

# 18th Street Casa De Cultura Nfp

Executive Director / CEO

EIN 873976447

IL · NTEE A20

FY ending 2024-12-31

June 10, 2026

This analysis benchmarks the total compensation of **Maya Fernandez, Executive Director / CEO** (\$14,400) against **every comparable organization** that fit the selection criteria — **292** in total — drawn systematically from IRS Form 990 filings, not a hand-picked subset.

**Compensation sits at approximately the 9<sup>th</sup> percentile of comparable organizations**

below the typical range for comparable organizations

**Benchmarked executive:** Maya Fernandez — reported title “CO-DIRECTOR”, a **direct title match** to the Executive Director / CEO role.

## How comparable organizations were selected

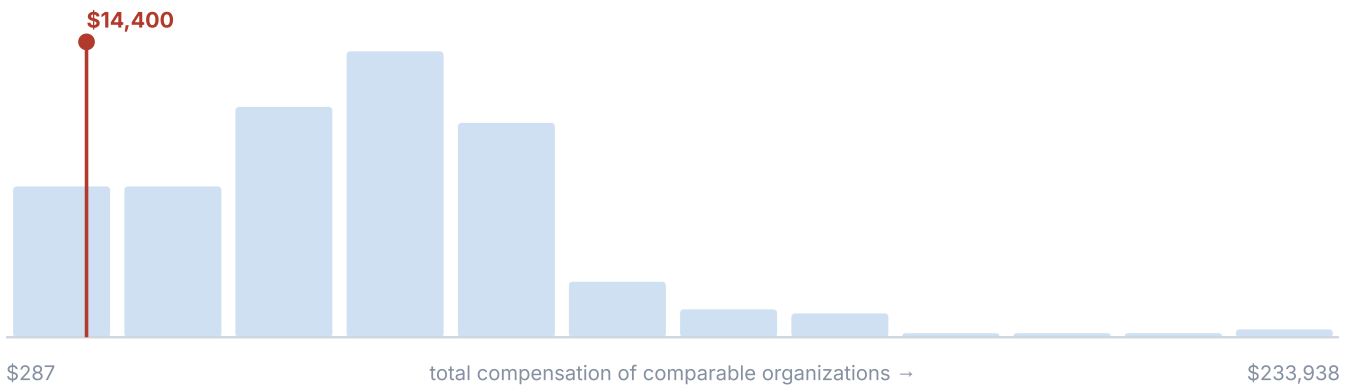
**SECTOR** Organizations sharing the subject's NTEE classification (A20).

**BUDGET** Total revenue between \$333,792 and \$747,297 — 0.67x to 1.50x the subject's \$498,198 (the band tightens as size grows).

**GEOGRAPHY** Same NTEE sector (A20), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5x revenue.

**292** organizations qualified on sector, size, and geography → **292** within the band form the benchmarked peer set.

## Distribution of comparable compensation



\$15,489

\$37,129

\$62,222

\$81,485

\$100,199

**\$14,400**



## ■ Comparable organizations

Each figure is Form 990 Part VII columns D + F (reportable pay plus other compensation and benefits; column F may include amounts from related organizations), normalized to IL cost of living (BEA RPP, 2023) and to its filing year (CPI-U); the reported amount is on each linked 990.

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
<a href="#">Christian Youth Theater Portland Vancouver</a>	OR	\$498,695	Managing Director - Bod Member	\$49,665	<b>\$48,299</b>	2023
<a href="#">Asociacion Acirc Corp</a>	PR	\$499,521	Executive Director	\$72,148	<b>\$72,148</b>	2024
<a href="#">Lions &amp; Rabbits Center For The Arts</a>	MI	\$500,162	President/executive Direct	\$50,000	<b>\$54,045</b>	2023
<a href="#">Bluebird Cultural Initiative</a>	NE	\$495,819	Executive Dir.	\$60,000	<b>\$65,642</b>	2024
<a href="#">Odunde Inc</a>	PA	\$493,610	Executive Dir.	\$85,000	<b>\$86,221</b>	2024
<a href="#">Tulsa Glass Blowing Studio Inc</a>	OK	\$492,597	Executive Director	\$75,459	<b>\$84,517</b>	2024
<a href="#">Global Social Services</a>	OH	\$491,353	Chairman Of The Board	\$3,150	<b>\$3,394</b>	2024
<a href="#">Comunidad Y Herencia Cultural</a>	OR	\$505,488	Executive Dir.	\$48,000	<b>\$45,341</b>	2024
<a href="#">Oregon Center For Contemporary Art Inc</a>	OR	\$505,715	Executive Director	\$96,321	<b>\$93,673</b>	2023
<a href="#">George A Spiva Center For The Arts</a>	MO	\$506,005	Director	\$93,462	<b>\$100,691</b>	2024
<a href="#">Hyde Park Jazz Festival</a>	IL	\$490,212	Executive Director	\$70,000	<b>\$70,000</b>	2024
<a href="#">Sacred Dance Foundation</a>	CA	\$507,567	President	\$27,176	<b>\$23,870</b>	2024
<a href="#">Hagood Mill Foundation</a>	SC	\$488,532	Executive Di	\$62,400	<b>\$66,216</b>	2024
<a href="#">Media Art Xploration Inc</a>	NY	\$484,096	Director	\$52,000	<b>\$49,207</b>	2023
<a href="#">Boulder Dance Coalition</a>	CO	\$512,408	Manager	\$45,000	<b>\$43,891</b>	2024
<a href="#">Hudson River Music Hall Productions Inc</a>	NY	\$483,329	Managing Director	\$60,000	<b>\$55,149</b>	2024

