

The EACS Perspective

Creativity, Growth & Financial Clarity

Hello friends and partners,

Welcome to this month's edition of the EACS newsletter. Whether we are crunching numbers or chasing the perfect sunset, life is about balancing technical precision with artistic passion. This month brings the biggest update yet, so let's get right to it.



JUST PUBLISHED

The Quiet Craft

After twenty five years of chasing grant deadlines, I finally wrote the book I wish I'd had on day one. *The Quiet Craft: Translating Hope Into a Funded Plan* is now available everywhere books are sold.

It is not just another how to guide. Every chapter pairs a hard earned truth with a real tool you can put to work immediately: a readiness checklist, a fit scoring tool, a full grant workflow, and an honest look at where AI actually helps in this work, and where it quietly does not.

Get Your Copy: books2read.com/u/38joyV

Scaling New Heights: QBOA Certified

I am thrilled to announce that I am now a certified QuickBooks Online Accountant (QBOA) ProAdvisor. This means I have the tools, training, and direct support to streamline your business financials more effectively than ever. If you have been struggling with reconciliation, tax prep, or just understanding your cash flow, let's talk.

Artistic Pursuits: Nature Photography



Some exciting news from the field. Several of my recent nature photography pieces have officially sold. Capturing the quiet beauty of a sunset or the intricate details of a cloud formation is more than a hobby, it is a way to recharge. Photography teaches me patience and perspective, two skills that translate perfectly into the accounting world.

Photography Tip: Always look for "the golden hour," the hour after sunrise or before sunset. The light is softer, warmer, and turns a regular landscape into something cinematic.



The Art of the Ask: Grant Writing Wisdom

Grant writing is part science, part storytelling. Here are my top recommendations for getting your proposal noticed:

- **Be Hyper-Specific:** Don't just ask for funds, define exactly how those dollars convert into measurable community impact.
- **Align with Their Mission:** Research the funder's previous grants. Does your project mirror their priorities?
- **Data-Driven Storytelling:** Use emotional narratives to hook them, but back it up with solid financial projections and budget clarity.

If these three tips feel useful, they are just the surface. The full system, including the readiness checklist and fit scoring tool behind them, lives in *The Quiet Craft*.

Building Your Vision: Insights for Non-Profit Startups

Launching a non-profit is a bold endeavor. It requires more than just passion, it requires a solid infrastructure.

- **Define Your Governance:** Build a board that brings diverse skills, not just friends. You need legal, financial, and community expertise.
- **Financial Health is Mission Health:** Many startups fail because they view accounting as a burden. Instead, view it as a map. Your financial reports should tell you where you are going, not just where you have been.
- **Start Small, Scale Smart:** Focus on one core objective first. Proving your model on a small scale is far more impressive to potential donors than an over-extended project that lacks focus.

Thank you for being a part of this journey. Whether you need help with your books, your grant proposals, or just want to chat about capturing the perfect light, I am here for you.

Best regards,

Daryl Vanella, M.A.

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