2023 TWA Grant Application

Contact Information

Organization Name:	Rising Stars Academy of Dance and Performing Arts/Nia's Daughters Movement Collective
Contact Title:	Artistic Director
Contact Name:	Stacey Allen
Address:	14114 Hiram Clarke Rd.
City:	Houston
Email Address:	staceyallencde@gmail.com
TWA Sponsor:	Michelle Bonton
TWA Sponsor Email:	mlbonton@harriscountycac.org

Mission-aligned artistic significance:

Organization and Project Information

Organization's Mission:

The mission of RSA is to expose our students to a myriad of paths and provide authentic educational experiences to underserved youth.

Name of Project/Program to be funded:

"Liturgy of Remembrance"

Project Description:

Liturgy of Remembrance is an educational site specific performance commemorating the lived histories of enslaved Africans who learned of their freedom under the Freedom Tree in Missouri City, TX.

Project Purpose: What are the goals of the project/program?

The purpose of this project is to educate children and their families on the histories of African Americans in Fort Bend County while providing them an opportunity to participate in public performance art-making.

Is this program offered at a cost to children? If there is a fee for this program, please enter the cost in numerical dollar amount per child to enroll.

No, this is a free opportunity for all children participating.

What is the expected number of children to be directly served by project/program? Please enter a numerical response.

250

What is the age range of children served by this project/program?

4 to 18

Identify the artistic discipline(s) included in this project/program: Check all that apply.

Dance

Film/Media Arts

Music

Theatre

Population served: Addressing need-based arts opportunities.

Demographic Information of Children Served

Demographic description of the children served by this project/program: Check all that apply.

At-Risk of dropping out of school

Title I

Low Socioeconomic

Low arts access

Children with disabilities or special needs

Children served represent cultural diversity

What percentage of children served by this program are considered at-risk? The term at-risk is used to identify students or groups of students who statistically have a higher probability of failing academically or dropping out of school.

80

What percentage of the children served by this program are economically disadvantaged?

85

Describe the community served by this program: Check all that apply.

Suburban

Major Metro Area

City- Small Town

Project Need: What need(s) does this project/program fulfill? Limit 200 characters including spaces

Liturgy of Remembrance satisfies the need to provide arts education and experiential learning children and families in Missouri City.

Describe the race percentage of the student population served by the program. Please enter a numerical percentage for each. Percentages must add up to 100%.

American Indian or Alaska Native	
Asian	
Black or African American	85
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
White	10
Two or More Races	5
Other	

What percentage of the children served by this program are Hispanic/Latino? Enter a numerical response totaling 100%.

Hispanic/Latino	25
Not Hispanic/Latino	75

Project innovation and creativity:

Describe how this program provides arts access for children.

Students who attend lower income schools are less likely to have out of school field trips wherein they experience experiential learning. COVID-19 has exacerbated these circumstances. This project provides arts access to children with their participation in the movement choir and as audience members. Additionally, Public Art enhances communities and brings people together.

Explain what makes this program/project innovative. Program/Project innovation differs for each community. If your program is a traditional arts experience but is unique to your community, please specify. If your program is innovative, relative to traditional arts offerings in your community, please specify.

This program is innovative because with the growing diversity and cultural arts offerings in the Greater Houston area, there is a gap to be filled for family focused opportunities. With growing advocacy, there are opportunities for students to experience the arts in school settings. However, "Liturgy of Remembrance" is offered in a public park at no cost to engage children with their families.

What type or level of arts experience do children have as a result of your program? Please select one.

Student Engagement: Children observe and are introduced to knowledge, skills, and content, and are invited to be an active participant in the arts example.

Is this a new program? If the answer is NO, how long has the program been in existence?

Yes

Organizational management and capability:

The organization has the following human capital. Check all that apply.

Board

Staff

Project Manager/Director

Volunteers

How many full-time employees does the organization employ? Enter a numerical response.

2

How many part-time employees does the organization employ? Enter a numerical response.

2

How many volunteers serve the organization? Enter a numerical response.

35

Describe the qualifications and experience of the individuals who will provide this programming and work directly with children.

The curator, Stacey Allen, has extensive experience leading children and family centered education professionally and personally. In addition to be a dance artist, she is a certified teacher with a MA in Cross Cultural Studies.

Describe the race proportion of your staff. The sum should total 100%.

African American	100
American Indian or Alaska Native	
Asian	
Black or African American	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
White	
Two or More Races	
Other	

Describe the race proportion of your board (if applicable). The sum should total 100%.

African American	100
American Indian or Alaska Native	
Asian	
Black or African American	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
White	
Two or More Races	
Other	

What percentage of your staff are Hispanic/Latino? Enter a numerical response totaling 100%.