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
<a href="#">Traditional Arts In Upstate New York In</a>	NY	\$514,530	Executive Director	\$35,038	<b>\$33,156</b>	2023
<a href="#">Racing Magpie</a>	SD	\$514,812	Director	\$71,657	<b>\$82,818</b>	2023
<a href="#">Montez Press Arts Inc</a>	NY	\$479,513	Ex-officio Board Mem	\$75,532	<b>\$69,425</b>	2024
<a href="#">Village Arts Inc</a>	CA	\$517,348	Executive Director	\$76,750	<b>\$69,403</b>	2023
<a href="#">Columbia Festival Inc</a>	MD	\$478,660	Managing Director	\$60,394	<b>\$57,432</b>	2024
<a href="#">Luminaria</a>	TX	\$478,477	Executive Dir.	\$73,172	<b>\$76,651</b>	2023
<a href="#">Good Shepherd Radio Inc</a>	IN	\$478,421	President	\$79,156	<b>\$87,416</b>	2023
<a href="#">Colab Arts Inc</a>	NJ	\$476,703	Producing Di	\$59,615	<b>\$52,745</b>	2025
<a href="#">Ocean City Arts Center</a>	NJ	\$520,249	Executive Dir.	\$63,800	<b>\$57,941</b>	2024

**Comp (reported)** is the figure on each organization's Form 990 (columns D + F); **Comp (adjusted)** normalizes it to IL cost of living and 2024 dollars. Click any organization to verify the figure on ProPublica.

## Methodology

Comparable organizations were drawn from electronically filed IRS Form 990 returns and matched on sector (NTEE code), budget (a size-adaptive revenue band that tightens as the organization grows), and geography (same-state first, broadening only when too few peers qualify); every organization within the band forms the peer set. To compare fairly across regions and years, peer compensation is normalized to IL cost of living (BEA Regional Price Parities, 2023) and to the subject's filing year (CPI-U). The figure benchmarked is Form 990 Part VII, Section A, columns D + F — reportable pay plus other compensation, benefits, and deferred amounts (column F may include amounts from related organizations) — with the chief executive matched by role. Related-organization amounts (column E) and institutional trustees are excluded. Full methodology: [peerbasis.org/methodology](https://peerbasis.org/methodology).

## Sample, role match & sensitivity

PEER COUNT	292 organizations. Compensation range \$287–\$233,938; filing years 2023–2025.
SIZE BASIS	Matched on total revenue (\$498,198); for reference, expenses \$244,399 and assets \$595,592. <b>Revenue and expenses diverge this year — revenue may misrepresent operating size; weigh the expense-based view.</b>
ROLE MATCH	Maya Fernandez, reported title " <i>CO-DIRECTOR</i> ", benchmarked as Executive Director / CEO. The title maps directly to this role.
RELATED-ORG PAY	7 peers report related-organization compensation (column E), which the D + F benchmark does not fully capture; review where material.

**OUTLIERS** 5 peers fall outside 1.5× the interquartile range — consider whether any reflect one-time payments (severance, deferred-comp payouts).

Sensitivity — the subject's percentile under alternative compensation definitions:

BASIS	SUBJECT PERCENTILE
Total compensation (D + F), cost-of-living + inflation adjusted — the PeerBasis default	9 <sup>th</sup>
Total compensation (D + F), as reported (no adjustments)	9 <sup>th</sup>
Reportable pay only (column D), adjusted	11 <sup>th</sup>
All sources (D + E + F), adjusted	8 <sup>th</sup>

If the percentile moves materially across these definitions, the result is sensitive to methodology choices, and the board should weigh which basis best fits its facts.

### ● **Rebuttable presumption of reasonableness · 26 CFR 53.4958-6**

Compensation paid by a tax-exempt organization is presumed reasonable — shifting the burden to the IRS — when three requirements are met. This report supplies the comparability data for the second. The board should record the following in its minutes *concurrently* with its decision:

#### **Draft board minutes – executive compensation**

1. The compensation of the Executive Director / CEO (Maya Fernandez) was approved in advance by [the Board / Compensation Committee], composed of members with no conflict of interest with respect to the arrangement.
2. Prior to its determination, the authorized body obtained and relied upon appropriate comparability data, namely the PeerBasis Compensation Comparability Determination dated June 10, 2026, comparing compensation against 292 similarly situated organizations (Same NTEE sector (A20), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5× revenue).
3. The authorized body determined that total compensation of \$14,400 is reasonable (approximately the 9<sup>th</sup> percentile of comparable organizations) and documented the basis for this determination concurrently, on [date], by a vote of [\_\_ for / \_\_ against].

Sources: IRS Form 990 e-file data (apps.irs.gov); IRS Business Master File (NTEE classification). Every figure traces to an original public filing — click any organization above to verify it on ProPublica. PeerBasis is a service of Prismind Analytics; its [methodology is published](#), was commissioned for independent adversarial review, and discloses its own limitations. This report is comparability data to support a board's good-faith determination under IRC 4958; it is not legal or tax advice. Generated by PeerBasis on June 10, 2026.