



CHRISTINA MCMAHAN
DIRECTOR

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

JUVENILE INTAKE AND ASSESSMENT CENTER
2121 KAEN ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

May 6, 2019

Kirsten Rian
Clackamas County Arts Alliance
PO Box 2181
Oregon City, OR 97045

Dear Ms. Rian:

Over the years, Youth Theatre for Change has provided many youth involved with the Clackamas County Juvenile Department an opportunity to develop communication and teamwork skills and positively express themselves while bolstering protective factors.

The Clackamas County Arts Alliance has recently evolved the program and revised the parameters to create a program that will foster more engagement from the youth they serve and provide them with a platform for sharing their stories that is current, as well as skill-building. This new program, Youth Stories for Change, will incorporate both video and writing and the opportunity for youth to engage with a medium like video will enhance their participation and offer them more opportunity to share their own thoughts, experiences, challenges and successes with their community. This work will culminate in an evening of the youth's 'film/video shorts', like a mini film festival.

Clackamas County Juvenile Department offers its full support of this revamped program and has committed to partnering with the Clackamas County Arts Alliance by referring Juvenile Department youth to participate, and by supporting that participation in the new Youth Stories for Change program.

Sincerely,

Christina McMahan, Director
Clackamas County Juvenile Department

May 8, 2019

I am writing this letter in support of the grant proposal submitted by Youth Arts for Change. Clackamas Community College has been a partner with Youth Arts for Change for several years by hosting the summer program in our McLoughlin Auditorium and in recent years we have been awarding three 4-credit tuition waivers to youth participants. We have also donated the use of the Niemeyer Theater for the culminating showcase of program youth produced work.

I have personally attended these events for the last three years and I can't fully express how impactful it is for these youth to tell their own stories in such a creative way. The new format, Youth Stories for Change, that focuses on producing video/short-films and a culminating mini film festival will be an amazing opportunity for youth to develop their communication, teamwork, and technical skills.

Clackamas Community College is pleased to continue our support and we encourage you to also help fund this important program!

Sincerely,



Susan L Goff, Ph.D.
Dean of Arts & Sciences
Clackamas Community College



May 12, 2019

Lori Bell, Grants Administrator
Metro Community Enhancement Grants Program
City Hall
625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045

Dear Lori,

Attached please find our application and 2 letters of support submitted for consideration for the Metro Community Enhancement Grants Program.

We are thrilled to share information with the Grants Committee about our Youth Stories for Change summer program, for which we are requesting funding. The program is in partnership with Clackamas County Juvenile Department, and with Clackamas Community College which donates their auditorium for us to use as classroom space, as well as a venue for our final public presentation. This year we are working with the youth referred to us through the Juvenile Department on telling their stories in video/film format.

We are always looking for new ways to engage youth and encourage creative exploration and expression, while encouraging deep self-examination and group work to encourage peer community building, understanding and empathy. Since 2011, CCAA has offered a Youth Theatre for Change summer program, providing youth with an opportunity to develop communication and teamwork skills, and learn to positively express themselves while bolstering protective factors. After assessment and feedback from our partner, the Juvenile Department, the program has been changed into Youth Stories for Change, which maintains the same team building and communication exercises, but focuses less on theater and more on enhancing the writing portion and incorporating video creation.

It is hoped that by utilizing a medium like video - to which they can directly relate - we will be better able to engage youth in creatively sharing their thoughts, experiences, challenges, and successes with their community. The program will culminate in a mini film festival to share the students' voices and hard work.

We are grateful for the Committee's consideration of this project for funding.

Warmest wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Kirsten Rian'.

Kirsten Rian
Executive Director