

The Projects Board is excited to see Princeton students working hard to raise funds to improve our local and global community! However, because of the mission of the Projects Board, as outlined in our constitution, it is necessary to clarify the limits within which the Board must approach funding these types of events:

The Projects Board has a clear task of helping student groups plan and execute events that directly benefit the undergraduate student body; the reason for this strict responsibility is that the sources of funding that the Board oversees are mostly derived from undergraduate students' tuition fees. Therefore, the Board must regard all projects first and foremost as campus events for undergraduate students (i.e. by engaging students through providing entertainment, raising awareness, improving the intellectual climate on campus, etc.) and not as fundraisers. With this in mind, if your student group is organizing a fundraising event and planning to apply to the Projects Board, you must choose how you would like the Projects Board to contribute to your event from the following two options:

a) The Board can fund your program as a great event that is contributing to undergraduate campus life in order to reduce the admission fee as much as possible for undergrads (ideally to make it free). In this case, because the funds you will be receiving already come from undergraduate students, you will not be able to suggest donations of specific amounts nor collect donations at points of entry. In the past, such methods of collecting donations have created unintended hostile situations in which students feel forced to contribute donations in order to gain admission (when, in effect, they have already paid for the event through their tuition fees that went to the Board's funding sources). However, you would be able, and encouraged, to raise donations in other, less overbearing ways, such as setting up tables in the corridor or circulating a jar in between acts, and you could charge admission to non-undergraduates.

b) We can approach your event in the same way that we would normally approach a performance-type event. In this case, we would approve a budget, you would charge admission to the event, and as long as you stay within the limits of the budget we approve, we could pick up any shortfall between the costs and the revenue from ticket sales if such a shortfall arises (acting as a sort of insurance). If no shortfall arrives, you would be able to contribute all the profit from ticket sales to the fundraising organization.

It is important to note that all groups must still go through the regular event application process, and that no funding is guaranteed for any event (the Board will evaluate your budget by the same criteria with which we examine all events). Also, the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students may have guidelines pertaining to your fundraising event, so it is your responsibility to ensure that you are in compliance with all university regulations. Please feel free to contact the Projects Board co-chairs if you have any questions regarding this policy.