Hispanic/Latino	0
Not Hispanic/Latino	100

What percentage of your board (if applicable) are Hispanic/Latino? Enter a numerical response totaling 100%.

Hispanic/Latino	0
Not Hispanic/Latino	100

Outside support:

List community partners supporting the program:

Nia's Daughters Movement Collective

City of Missouri City

Dance Source Houston

Planning, implementation, and evaluation:

Program Implementation (if new) or Operational Plan: How will/is this project/program administered? Limit 1500 characters including spaces. Please include details such as where the program will be hosted, how children will be enrolled, how students gain access to this program, if transportation is needed or provided, and how the program will be administered.

“Liturgy of Remembrance” will be held at the Freedom Tree Park. Children and their families will be encouraged to sign up for the event via an Eventbrite link so that we can have access to our impact data. Children and families will also be able to attend if they are in the park and learn of the event the day of. Students will gain access to the program through strategic marketing efforts supported by RSA, Nia’s Daughters Movement Collective, and the City of Missouri City. In addition to our digital strategy, students will also gain access via our grassroots efforts such as flyer and poster distribution, word of mouth, and community partnerships. Transportation will be provided by the families to attend the event. This is a public arts performance project. Children and families will be able to engage in this programming by being an active audience member and to participate in the movement choir. As children and their families engage in this performance, they will learn history and be inspired to the transformative power of the arts.

Evaluation Plan: How will you evaluate the success of this program? Limit 500 characters including spaces.

The success of this program will be evaluated quantitatively by the number in attendance and their demographic information. With our marketing efforts and day-of traffic, we anticipate a high attendance in reaching diverse children in Missouri City, Fort Bend County, and the Greater Houston area.

Additionally, we evaluate success qualitatively by the quality of the production and the ability of the program to create pathways for more students to awaken their creativity and see possibilities.

Program/Project Timeline: Provide a detailed timeline to implement this program. If you choose to upload a file to answer this question please type, "Project Timeline attached" in the box below. TWA grant funds must be spent between June 1 – May 31.Limit 800 characters including spaces.

Project Timeline Attached

Program/Project Timeline: Optional File Upload.

Timeline%20for%20Production.docx

Organizational funding:

Grant amount requested from Texas Women for the Arts (Please enter a numerical dollar amount). TWA Grants typically range from $1,000 to $30,000 per organization. Requests included in the application will be considered by the membership. The final awarded amount is up to the discretion of the membership and may not reflect the full funding request submitted in the application.

30,000

Total Organization Budget (Please enter a numerical dollar amount).

172,830

If awarded the full grant request, what amount of TWA funding would support the following categories? Please provide a numerical dollar amount for each area.

Staffing/Salaries	100
Operational Expenses	
Supplies and Materials	
Facilities (Rent/Mortgage)	
Technology Equipment	
Instructional Resources and Curriculum	
Student Transportation Fees	
Other: Please specify	

Attachments Required

1. Organization's current year budget.
2. Organization's final/actual budget for the previous year.
3. Project budget

Total cost for this project/program. (Please enter a numerical dollar amount)

40,000

What percent of the organization's total operations budget is being requested in this grant application? TWA Grants may not exceed 25% of the total organizational budget.

17%

Other sources of revenue ($2,000 or more) for the project/program: Provide a list of sponsors, grants, etc., and include dollar amounts.

City of Missouri City Community Block Development Grant- $10,000

Submit photos or collateral illustrating the program components, engagement, and impact. (Optional)

TWA%20samples.pdf

Is there anything else that should be considered about this project/program? (Optional)

With your support, "Liturgy of Remembrance" can grow from our committed public park performance to additional in-school offerings at no cost to the schools in the service area (Missouri City, 77489 and 77459.)

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JUL 17 2018

RSA OF DANCE AND PERFORMING ARTS
16319 NAPA VINE DRIVE
HOUSTON, TX 77053-0000

Employer Identification Number:
83-0960159
DLN:
26053590002548
Contact Person:
CUSTOMER SERVICE ID# 31954
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
509(a)(2)
Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
June 1, 2018
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Letter 947

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2021 Operating Budget

RISING STARS ACADEMY OF DANCE & PERFORMING ARTS

Revenue	AMOUNT
Grants	$61,300.00
General Donations	$6,500.00
Fundraising	$3,800.00
Memberships/Tuition	$35,475.00
Secured Contracts	$3,150.00
Other Programs	$3,250.00
Facility Rentals	$800.00
Total Revenue	**$114,275.00**

