

2025-2026 TWA Grant Application

Contact Information

Organization Name:	<u>Marfa Theatre (d.b.a. Marfa Live Arts)</u>
Contact Title:	<u>Director</u>
Contact Name:	<u>Jennie Lyn Hamilton</u>
Address:	<u>PO Box 1365</u>
City:	<u>Marfa</u>
Email Address:	<u>jlhamilton@marfalivearts.org</u>
TWA Sponsor:	<u>Tania Schwartz</u>
TWA Sponsor Email:	<u>tania@dosmilagros.com</u>

Artistic Significance & Project Innovation and Creativity: (Question 3)

Organization's Mission:

Marfa Live Arts engages and maintains a consistent presence in the lives of both youth and adults by providing free arts education & arts programming within schools and venues throughout our region.

Name of Project/Program to be Funded:

Arts Education Annual Programming

Project Description:

Our high-quality educational programs provide vital dramatic arts, dance and music education that would otherwise not be available to these students.

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

Goals of our education programs are to maintain a consistent presence in the lives of students & to provide artistic learning opportunities they otherwise would not receive that increase self-confidence and critical thinking skills which in turn enable better outcomes for their future. In our fifteenth year, we have countless examples of former students continuing with degrees in higher education in the arts who return to thank us for the positive influence our programs have had on their lives.

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?

325

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

7-18

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

Dance, Literary Arts, Music, Musical Theatre, Theatre

Project Innovation and Creativity: (Question 4)

Describe how this program provides arts access for children.

Our programs enable students to find their own voice by digging deep within & expressing what they know & imagine. Bringing a Latinx playwright into the classroom to teach is a powerful tool that builds critical thinking while exploring student's border culture. In the 15 years of the playwriting program 1225 plays have been written. Our choral programs give confidence & lifelong love of singing.

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.

No one else does what we do. Our programs bridge our diverse population and give children the opportunity to be heard & seen. By providing a safe environment to express their inner lives our programs provide for growth and self-confidence to blossom. Without our annual programs that students, teachers and our town have come to expect, there would be a void in our community.

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

Student Artists: Children observe, are introduced to, and engage in the arts, and practice the artistic process first hand by creating visual and/or performing arts of their own.

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

Marfa Live Arts has been teaching arts education since 2001

Organizational Management and Capability: (Question 5)

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

Board, Staff, Project Manager/Director, Volunteers

Describe your organization's staffing structure.

Number of full-time employees	1
Number of part-time employees	4
Number of volunteers	12

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

MLA has over forty years of combined teaching experience & have taught programs not only for MLA but also for Chinati Foundation, Marfa Contemporary, Marfa International School and others.

Race and Ethnicity

Describe the race proportion of your:	Staff	Board
African American	0	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	
Asian	0	17
Black or African American	20	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	
White	40	50
Two or More Races	0	
Other	40	33

Describe the ethnicity of your:	Staff	Board
Hispanic/Latino	40	34
Not Hispanic/Latino	60	66

Outside Support: (Question 5 continued)

List community partners supporting the program:

Marfa Independent School District, Marfa Education Foundation, City of Marfa, Permian Basin Area Foundation, Marfa Public Radio, Crowley Theater, KMKB 98.9 FM, Big Bend Sentinel, Marfa Chamber of Commerce

Organizational Funding: (Question 5 continued)

Has the organization received a TWA Grant in the past? If so, which years?

Yes, 2023, 2021, 2019, 2017

Budget at a Glance

Total Organization Budget Amount	142000
Total Program/Project Budget	142000
TWA Grant Request	30000
Grant request's percentage of total organization budget. Cannot exceed 25%.	21

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	
Operational Expenses	
Supplies and Materials	
Facilities (Rent/Mortgage)	
Technology Equipment	
Instructional Resources and Curriculum	30000
Student Transportation Fees	
Other: Please specify	

Attachments Included

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

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

Texas Commission on the Arts \$32,000; Marfa Education Foundation \$10,000; Rea Charitable Trust \$30,000; FMH Foundation \$16,000; Permian Basin Area Foundation \$20,000 (pending); Stillwater Foundation (tbd)

Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation: (Question 5 continued)

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.

