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COMPLETE

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Page 1: Grants to Arts and Culture Organization Application

Q1

Arts/Culture Organization Information

Name	Joyce Mercuri
Arts/Culture Organization	Earthbound Productions
Address	P. O. Box 7192
City/Town	OLYMPIA
State/Province	WA
ZIP/Postal Code	98517
Email Address	chela2@Q.com
Phone Number	(360) 464-7006

Q2

Project Name

Luminary Procession and Luminary Workshops

Q3

Project Summary

As has been the case since the early 1990's, the core value at the center of Earthbound Productions is to elevate the dignity of the human spirit by enhancing the cultural exchange that we have with each other and with the natural world through imagination, creation, and sharing.

This project will further that goal by supporting the continued renewal (post-Covid!*) of Olympia's treasured Luminary Procession. Grant funds will be used to produce two Luminary Procession events and three small public workshops to teach community members to make their own lanterns to carry in the processions. One Luminary Procession event would coincide with downtown Olympia Spring Artswalk in 2023, with another smaller local event at the West Central Park Project in west Olympia during the summer of 2023.

In addition to the Luminary Processions, funds would also be dedicated to offering three workshops for lantern-making: Two workshops will be offered to the general public for a fee, and one workshop will offered to at-at-risk youth for free.

*After a 2 year hiatus due to Covid 19, the Luminary Procession (which, pre-Covid, took place during the spring Artswalk), was rejuvenated in 2022. Last August and September, in collaboration with the West Central Park Project, volunteers from Earthbound provided a luminary making workshop (attended by 12 people) and produced a small Luminary Procession at the park on Harrison and Division Street in West Olympia (attended by 400 people!). In October, 2022, we worked with the City of Olympia to fold a (somewhat impromptu) Luminary Procession into the Fall Artswalk festivities. There were lots of smiles all around!

Q4

Total Grant Request

Amount

\$2130.00

Q5

What types of expenses will your grant be used to cover?

Grant funds will be used to cover: Studio rental space for staging and preparing for the two Luminary Processions; production costs (e.g. maintaining/repairing the art pieces, installing new lights, transporting lanterns, creating new lanterns for public use in the processions, advertising/flyers for events, permits/fees); studio rental space for art workshops; workshop teacher stipends; art materials and supplies; stipends for musicians/dance group; volunteer appreciation; event insurance.

Q6

How many people do you expect to engage with this project?

We anticipate approximately 1500 or more people would engage with the project, based on previous experience with the Luminary Procession in Olympia. The Artswalk Luminary Processions in the past have directly engaged 100 or more participants who carry artful lanterns provided by Earthbound, or bring their own lanterns. Also directly participating in the events will be local musical and dance troupes such as Samba Olywa or Artesian Rumble Arkestra with up to 40 members. The Luminary Procession events also engage multitudes of enthusiastic spectators, who often follow along with the procession route, dance to the music and celebrate with the group. (At the West Central Park Project Luminary Procession in September 2022, at least 400 people attended according to a survey conducted at the park on the night of the event.) We will engage approximately 45-50 people in the luminary workshops. One of the workshops will be specifically targeted to at risk youth, where up to 20 participants would be engaged.

Q7

Yes

Eligibility - To apply for this opportunity, Olympia-based organizations must: Have programs centered on arts and/or culture in Olympia Have minimum two-year history of continuous operation serving Olympia residents Be a 501(c)3 non-profit organization Have at least one ongoing arts program open to the public in Olympia A City of Olympia Business License Previous grant recipients must wait one granting cycle before reapplying Does your program/organization meet eligibility?

Q8

Arts/Culture Organization – Please upload a statement* about your organization, addressing the following questions. (*Not to exceed one, double-sided page) Describe your history of involvement and activity within the community? How does the prior work of your Arts/Culture Organization prepare you to complete the proposed project? How do you anticipate your project will engage Olympia's citizens in meaningful ways to expand involvement in arts and culture?

GACO%20Luminary%20Earthbound%20%238.pdf (618.4KB)

Q9

Project Proposal – Please upload a statement* about your project proposal, addressing the following questions. (*Not to exceed one, double-sided page) How does your proposal contribute to broad distribution of arts and culture experiences throughout Olympia? How does your project provide for diverse forms of art and culture within the community? How does your project contribute to a balanced offering of arts and culture experiences within the Olympia community

GACO%20Luminary%20Earthbound%20%239.pdf (602.8KB)

Q10

Public Benefit - Please upload a statement* about your project proposal, addressing the following questions. (*Not to exceed one, double-sided page) Describe how this project provides equitable access to arts and culture for all Olympians? Especially populations and groups that have faced barriers to accessing community arts and culture programs. How do you intend to connect this opportunity with underserved communities?

