Program Rubric

Foundry Consortium • June 2022

Explanation of Rubric
This rubric describes the categories that are evaluated when deciding on what programs will have space at the Foundry. The categories include adherence to the Foundry mission, community need, intended audience, social impact, participant skill level, and financial accessibility. Each category lays out criteria that the most ideal program will meet, but all facilitators are encouraged to apply as long as they fulfill some of the criteria.

Foundry Mission
- Has a focus which ties STEM and the Arts together in one program or is using a specialty arts space to its fullest potential
- Targets Cambridge and Kendall Square community members and residents with specific attention to underrepresented communities
- Fills a need or interest area not currently represented in The Foundry

Community Need
- Fills a unique need for the organization or participant. If the program was not hosted at The Foundry, it would be difficult for it to be carried out elsewhere
- Uses materials in the space that they would not be able to access otherwise like kitchen equipment or maker space tools

Audience
- Works with 2+ of the following groups: people of color, LGBTQ+ community, gender-diverse people, disabled and/or neurodiverse people, those with marginalized religions or other marginalized personal identities, young people or seniors

Social Impact
- Directly serves a high number of people or has multiple touchpoints with a group over time
- Addresses a severely overlooked social issue
- Serves a community in severe distress
- Displays a significant improvement in quality of life for those served

Skill Level
- Leads program at a beginner level or appropriately aligned with an intermediate audience
- Doesn’t require specialized materials or extra preparation on the part of the participant

Financial Accessibility
- Allows Program/facilitator would not be able to lead this program if not for the financial assistance of The Foundry
- Programming is free for participants or participants are paid