Marfa Live Arts is the only organization in Marfa that brings the performing arts, choir and dance into the classroom. Making these learning opportunities available to our low-income Latino students, we work closely with the MISD Superintendent. The majority of our education programs are annual courses hosted at Marfa ISD and held during regular class schedules allowing for ALL students to participate with no need to register. We have a foundation of best practices and successful models to guide and improve our continued efforts. Each program involves collaborative partnerships. In June, we host our 14th year of summer camp focusing on theater, dance and choir. In Fall 2026, we teach the 11th annual Playwriting Preparatory course at Marfa High School and host the Winter Showcase Theater which will highlight the winning plays written by student playwrights. The Spring 2026 Playwriting Program will begin its fifteenth year of instruction at Marfa ISD with guest playwright Ramón Esquivel. Esquivel is an award-winning Latino playwright. We facilitate experiences that have lasting impact, helping students to engage in both critical thinking and creative expression while building self-confidence. These skills build a skillset that will serve these youth in all aspects of their lives. Encouragement of this type is essential in a rural and geographically isolated community such as Marfa, and we continually strive to provide this arts exposure to our diverse demographic.

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

To gauge success, we will speak with teachers and students on what techniques were most effective in engaging and building self-confidence & artistic skills. Student achievement can be measured in: Increased motivation & engagement i.e. improved attendance & heightened educational aspirations. Development of disciplined habits of mind i.e. problem solving and critical/creative thinking. Development of social competencies i.e. collaboration and teamwork skills, social tolerance & self-confidence.

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.

June 2026: Thirteenth annual Theater/Dance/Choir Camp for 3rd through 8th graders Winter 2026: Playwriting Preparatory Program workshop for Marfa Junior High Winter 2026: Winter Showcase Theater produced with winning student monologues Spring 2027: 16th annual Playwriting Program hosts Latinx playwright at Marfa High School. Being taught how to critically think and how to access their inner voice, students express deepest fears, hopes and ideas. Mastering the art of writing in dramatic form, each student writes their own original one-act play. Spring 2027: Winning student playwrights have their work produced by Marfa Live Arts using adult actors to bring their words to life at the Crowley Theater for the 16th Annual One Act Plays.

Program/Project Timeline: Optional File Upload.

Impact: (Question 6)

Demographic Information of Children Served

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

Low Socioeconomic

Low arts access

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.

15

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

85

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

Rural

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

The Marfa school district currently does not offer enrichment classes in the performing arts, choir or dance. Therefore, Marfa Live Arts serves a vital role as an in-school provider of arts education

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	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
White	5
Two or More Races	10

Other	85
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What percentage of the children served by this program are Hispanic/Latino? Enter a numerical response totaling 100%.

Hispanic/Latino	85
Not Hispanic/Latino	15

Optional Content Provided

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

One of our sixth grade participants, Lily Aguero, shared her thoughts on what the Marfa Live Arts' workshop meant to her, "It was a full experience for me. I kind of showed off because when I first started, I knew I wanted to learn the parts. I closed my eyes and just started singing. So that was one of the things that I enjoyed most about Marfa Live Arts. If Marfa Live Arts wasn't here, I wouldn't have theater camp and choir and playwriting, I may be somewhat of a different person than I am today. So, I thank Marfa Live Arts for being here and that I've been able to do all this. I am looking forward to so much more with Marfa Live Arts. I wouldn't be the person I am today without it."

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: **MAY 02 2006**

MARFA THEATRE
PO BOX 1365
MARFA, TX 79843-0000

Employer Identification Number:
74-3011051
DIN:
17053091824016
Contact Person: ID# 31533
GREGORY S PAJDA
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

Dear Applicant: -----

Our letter dated November 2001, stated you would be exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and you would be treated as a public charity, rather than as a private foundation, during an advance ruling period.

Based on the information you submitted, you are classified as a public charity under the Code section listed in the heading of this letter. Since your exempt status was not under consideration, you continue to be classified as an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, provides detailed information about your rights and responsibilities as an exempt organization. You may request a copy by calling the toll-free number for forms, (800) 829-3676. Information is also available on our Internet Web Site at www.irs.gov.

If you have general questions about exempt organizations, please call our toll-free number shown in the heading.

Please keep this letter in your permanent records.

Sincerely yours,



Lois G. Lerner
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

MARFA LIVE ARTS
Profit & Loss
 January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Door Donations	798.00
Government Grants	
City Grant	5,236.80
State Grant	24,500.00
Total Government Grants	29,736.80
Individual & Corporate Donors	10,516.81
Partnership Fee	240.00
Private Foundation Grants	94,500.00
Total Income	135,791.61
Gross Profit	135,791.61
Expense	
Operating Cost	
Accounting	2,420.00
Administrative Fees	30,300.00
Bank Service Charge	109.00
Dues & Subscriptions	257.55
Insurance - Liability	1,022.68
Marketing and Promotion	1,393.11
Merchant Fees	94.68
Office Expense	377.20
Office Supplies	106.99
Postage, Shipping, PO Box	437.00
Travel	568.45
Website	306.00
Total Operating Cost	37,392.66
Program Costs	
Administrative Fees	540.00
Artist Fee	74,947.75
Bank Service Charge	28.00
Hospitality	1,638.57
License Fee{Exp}	300.00
Marketing & Promotion	7,326.00
Office Supplies	151.25
Professional Fees	100.00
Props and Supplies	1,101.85
Rent	450.00
Scholarship Expense	1,000.00
Technical & Other Services	400.00
Travel	3,438.42
Total Program Costs	91,421.84
Total Expense	128,814.50
Net Ordinary Income	6,977.11
Net Income	6,977.11