GACO%20Luminary%20Earthbound%20%2310.pdf (600.5KB)

Q11

Project Expenses: please list a description and the amount of each project expense. (Eg. Artist fees: \$500)

Project Expense 1	\$960: Rent studio space for producing Luminary Processions
Project Expense 2	\$500: Truck rental/gas/insurance to transport luminaries for processions
Project Expense 3	\$200: Musician/Dancer honoraria
Project Expense 4	\$180: Misc. administration (detail attached)
Project Expense 5	\$500: Materials for workshops/lantern making/repairs
Project Expense 6	\$600: Instructor stipends for workshops
Project Expense 7	\$720: Rent studio space for workshops
Project Expense 8	\$200: Volunteer appreciation
Project Expense 9	\$400: Event Insurance
Total Expenses	\$4,260

Q12

Project Income (Matching Funds): please list a description and the amount of each project income source (Eg. Ticket sales: \$500) this can include dollar and in-kind sources. (Note: volunteer hours can be included as "project income". Each volunteer hour is valued at \$31.72. To calculate the In-kind dollar value of your volunteer hours multiply the total number of hours by \$31.72. (Eg. 10 Volunteer Hours: \$317.20)

Project Income 1	Workshop fees (30 participants x \$25): \$750 Volunteer
Project Income 2	hours (43 hours x 31.72/hr): \$1380
Total Income (Matching Funds)	\$2130
Grant Request Amount	\$2130
Overall Total (Add total income & Grant Request amount)	\$4,260

Q13

Will you accept partial funding, if offered?

Yes. Any funding will help, but we would need to scale back the program to accommodate the reduction. At a minimum we would need to pay for transporting the art pieces and some studio time for preparations.

Q14

Please attach verification of your organization's 501(c)3 status.

501c3%20documentation.pdf (263.5KB)

Q15

Optional: Please upload any supplemental information.

GACOgrant-Luminary-2022.pdf (1.3MB)

GRANTS TO ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS
CITY OF OLYMPIA, 2022, APPLICATION 11

8. Arts/Culture Organization description - answer the following questions (upload a file with answers not to exceed one, double-sided page)

a) Describe your history of involvement and activity within the community:

In January 1995 a group of Olympia residents organized an event to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Earth Day and to support the Congressional renewal of the Endangered Species Act. The group decided on a positive statement of support in the form of a community celebration. They developed ideas for action and agreed on several basic tenants, along with three simple rules, which became their working principles: no written words, no live pets, and no motorized vehicles. And so, the Procession of the Species Celebration was born.

Each year from the inception of the Procession of the Species, until the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic in 2020 (24 years), Earthbound provided the vibrant Procession of the Species community art studio to Olympia and produced the Procession of the Species event each spring to celebrate Earth Day. The volunteer-run art studio provided supplies and space for individuals and groups to create art. The studio offered public art workshops to a diverse community of people from the wider Olympia/Thurston County area and provided space for community-building of artful floats for the Procession. The studio provided workshops at little to no cost to the community, and never turned away anyone for lack of funds.

We engaged thousands of people in our community through their creation of art and music, walking/dancing in the Procession, volunteering as staff in the art studio, volunteering to create sculptures for the Procession, helping produce the events, and as happy observers/participants on the day of the Procession. Individuals, K-12 school groups, daycares, scout troops, church groups, social and cultural clubs, local businesses, and extended families have all participated. Over the years, we have worked collaboratively with other arts organizations such as Samba Olywa, Artesian Rumble Arkestra, and the Bon Odori Summer Dance festival to provide production space and support for their costuming and productions. There have been over 60 cities in the United States and abroad that have enacted Processions based on the format was created in Olympia.

In 2004, the Luminary Procession was added to the events of Procession of the Species and it continued every year until the Covid 19 lockdown in 2020. Public luminary-building workshops were held at the art studio, where hundreds of people learned to make lanterns and then participated in the Luminary Processions. In 2018 and 2019, Earthbound volunteers worked with the non-profit West Central Park Project to produce 'mini' Luminary Procession events at the park in West Olympia. After a 2 year hiatus due to Covid 19, in August/September 2022, we once again collaborated with West Central Park project by teaching a lantern-making workshop, and producing a small event at the park (attended by approximately 400 people).

b) How does your prior work of your organization prepare you to complete the proposed project

Because of our long history of productions and collaboration, Earthbound is poised to resume the Luminary Processions and workshops. We already own much of the key equipment such as hot glue guns, cutting tools, extension cords, scissors, etc. We have a (currently) small but very dedicated group of long-time Procession artists/volunteers that have the skills to teach workshops. From the Fall Artswalk Luminary Procession, new volunteers have joined our group and are eager to participate. We own a large library of existing lanterns that are loaned to the public to carry in the processions. We have several skilled artists who know how to make new pieces to add to the lantern library, as well as repair and refurbish older pieces. We have existing collaborative relationships with West Central Park Project, Samba Olywa, Artesian Rumble Arkestra, City of Olympia, and many other organizations who may assist with productions and/or participate in the planned processions.

c) How do you anticipate your project will engage Olympia's citizens in meaningful ways to expand involvement in arts and culture?

