

Valley Arts Initiative Appeals Policy

Applicants may appeal a grant decisions under the following limited circumstances:

- a) A procedural error has been made in handling the application.
- b) The conflict of interest policy has been violated by SCVF staff, the review panel or the Foundation's board of directors.

Board decisions are subject to reversal or modification solely on these grounds.

The appeal must be made exclusively on the basis of materials submitted at the time of application. Changes in the applicant's situation after submittal cannot be considered.

Evaluations of artistic quality or merit, including artistic excellence and leadership, the quality of the artistic activity or the artistic work of an individual artist are not subject to appeal. The amount of the grant may not be appealed. No interpretation or judgment of relevant peer review panels may be appealed.

Any appeal must be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Community Partnership Committee and postmarked no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the sent date of the written notification of the Board's decision. The appeal letter should identify the error or omission and the effect such error had on the recommendation of the review panel.

The Chair of the Community Partnership Committee will review each appeal in consultation with the Community Partnership Committee and President to determine whether grounds for an appeal exist based on the above criteria. If such grounds are determined to exist, the appeal will be forwarded to the Executive Committee of the Board for consideration. The Executive Committee will solicit staff comment, review records and otherwise seek information pertaining to the case, and then will formulate a recommendation for action to the entire Board. If the appeal is supported by the Board, funds will be awarded only if they are available.