



Grantmaking Priorities

Mission

The Warner Music Group / Blavatnik Family Foundation Social Justice Fund invests in organizations around the globe that build more just and equitable communities and create real change in the lives of historically underserved and marginalized people.

We focus our investments on organizations that are led by and work to benefit affected populations, principally Black populations, in their intersectional dimensions. Our sustained, long term investments focus on our three key strategic pillars: education, arts and culture, and criminal justice reform, with the belief that work in these areas will aid in dismantling structural racism and advancing equity and justice for all people.

Values That Guide Our Grantmaking

Justice. We fund organizations that work to dismantle systemic racism and ensure that Black people and other historically marginalized populations in the US and globally have access to the full range of human rights under law.

Equity. Our funding advances equitable access to education, economic mobility, cultural expression and fair treatment within the criminal justice system. We also seek to ensure that Black-led institutions have equitable access to funding to sustain their work.

Creativity. We leverage the power of music and culture to transform communities, spark unlikely alliances, speak truth to power and illuminate our shared humanity.

Impact. Our grantmaking is outcome-driven, focused on evidence-based programs that build more just and equitable communities and create meaningful change in the lives of historically underserved and marginalized people.

Intersectionality. Our grantmaking accounts for intersections across identities (i.e. race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, migrant status, age) and across issues (i.e. criminal justice reform, arts and education). Communities at these intersections are often the most vulnerable to inequity and hold the greatest insights to solutions given their unique vantage points.



What We Fund

A. Thematic Priorities

Arts & Culture: We principally fund Black-led arts institutions, particularly those with a focus on local community engagement. We also support organizations/campaigns that leverage the power of culture to drive narrative change and advance social justice.

Education: We support college and career pathways into the music industry, increasing the number of youth with access to the industry and Black executives in leadership roles across all aspects of the business (i.e. legal, technology, finance, business administration, marketing, communications, data/research, human resources and sound engineering).

Criminal Justice Reform: To address systemic injustice in the criminal justice system, we focus on: (1) Dismantling the School to Prison Pipeline; (2) Re-Entry Reform, including reinstating voting rights for formerly incarcerated people; (3) Policing reform and community resolution alternatives.

B. Cross-Portfolio Focus Areas

Centering Most Impacted Populations: Those closest to the challenges of inequity and systemic racism must be a part of the solution. The WMG/BFF SJF will ensure that a significant portion of funding targets grassroots organizations led by most-impacted populations/communities.

An Intersectional Lens, Emphasizing Gender Equity: Our grantmaking elevates intersections across race, gender and sexual orientation and seeks to address escalating threats to low-income Black and Brown women, gender-expansive and LGBTQI+ people.

Strengthening Black-Led Institutions: We prioritize POC-led institutions in the US and other historically marginalized populations in our target international regions, with an emphasis on Black-led organizations, given their historical lack of access to philanthropic support.

Pathways & Pipelines: Recognizing the power of youth to spark change, we support the next generation of young leaders in taking their leadership to the next level - in the music industry, in social justice movement building, and beyond. The WMG/BFF SJF will ensure that a portion of funding supports programs that are youth-led and/or support youth leadership development and voice.