

Cultural District and Artist Proposals submitted to the City of Smithville for Consideration in the FY 2023-24 Budget
Submitted to Smithville City Council
August 14, 2023

#### **Background**

In September, 2013, the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) awarded a Cultural District Designation to the partnership of the City of Smithville and the Lost Pines Artisans' Alliance (LPAA). Smithville named the Cultural District for Richard D. Latham to honor this long-time benefactor, patron, and supporter of the Arts. Since that time, various public art projects have begun, and many have been sustained. Each year, Smithville's Richard D. Latham Cultural District has worked to add various community-inspired and community-oriented projects. Virtually all of them have had some element of public participation, from making choices of which projects to choose to actually creating the artwork, and at several stages in between.

Since its inception, the City of Smithville has usually provided \$3,000-\$4,000 for support for Cultural District projects. Most often, City funds are used to help provide matching dollars for grant projects (for example, projects awarded through the Texas Commission on the Arts each year since 2013 and the National Endowment for the Arts in 2017). In FY 2022-23, the City Council awarded \$12,000 towards Cultural District projects, which went towards a variety of projects over and above these longstanding programs – for example: sponsorship for the Main Street Music Festival, adding wayfinding signage to Loop 230 (in progress), a music production class, support for the Smithville Heritage Society's City Historic Marker, and several other projects.

In FY 2023-24, the Cultural District is seeking funds for three different categories:

- Longstanding Cultural District Projects
- Texas Commission on the Arts Grant Projects (only three requests per year—50% match required)
- "Call to Artists" projects that have been submitted by local artists designed to engage more community involvement and creativity

#### **Longstanding Cultural District Projects with Community Partners**

Project	Cultural District Cost	Partner Match	Partner(s)
Sculpture on Main (artist stipends/signs)	\$2,380	Unsure	Keep Smithville Beautiful
Youth Banners	\$0	\$7,000	SEF/Sponsors
Historic Smithville Coloring Books	\$0	\$700	Various Community Sponsors
Summer Reading Club	\$0	\$6,800*	From the Library Budget
Main Street Wayfinding Sign Update (3 signs)	\$1,200	Unsure	Smithville Business Alliance
Music in the Park (proposal provided for details @ end)	\$800	\$800	Chamber of Commerce
Riverbend Park Walking Trail	Not in FY 23-24 Update requests in every third year, general		
Total Costs	\$4,380	\$14,111	

<sup>\*</sup>Funds for the Summer Reading Program are allocated through the Smithville Public Library as a separate department at the City. Much of this amount is sponsored through Grants and other community sponsors.

#### Recommended Texas Commission on the Arts Grant Projects (January, June, and July deadlines)

Two projects have already been submitted for FY 2023-24. It will be necessary to only choose three additional projects for January/June/July 2024, and to be cognizant of the timing for possible projects. Note that the June/July projects will need to be allocated in the FY 24-25 budget. Traditionally, the artist submissions have also been part of our TCA Grant process. Through the current process, only one has requested to be considered for TCA funds, but it might be possible for any of these to be submitted in place of the three recommended projects.

Project	TCA Request	Match*	Project Partner(s)
TCA Grant: Dickens on Main (submitted 6/2023)	\$5,000	\$5,000	Lori Huffman has already started to collect sponsorship funds and will run this program whether the TCA funds it or not
TCA Grant: Riverbend Park Postcard Mural (submitted 7/2023)	\$3,000	\$3,000	Smithville Recreation Center requested this project and will partner with SISD
TCA Grant: Recommendation (January): Legacy Portraits touch up existing paintings and add 2 new portraits	\$3,000	\$3,000	Reach out to community to select two new portraits; James Culleton has been the artist in the past, reach out to him first
TCA Grant: Recommendation (June—FY 24-25): Artistic Exterior for MNAC	\$3,000	\$3,000	LPAA to seek artists for paintings to be installed on MNAC's outer walls
TCA Grant: Recommendation (July—FY 24-25): Towers Nursing Home Senior Art Project "Radio Show" program (quarterly)	\$1,500	\$1,500	Towers Nursing Home, Playhouse Smithville

<sup>\*</sup>The Cultural District will seek sponsorships for all TCA projects; however, the City will have to account for the match in the event that the community does not step forward to provide the funds

