



The Sheri and Les BILLER FAMILY FOUNDATION

Theatre Enrichment Grants

Initial Application Deadline: February 17, 2017 by 8 p.m. (PST)

Overview

The Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation's theatre enrichment work fosters the art form by expanding access to inspiring productions and immersive educational experiences. We support socially-charged theatre productions, which we define as excellent artistic content that promotes dialogue around relevant social issues.

We recognize theatre's power to address pertinent, provocative issues and to engage individuals and communities. We support theatres with outreach and audience engagement strategies that welcome new and underrepresented audiences. Those strategies have included pre-performance audience guides, post-performance discussions with special guests, lobby displays that showcase components of the plot, and/or unique civic partnerships with entities like the police department, housing authority, or public library that highlight the production's relevance in the community.

The Foundation welcomes applications for any musical or play that tackles social issues in an innovative, inspiring, and educational manner.

Eligibility Requirements

An applicant must be:

- A nonprofit organization domiciled in Alaska, California, Oregon, or Washington state with IRS-determined 501(c)(3) status
- An organization whose only mission is to produce or present theatre, or a theatre program that is integral to the mission of a larger organization (e.g. performing arts center, educational institution, or other community agency)
- An organization with a history of at least two consecutive years of bringing theatre to its community
- An organization with annual revenue of at least \$750,000 for the two most recently-completed fiscal years

Application Details

Interested organizations located in one of four states (Alaska, California, Oregon, or Washington) may complete the Initial Application for one production that will occur within these four states between July 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018. From this applicant pool, select organizations will be invited to submit a Full Application. Theatre enrichment grants can cover artistic, production, and overhead expenses for one production. Specific grant amounts should not be requested, as amounts awarded will be determined by multiple factors including production budget size, total potential audience, quality of the application, and how closely the production topics align with one or more of the focus areas of the Biller Family Foundation.

The selected production must have a cast made up mostly of professional actors. The production must have a plot and use language (spoken, sung, and/or signed). There must be at least ten fully-produced public performances of the production between July 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018; preparatory work can happen during this time period, as well. It is acceptable to apply for a production that has not yet been publicly announced. Please note that funds will need to be returned if the production does not come to fruition.

Theatre Enrichment grant opportunities are offered in two cycles each year; organizations may apply in both cycles. Organizations cannot receive more than one grant per calendar year, nor can they apply while in an active funding relationship with the Foundation.

Timeline

- **February 1:** Online Information Session, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
This is an opportunity to learn more about this grant and ask your questions!
RSVP to rebecca@billerfamilyfoundation.org to receive dial-in instructions
- **February 17:** Initial Applications due by 8:00 p.m. (PST)
- **March 24:** Selected organizations will be invited to submit a Full Application by this date
- **April 21:** Full Applications due by 8:00 p.m. (PST)
- **May 31:** Recipients announced by this date

Questions?

- Participate in our Information Session on February 1, 2017 from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
- Email inquiries@billerfamilyfoundation.org or consult www.billerfamilyfoundation.org

Initial Application

Your Initial application must be submitted through the Foundation's online portal, which can be accessed [here](#). The following information will be requested:

1. Legal Name of Organization and Tax ID Number
2. Website and Organization Mailing Address
3. Production Name: Name of production for which you are seeking funds.
4. Geographical Region: Select the state in which your organization is domiciled. (AK, CA, OR, WA)
5. Primary Contact for this application: Name, Title, Phone Number, and Email Address
6. Executive Officer Contact for the organization (if not the primary contact for this application)
7. Organization Budget: Provide annual revenue for most recently-completed fiscal year.
8. Production Budget: Budget should include engagement and outreach activities.
9. Script Excerpt: Provide a 20-page excerpt of the script. Excerpt should contain a song or dialogue that exemplifies how the piece engages the audience around a particular issue.
10. Mission Statement: Please include your mission statement and, if available, include your vision statement and core values too. *Character limit: 1,000*
11. Artistic Activity: Identify one production that your organization will produce/present between July 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018 for which you are requesting support. Provide a brief synopsis of the plot and key themes. Provide context for the script excerpt, noting which portion of the story is highlighted. *Character limit: 3,000*
12. Schedule and Number Served: What is the approximate or announced performance schedule (include number of public performances) and the potential number of audience members served within this schedule? *Character limit: 1,500*
13. Social Issues: What relevant issues does the production address, and how will you promote conversations around these issues? *Character limit: 1,500*
14. Audience Engagement: Share a brief summary of your audience engagement strategies for this production, describing how you will 1) welcome new and underrepresented audiences, and 2) provide opportunities for relevant conversations before and after performances with all attendees. *Character limit: 2,000*
15. Partnerships: Identify your key community partners for this production. We are most interested to hear about partnerships with other nonprofit organizations, arts and cultural partners, government agencies, and/or schools; we are not seeking information on in-kind donors, artistic staff, etc. *Character limit: 1,500*
16. Facebook Page (if active)
17. Twitter Handle (if active)