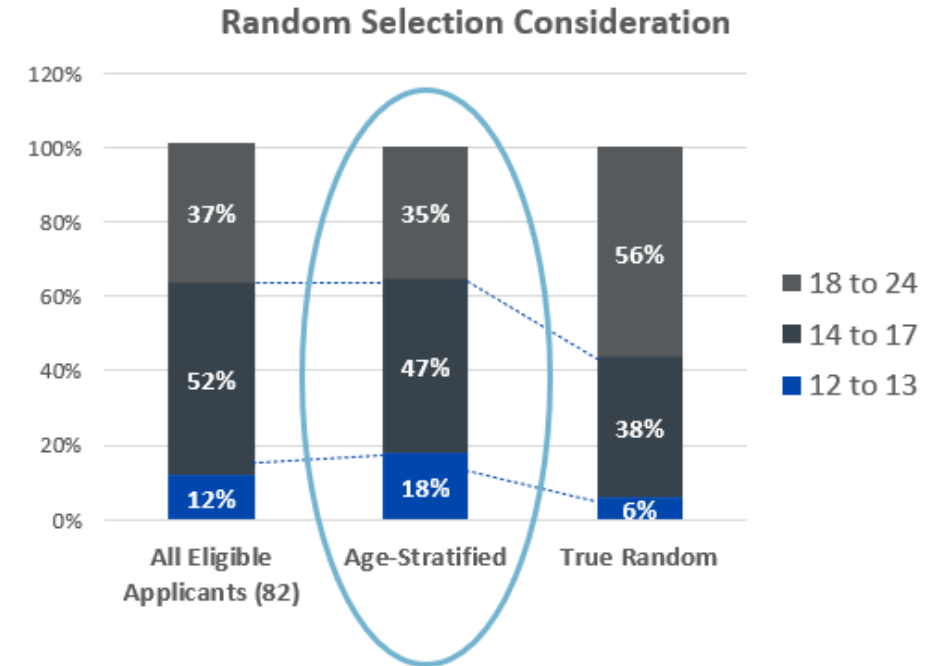
- **Feb 1** – DEEL e-mail notification to applicants incorrectly notified 65 applicants their projects were awarded
  - Retraction of emails and new information regarding random selection of awardees caused confusion
- **Feb 7** – New communication honoring the initial miscommunication and DEEL commitment to work with applicants and make funding available for all projects
- **Feb 9-18** – DEEL staff phone calls to all applicants to confirm receipt and understanding of new funding decision



# Selection Process Overview

- Prioritization Matrix – *not used*
  - Randomization – *used for Feb 1 communications*
    - All technically compliant are funded – **current**

Application Prioritization Rubric			
Prioritization Categories	3 points	2 points	1 points
Council District	2, 7	1	3,4,5,6
Social Justice Topic	Race/Ethnicity	Gender or LGBTQIA+	
Fiscal Sponsor	Yes	No	No
Audience Served	White-identified or cis-gendered people	All people	
Number of people served	More than 30	10-29	Less than 10





# Funding Decision Effective Feb 8

## 82 Applications Identified for Funding - \$525,773 Available



"We are planning to co-host a **series of three events...** [that] will include elements of art, music, and food while drawing attention to issues of racial equity and gender bias... We will center the art presented **around young, Black women who are musicians, artists, and chefs.** Sharing our cuisine, songs, and other art forms, we will **encourage others to explore their own art and identity** while promoting people who deserve a platform."

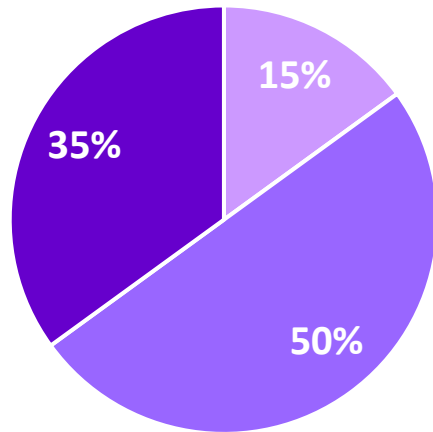
"This project will **generate community research and data** on the most **urgent issues in the Filipino community.** If we don't know what the problems are and what their root causes are, how can we do anything to fix them?"

"Although Black youth make up 14% of the population, their **rates in houselessness are disproportionately high** in comparison to their white counterparts. We hope to **give support all Black youth especially queer youth** by making sure they are safe and have the **materials they need to thrive.**"



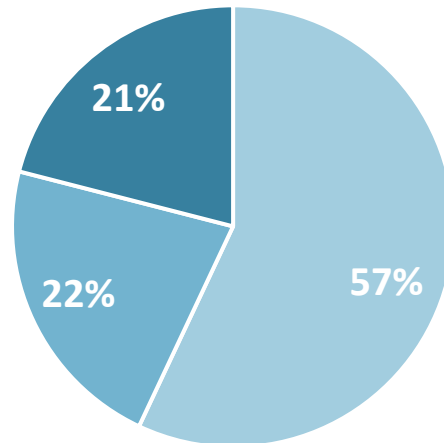
# Applicant Summary

Age of Applicant



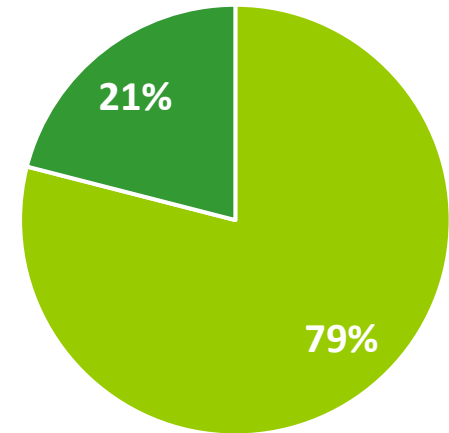
■ 12-13 ■ 14-17 ■ 18-24

Fiscal Sponsor



■ Community-Based Organization ■ School ■ None

Type of Submission



■ Written ■ Video

# Next Steps: February-March 2022

## Internal DEEL Continuous Quality Improvement

- DEEL process mapping to identify strengths and areas for corrective action
- Opportunities for applicants and adult allies to provide feedback

## Fiscal Sponsor Paperwork and Issue Grant Awards

- Fiscal sponsor completion of required paperwork (W-9; Grant Agreement Form)
- DEEL applicant support
- Opportunities for youth to connect





# Possible Implementation Challenges

- Need for fiscal sponsor for all applicants
- Applicants may no longer be interested in implementing their project
- Applicants may need to change their project concept to complete in 2022, or before end of school year
- Applicants/fiscal sponsors may want to reduce their requested budget
- Youth groups may need specific support on project implementation in ways not yet identified (event permits, field or building rental, etc.)



# Preliminary DEEL Reflections

## Process

- Internal system to check for accuracy prior to contacting grant applicants

## Youth-Involved Grants

- Early engagement of adult allies
- Identification of community-based/non-profit partner to serve as fiscal sponsor or grant administrator
- Timing of communications to better align with school-day schedule
- Balance need for documentation with relational approach





# Thank you & Questions