Studio workshops enable new, inexperienced students to engage in the arts both as artists producing works, and as participants in the event itself. These new volunteers and artists are included in all aspects of the production, including planning and execution, which both enriches their lives and contributes to the community. Making the beginning artwork that will be taught at the workshops does not require special skills, therefore completely inexperienced people from many walks of life can become directly involved in art-making and contributing directly to the community's enjoyment of the Luminary Procession.

Because we provide lanterns for the general public to carry in the Luminary Procession, we directly involve anyone who wants to participate. Because the processions are held at existing events (i.e., Spring Artswalk and West Central Park concerts), a wide diversity of people are already present and can jump in at the spur of the moment. A big part of the fun and joy of the Luminary Procession is the excitement and smiles of the people who come to 'borrow' from the luminary library and walk in the event itself – kids seem to love it best. Also, many community members are often inspired to create their own lanterns, lighted clothing and accessories or other simple and artful ways to contribute to the beauty of the procession.

GRANTS TO ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS
CITY OF OLYMPIA, 2022, APPLICATION 11

9. Project Proposal (upload a statement with answers, not to exceed one, double-sided page).

a) How does your proposal contribute to broad distribution of arts and culture experiences throughout Olympia?

Unlike a stationary event held at a theater or gallery, the Luminary Processions are held at two public events which draw a wide range of people (i.e., downtown Olympia Artswalk and West Central Park), therefore they are enjoyed by people from many parts of Olympia as well as Thurston County and surrounding towns. Additionally, people who may not otherwise attend the downtown Friday Artswalk culmination celebration are often drawn **to** Olympia to participate in or watch the Luminary Procession, and therefore are exposed to other arts offerings in the same evening.

Open participation in the event by its nature is broadly distributing the arts experience because it draws people from many walks of life and backgrounds who can directly participate and assist. We have observed in the past that the new skills learned by participation in the Luminary production enables participants to return to the community as a whole as well as their own small, diverse organizations with these new skills. Thus, the synergy so created spreads well beyond the Luminary event(s) envisioned in this application.

The enjoyment of the events are spread to a wider audience through posting of images and videos of the Luminary Processions on the Olympia Procession of the Species and West Central Park Project Facebook pages (with 2,900 and 2,000 followers, respectively).

b) How does your project provide for diverse forms of arts and culture within the community?

Because it is the only one of its kind, luminary art uniquely adds to the diversity of other existing arts and culture experiences available in Olympia. It is unique in the style of art being presented, the variety of forms it may take (e.g., lanterns of many shapes, degree of complexity, and materials; as well as do-it-yourself efforts for participating in a do-it-yourself 'illuminated' manner). The informal 'direct-participation' nature of the procession is also a unique offering within Olympia, where anyone can join in, and be both participant and spectator of the event.

Further, within the event itself, people can enjoy not only the illuminated art, but also the dance/music group.

c) How does your project contribute to a balanced offering of arts and culture experiences within the Olympia Community?

As explained above, this is a unique event which does not replicate any other visual or performative art forms being offered within the Olympia community, thereby providing an alternative offering of art which is not available through other organizations.

The Luminary Processions and workshops also provide for a balanced offering of arts/culture experiences in Olympia because it does not target or cater to a particular audience - people of all ages and all walks of life are invited to attend, create, and celebrate with all people involved. For example, children do not often get an opportunity to participate directly in a public arts event, but they are so happy and thrilled to be included in the Luminary Procession (see photos attached in additional uploads).

GRANTS TO ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS
CITY OF OLYMPIA, 2022, APPLICATION 11

10. Public benefit (upload a statement with answers, not to exceed one, double-sided page).

- a) Describe how this project provides equitable access to arts and culture for all Olympians? Especially populations and groups that have faced barriers to accessing community arts and culture programs. How do you intend to connect this opportunity with underserved communities?

