

Creative Spark Grant Program Feedback from Applicants

Thank you again for participating in the Creative Spark Grant Program, and congratulations on having your application advance through the process.

As the Foundation looks ahead and to potential future rounds of Creative Spark grants, we are undertaking a comprehensive assessment of the program's pilot year. This assessment is being undertaken by the Program Advisor and will be shared with the Foundation board this spring.

Your feedback and perspective as an applicant will be an important part of that assessment.

Your responses to this brief survey will be completely anonymous. The results are being sent directly to the Program Advisor and not to the Foundation staff.

Ideally, this survey should be done by the person most directly involved in completing the application submitted for the Creative Spark Grant Program.

We'd be grateful if you could complete this survey no later than Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

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Information Resources for the Creative Spark Grant Program

Did you or a representative of your organization participate in the **informational webinar** offered in March 2025 on the Creative Spark Grant Program?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure/Don't Remember

If you participated in the webinar, please rate your experience.

☐ Excellent/Very helpful/Very Informative ☐ Poor/Not helpful at all
☐ Good/Helpful/Informative ☐ Can't remember
☐ Neutral ☐ N/A Did not participate
☐ Fair/Somewhat helpful

Did you refer to or use the information resources on the **Smith Foundation website** providing information on the application and the program?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure/Can't remember

If you used those information resources and/or visited the Foundation's webpage on the grant program, please rate your experience.

- ☐ Excellent/Very helpful/Very Informative
- ☐ Poor/Not helpful at all
- ☐ Good/Helpful/Informative
- ☐ Can't remember
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ N/A Did not use
- ☐ Fair/Somewhat helpful

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The Application

Regarding the Creative Spark Grant Application, please share the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't Say/Unsure
The Application questions were easy to understand.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The descriptive suggestions regarding what a response might include were helpful.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Application was easy to complete.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Given the size of the potential grant, completing the Application was an appropriate investment of time and effort.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you have any specific thoughts about the application questions, for example, if there was something the Application did NOT ask, but you wish it had, please share that here.

If you have any thoughts or comments regarding the Supplemental Materials you were asked to provide (team bios, detailed budget, etc.) feel free to share them here.

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The Application Process

Thinking about the overall Creative Spark application process, please share the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't Say/Unsure
The overall process was fair and equitable.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The eligibility criteria were fair and understandable.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The application process was easy to understand.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Foundation staff was responsive to our questions/concerns.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The application and grant deadlines (timeline) were appropriate.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you have additional thoughts or comments about the overall Innovation Engine Grant Program, the application, or grant process, please share them here.

Finally, if you could briefly share something about the impact participating in the Creative Spark Grant Program had on your organization, we'd be grateful.

For example,

Did it inspire your organization in any way?

Did it serve as a catalyst for new and innovative thinking?

Did it spark dynamic or challenging conversations among the staff and/or board?



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Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Again, your responses are anonymous, and they are being sent directly to the Program Advisor for analysis.

If you would like to speak to the Program Advisor Marshall Ginn in greater detail about the Creative Spark Grant Program, in confidence, please feel free to reach out to him directly at capitalphilanthropy@gmail.com or 202-213-3200.

On behalf of the David Smith Family Foundation, thank you for the amazing work you do in your community!