**IFA THEATRE d.b.a. MARFA LIVE ARTS: Operating Budget
January 1 -- December 31, 2025**

Income

Contributions (individuals, businesses)

Door Donations	300	
Individual & Corporate Donors	10000	
Benefits & Fundraisers		
Foundation Support		
Private Foundation Grants	83000	
Other private unearned income		
Partnership Fee	400	
Cash Carry Over		
Government Grants		
Local & County	3800	
State & Federal	37500	
Federal		
Total Income	135000	

Organization Expenses:

Administrative: salaries,benefits,contracts

Accounting	3000	
Bank Service	200	
Dues	150	
Merchant fees	300	
Office Expenses	1700	
Tech and other		put ito artist fees
Travel		
Video Production & Website		put ito artist fees
Admin Fees	33000	
Liability Insurance	1100	
Grant Writing	<u>2500</u>	
	41950	

Artistic salaries,benefits,contracts

Artistic Fees	66000	
<u>Facility Costs</u>		
Venue Rental	500	

Marketing & Promotion

Facebook Advertising	150.00
Posters	150.00
Website	350.00
Marketing & Promotion	4,500.00
	5,150.00

Program/Exhibit production costs

Program Administrative Fees	2000
Technical & Other Services (Prod Fee)	5000
Total Travel	3450
Props and Supplies	1000
Artist Per Diems / Hospitality	1650
Program Supplies	1500
Cleaning	300
Crown Student Scholarships	4500
Postage, Shipping	500
Printing, Publications	1000
Hospitality	500
Office Expense	
	21400

Total Operating Expenses: 135,000.00

**MARFA THEATRE d.b.a. MARFA LIVE ARTS: Total Budget
January 1 -- December 31, 2026**

Income

Contributions (individuals, businesses)

Door Donations	100
Individual & Corporate Donors	8000
Benefits & Fundraisers	
Foundation Support	
Private Foundation Grants	94000
Other private unearned income	
Partnership Fee	400
Cash Carry Over	
Government Grants	
Local & County	2500
State & Federal	37000
Federal	
Total Income	142000

Organization Expenses:

Administrative: salaries, benefits, contracts

Accounting	3000	
Bank Service	200	
Dues	150	
Merchant fees	300	
Office Expenses	1500	
Tech and other		put ito artist fees
Travel		
Video Production & Website		put ito artist fees
Admin Fees	33500	
Liability Insurance	1200	
Grant Writing	<u>2300</u>	
	42150	

Artistic salaries, benefits, contracts

Artistic Fees	75000
Facility Costs	
Venue Rental	650

Marketing & Promotion

Facebook Advertising	150.00
Posters	150.00

Website	1,200.00
Marketing & Promotion	9,000.00
	10,500.00

Program/Exhibit production costs

Program Administrative Fees	2500
Technical & Other Services (Prod Fee)	400
Total Travel	3500
Props and Supplies	1000
Artist Per Diems / Hospitality	
Program Supplies	1500
Cleaning	300
Crown Student Scholarships	1000
Postage, Shipping	500
Printing, Publications	1000
Hospitality	1500
Office Expense	500
	13700

Total Operating Expenses: 142,000.00

MARFA LIVE ARTS + MARFA ISD
PRESENT

14TH ANNUAL ONE ACT PLAYS

BY MARFA HIGH SCHOOL AWARD-WINNING PLAYWRIGHTS
PERFORMED BY MARFA ACTORS

FAMILY LEGACY
BY GISELLE TORRES

THE GIRL WITH DREAMS AND PURPOSE
BY ALEXIS VILLELA

THE LIGHTS KEEP SECRETS
BY MEMO GUARDIOLA

SAMMY VS. THE FORCES OF MCDONALD'S
BY KAYLA VASQUEZ

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5TH, 2025
CROWLEY THEATER
FREE – 7PM



The Rea Charitable Trust



crowley
theater

Artwork by Zoey Salgado
WWW.MARFALIVEARTS.ORG