Since its inception in the 1990's, Earthbound Productions has always held an open invitation to anyone in the community to participate in imagination, creation, and sharing. Having held a 'free to all' studio for nearly 30 years we intend to continue to offer opportunities for disenfranchised persons in our community to participate fully in our activities. By fostering inclusiveness and collaboration, we engage residents regardless of age, cultural or ethnic background, financial status, or ability.

By producing two different luminary events, we will reach a wider array of people than would be reached only at the downtown Artswalk event. Because participation in the processions is completely free - with Earthbound providing lanterns to carry, or with minimal do-it-yourself preparation, or as a spectator - there is not a financial barrier to participating and enjoying the processions. The events will be promoted through the Olympia Procession of the Species Facebook page, which is followed by 2,900 people of all backgrounds.

For the activities under this grant, we plan to focus attention to the underserved community of Olympia at-risk youth by offering a no-cost workshop for youth to attend. We will reach out to local youth support groups such as Big Brothers-Big Sisters, Our Ark, and Community Youth Services to engage youth attendance at the workshop.

GRANTS TO ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS
CITY OF OLYMPIA, 2022, APPLICATION 11

1. Admin details—name of organization, address, contact info

Redacted

2. Project Name

Luminary Procession and Luminary Workshops

3. Project Summary – short narrative

As has been the case since the early 1990's, the core value at the center of Earthbound Productions is to elevate the dignity of the human spirit by enhancing the cultural exchange that we have with each other and with the natural world through imagination, creation, and sharing.

This project will further that goal by supporting the continued renewal (after Covid!*) of Olympia's treasured Luminary Procession. Grant funds will be used to produce two Luminary Procession events and three small public workshops to teach community members to make their own lanterns to carry in the processions. One Luminary Procession event would coincide with downtown Olympia Spring Artswalk in 2023, with another smaller local event at the West Central Park Project in west Olympia during the summer of 2023.

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4. Total Grant Request

\$2130 (City Share, before match by Earthbound)

5. What types of expenses will your grant be used to cover?

Grant funds will be used to cover: Studio rental space for staging and preparing for the two Luminary Processions; production costs (e.g. maintaining/repairing the art pieces, installing new lights, transporting lanterns, creating new lanterns for public use in the processions, advertising/flyers for events, permits/fees); studio rental space for art workshops; workshop teacher stipends; art materials and supplies; stipends for musicians/dance group; volunteer appreciation; event insurance.

6. How Many people do you expect to engage with this project?

We anticipate approximately 1500 or more people would engage with the project, based on previous experience with the Luminary Procession in Olympia.

The Artswalk Luminary Processions in the past have directly engaged 100 or more participants who carry artful lanterns provided by Earthbound, or bring their own lanterns. Also directly participating in the events will be local musical and dance troupes such as Samba Olywa or Artesian Rumble Arkestra with up to 40 members. The Luminary Procession events also engage multitudes of enthusiastic spectators, who often follow along with the procession route, dance to the music and celebrate with the group. (At the West Central Park Project Luminary Procession in September 2022, at least 400 people attended according to a survey conducted at the park on the night of the event.)

We will engage approximately 45-50 people in the luminary workshops. One of the workshops will be specifically targeted to at risk youth, where up to 20 participants would be engaged.

7. Eligibility certification – does your organization meet these criteria (*This is a yes/no question to certify your group meets all of the below:*

YES

- Have programs centered on arts and/or culture in Olympia
- Have minimum two-year history of continuous operation serving Olympia residents
- Be a 501(c)3 non-profit organization
 - Yes, EIN 91-1692144
- Have at least one ongoing arts program open to the public in Olympia
- A City of Olympia Business License
 - Yes, 601649953

8. Arts/Culture Organization description - answer the following questions (upload a file with answers not to exceed one, double-sided page)

a) Describe your history of involvement and activity within the community:

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10. Public benefit (upload a statement with answers, not to exceed one, double-sided page).

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11. Project expenses – list and amounts for each.

(See attached budget)

12. Project Income – list and amounts for each

(See attached budget).

13. Will you accept partial funding, if offered?

Yes. Any funding will help, but we would need to scale back the program to accommodate the reduction. At a minimum we would need to pay for transporting the art pieces and some studio time for preparations.

14. Attach verification of the 501(c)3 status.

(attached to Survey Monkey document); also available at:

<https://www.guidestar.org/profile/91-1692144>

15. Upload any supplemental information

This document is the upload.

See Supplemental Information below (budget and photos)

Luminary Procession photos:
Fall Artswalk Luminary Procession, October 2022
(photo from Artswalk website).



West Central Park Luminary Procession, September, 2022





Luminary-making workshop for West Central Park event August, 2022