Expenses	AMOUNT	ADD TO TOTAL?	NOTES
Saleries	$35,000.00		
Utilities (electricity/natural gas)	$3,400.00		
Rent	$24,000.00		
Insurance	$1,600.00		
Marketing/Advertisement	$1,500.00		
Office Supplies	$900.00		
Program Equipment	$1,750.00		
Entertainment	$475.00		
Professional Services	$950.00		
Transportation	$14,000.00		
Artist Fees	$4,800.00		
Cable/ Internet	$1,120.00		
Telephone	$640.00		
Security	$960.00		
Other	$800.00		
Total Expensees	**$91,895.00**		

2022 Operating Budget

RISING STARS ACADEMY OF DANCE & PERFORMING ARTS

Revenue	AMOUNT
Grants	$92,250.00
General Donations	$10,000.00
Fundraising	$7,530.00
Memberships/Tuition	$50,460.00
Secured Contracts	$3,150.00
Other Programs	$7,460.00
Facility Rentals	$1,980.00
Total Revenue	**$172,830.00**

Expenses	AMOUNT	ADD TO TOTAL?	NOTES
Saleries	$52,800.00		
Utilities (electricity/natural gas)	$3,400.00		Both Facilities
Rent	$42,000.00		Both Facilities
Insurance	$1,600.00		Both Facilities
Marketing/Advertisement	$3,200.00		
Office Supplies	$2,420.00		
Program Equipment	$4,000.00		
Entertainment	$1,200.00		
Professional Services	$950.00		
Transportation	$2,255.00		
Artist Fees	$9,000.00		
Cable/ Internet	$1,120.00		Site B
Telephone	$640.00		
Security	$960.00		Site B
Other	$500.00		
Total Expensees	**$126,045.00**		

TWA GRANT- LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE BUDGET

Expense	Funding Source	Vendor	Notes	Price
Artistic Director	TWA Grant	Nia's Daughters Movement Collective	This is for artistic leadership.	$7,000
Administrative Fees	TWA Grant	RSA of Dance	This is for clerical work.	$5,000
Project Manager	CBDG- Missouri City	RSA of Dance	This person will handle logistics and communicate will all parties.	$3,000
Artist Fees: Performers	TWA Grant	NDMC and other	This is to compensate lead performers. (7 total)	$11,000
Artist Fees: Musicians	TWA Grant	Shanette Smith	This is for an original score and music leadership during rehearsal.	$3000
Production Fees: Videography	TWA Grant	Images by Papillion	This includes promotional commercials and day of videography services.	$2000
Event Photography	CBDG- Missouri City	Jettlife Productions	This is day of event photography.	$1000
Marketing Materials	TWA Grant	Varies	This includes graphic design, flyers, posters, and digital ads.	$2000
Public Relations	TWA Grant	Who's Who PR	This a set fee for PR support for the life of the project.	$2000
AV/Technical Needs	CBDG- Missouri City		This is for proper mics and sound equipment day of show.	$3000
Miscellaneous Supplies	CBDG- Missouri City			$500

TWA GRANT- LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE BUDGET

Refreshments	CBDG- Missouri City	Ambrosial Catering	This is to serve culturally relevant lite bites to attendees.	$2500
			Total:	**$40,000**

Timeline for Production- Liturgy of Remembrance

i. November: Identify and meet with artistic team including but not limited to Artistic Director, Assistant Director, Marketing/Social Media Firm, Set Designer, Videographers, Costume Designers, Musical Director, Rehearsal Director, Dramaturg, Dance Captain, and core professional performers
ii. January: Obtain proper permits, solidify date, collect materials for press kit
iii. January- May: internal meetings with professional performers and key artistic staff on a weekly basis.
iv. March- submit to Houston Citywide Juneteenth Committee for additional marketing leverage potential. Open call audition
v. April: Select logistics coordinator to oversee non-artistic production elements. Audition for community Movement Choir. Press release to go out. Rehearsals will begin for full cast and community members weekly.
vi. May: weekly rehearsals
vii. June 3rd-9th- Tech and Dress Rehearsal on site week early morning and late evening rehearsals to accommodate weather constraints
viii. June 10th- 4pm call time, 7pm showtime, lite bites to follow

Past Projects/ Work Samples

In collaboration with Nia's Daughters Movement Collective, RSA of Dance has co-created some of the following related projects:

1. This is a 2021 student-led and created project facilitated RSA/NDMC at the FREEDOM Tree. This was shared with over 100 students who live in Fort Bend.
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KspCaRpdops

2. Recap of "The Fairytale Project". This was a performance commemorating the lives Jim and Winnie Shankle, founders of the Texas Freedom Colony, Shankleville. This was a free, open to the public performance held at Discovery Green. There were over 420 attendees in person.
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P9xSMhvISAM&t=13s