The David Prize

Eligibility & Step 2 Survey Question Overview

Part 1: Eligibility Survey

Reality check!

Before you begin this survey, we want to make sure The David Prize will be a good match for you and your ideas -- we don’t want to waste your time. Please take a minute to review the Prize’s parameters and aspirations before proceeding.

The David Prize is for a specific individual.

- It’s for someone who’s all about New York -- who loves, lives in, and is inspired by this particular place.

- It’s for someone who -- whether socially, economically, culturally, artistically, environmentally, or otherwise -- is driven to make NYC better. Someone whose ideas will make a borough, building, block, neighborhood, or community more delightful, diverse, resilient and user-friendly in a unique and divergent way.

- It’s for someone whose creativity, grit, and energy parallel the vibe of the city we love.

- It’s for someone with a track record, or some experiences and a story, that makes them the ideal person to carry out the vision they’ve set forth.

- And finally, it’s for someone that really needs funding to catapult their plans and work to the next level -- whatever that might be. This person can tell us how and why The David Prize will change the trajectory of their ideas.

The Prize is not for everyone.

- If you aren’t specifically focused on New York City, The David Prize probably isn’t for you. David Prize-awarded ideas could scale someday, but right now you should be NYC-based, NYC-focused and NYC-inspired.

- Don’t apply if you’ve already ’done it.’ This isn’t a lifetime achievement award or recognition for a long established project (or for the ED of a nonprofit that’s already ’doing it’). The David Prize is looking for individuals that have already started making substantial contributions to the city, but their best is still to come. It rewards past achievements as well as the potential to do amazing work that impacts NYC, and the moxie to get it done.
• If you already have plenty of funding and glory, stop here. There are a number of foundations, investors, and grantmakers that fund ideas with proven results, product/market fit, and potential to scale to the moon and back. We’re not one of them. We won’t fund folks that have raised money from large foundations, received major government grants, or regularly show up on ‘30 under 30’ lists.

1. Do you believe you could be the next David Prize winner?
   ○ Yes
   ○ No

2. Briefly describe what you do — your plans and efforts to change, improve, build, shake up, delight and/or celebrate New York City. [Short answer]
   Seriously, there’s a 1500 character maximum. If you’re involved in multiple things, you can tell us here, but make sure to let us know which specific project you’re working on that The David Prize should support.

3. Attach something that captures your work. [Attachment]
   If you’d like to write more, you’re welcome to provide a longer narrative; but also feel free to add a picture, a video, a poem, a deck, a report, a playbill, etc. to help us better understand your work.

4. What sector best encompasses your work? [Select one]
   ○ Arts, music, dance, or other creative endeavors
   ○ Civic engagement, social justice, human rights
   ○ Economic and/or workforce development
   ○ Education
   ○ Environment and/or sustainability
   ○ Food and/or nutrition
   ○ Immigrant and/or refugee services
   ○ Health
   ○ Placemaking, public space, urban design
   ○ Science and/or technology
• Social services (e.g. childcare, aging, homelessness)
• Veterans’ affairs
• Other -- please describe

5. Where in the city does your work impact? [Select any]
• Bronx
• Brooklyn
• Manhattan
• Queens
• Staten Island
• Outside of the city
• Other -- please describe

6. Is the impact of your work specific to NYC? [Yes / No]

The David Prize is for individuals seeking to improve and energize New York City. We welcome ideas and work with potential to scale beyond the five boroughs, but your experience, story, and ideas should be New York-centric (at the time of submitting this survey).

• Yes
• No

7. With regard to the project you’re presenting for David Prize consideration - how much money have you raised in the past year? [Select one]

We’re looking for a total dollar amount, including any type of funding (from fundraiser donations to family gifts, revenue to foundation grants, and everything in between). And it’s ok if you haven’t raised any money to date!

• $0 - $10,000
• $10,001 - $50,000
• $50,001 - $100,000
• $100,001 - $250,000
• $250,001 - $500,000
• Above $500,000
8. Where has funding (if any) come from to date? [Select one]
   ○ Grant funding - money provided to you in order to carry out activities and report against them
   ○ Revenue - money you’ve made for products or services provided
   ○ Donations - results from fundraisers and/or people giving money with no strings attached
   ○ No funding - you’re self-funding or do not have any outside support for the work as yet
   ○ Other sources not listed here

9. Have you received any other awards, prizes, fellowships, or scholarships for the work you’re pitching? [Yes / No]
   ○ Yes
   ○ No

If yes, which ones? [Short answer]
We want to know what kinds of recognition you’ve received. Share any awards, fellowships, scholarships, community recognitions, articles or anything else that put you and your work in the spotlight.

10. Is your work, idea or project affiliated with anything/one else? [Select one]
    ○ I am part of an existing organization, so this work is a program, service, or new idea we’re building out as part of that organization.
    ○ I have partners -- i.e. other organizations or people are helping.
    ○ I’m a resident or fellow, so am loosely connected to an organization, but this work is my own.
    ○ Affiliations? Nope. This is just me.

Any details to share about affiliations? [Short answer]

11. How did you hear about The David Prize? [Select any]
    ○ A billboard in DUMBO
    ○ Flyer in a store/library/neighborhood hangout
○ Subway advertising
○ Social media post
○ Word of mouth
○ Search online
○ Other
Part 2: Step 2 Survey

If you received this link, it means we’ve reviewed your eligibility survey and want to know more! Later steps in the David Prize process will include site visits (if applicable) and in-person interviews. Just like the first survey, please keep your answers for all questions to 1500 characters. We don’t need long essays.

In reviewing your application, we will keep 5 questions top-of-mind:

- **You’re a New Yorker.** You love, work for, and live in one of New York’s five boroughs.
- **You have serious plans to contribute.** Whether socially, economically, culturally, environmentally (or otherwise), you have a divergent and unique vision for how to make NYC a place where people yearn to live and a concrete idea on how to achieve it.
- **You’re a visionary.** You take risks and have the grit to make something out of nothing. You see long-term benefits where others see short-term obstacles.
- **You get things done.** You already contribute to the city. You have the capacity and track record of extraordinary work... but you haven’t done it all. Yet.
- **You truly need the prize.** Funding and visibility could change the trajectory of your work and life, not to mention your block, your borough, and maybe even our city.

1. Tell us what you’ll do with $200,000 to make NYC a greater place. [Short answer]

2. Attach a budget, table, or picture if you’d like to provide more information about how you will spend David Prize funds (optional). [Attachment]

3. What’s the problem you’re working on, and why does it matter now? [Short answer]

4. If your work is successful, what will NYC look like in 5 years? [Short answer]

5. Anything else you’d like to add to help us understand your vision? [Short answer]
6. How is your vision and idea unique relative to what’s already out there? [Short answer]

7. Who loves your idea (or will love it, once it blows up)? [Short answer]

8. Who’s going to hate it -- or already does? [Short answer]

9. Please tell us your New York City story. [Short answer]

10. Why are you the right person to do what you do? [Short answer]

11. Name your avatar for the David Prize, i.e. “In ten years, I’d like the world to think of me like X.” [Short answer]

12. Reference check - List three individuals that would agree you’re an excellent candidate for The David Prize.
   This helps us better understand you and your work. Upon submitting this application, we will email the individuals you list to confirm they know you and would recommend you.

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