#### **Summary of Artist Submissions**

Artist	Title	Brief Description	Request	Match
SBA for Judy Paul	"Hope Floats"	Re-do the Hope Floats sign that has been at the	\$5,000	Unclear
	sign	Hwy 71 entrance near the airport		
Drums for Youth	"Artscapes"	Transforming Public Spaces Through Art	\$4,500	\$500
Janus Lee*	"Smithville	A permanent art installation at a community	\$4,500	\$500
Wishes to be	Sustainable Art	gardens property with a vegetable mural painted		
considered for	Garden"	along a fence line or border wall, incorporating		
TCA Grant		handmade pottery for herbs growing at the base.		
Bernadette Noll	"Worries, Wins,	A colorful weaving on a cedar frame, woven by	\$3,780	\$420
	and Wishes"	visitors to the loom who will write a worry, a win or		
		a wish on a piece of cloth chosen from the colorful		
		array of fibers offered.		
Michelle	"Community	Collaborative photography exhibit and educational	\$3,300	\$330
Gardella	Archive Project"	series done in conjunction with Smithville		
		residents.		
Courtney Dyer	"Cultivating the	The Sunday Market would like to continue to	\$2,160	\$240
	Colors of Sound"	request support for musicians through December		
		(CEC paid for July, Aug. and Sept 2023)		
Yarn Bombers	"Planting Joy"	An 800+ square foot, botanical themed, temporary	\$1,943	\$3,923
		yarn mural assembled from individual 2'x2'		
		crocheted and knitted squares.		
Jorge	"Smithville USA"	Purchase of existing photo prints from his 2022-23	\$1,250	None
Sanhueza-Lyon		show of people who work/have worked for the City		
		and elected officials		
Total			\$26,433	\$5,913

**NOTE:** Jenny Busche would like to have her retaining wall painted in a particular way. Last year, she estimated it would cost \$1,500 and she could have found sponsors for \$750. As of August 8, she has withdrawn this project due to expectations of working on the Janus Lee project.

## **Proposal 1:**

"Hope Floats" sign SBA for Judy Paul Toni Svrcek, Van Zandt Properties, on behalf of the Smithville Downtown Business Alliance.



#### City of Smithville

Subject: Grant Proposal for Remaking the Smithville, Home of Hope Floats Billboard

I am writing to submit a grant proposal on behalf of the passionate residents and business owners of Smithville, with the aim of revamping the iconic "Smithville, Home of Hope Floats" billboard. This project holds great significance as it not only celebrates our town's remarkable history but also contributes to the vibrancy of our community, making Smithville an appealing destination for travelers and bolstering the success of our local businesses. The estimated cost for this endeavor is \$5,000.

Overview: The "Home of Hope Floats" billboard stands as a cherished reminder of the making of the movie "Hope Floats," which was filmed in Smithville 25 years ago. Over time, this movie has become interwoven into the fabric of our town's identity, evoking a sense of nostalgia and pride among the residents. As a result, Smithville has gained recognition as a unique and attractive destination for visitors from near and far, boosting tourism and stimulating economic growth.

#### Project Significance:

1. Historical and Cultural Value: The "Hope Floats" movie was a defining moment in Smithville's history, showcasing the picturesque charm of our town to a global audience. The billboard not only symbolizes the film's production but

- also embodies the town's resilient spirit and the heartwarming stories of its residents.
- 2. Tourism and Economic Impact: The billboard's renovation will amplify its visual appeal, drawing more tourists to Smithville. As travelers visit the town to relive the magic of "Hope Floats," they will patronize local businesses, leading to increased revenue and job opportunities. By investing in this project, we can continue to build upon our tourism sector, ultimately benefiting the entire community.
- 3. Sense of Community: The "Town of Hope Floats" billboard has become a shared memory for Smithville residents. By preserving and enhancing this landmark, we strengthen the bond between community members and create a sense of belonging, which is vital for the overall well-being and harmony of the town.

Project Scope: The funds obtained through this grant will be allocated towards the following aspects of the billboard remake project:

- 1. Structural Revitalization: Repairing and repainting the existing billboard structure to restore its integrity and ensure longevity.
- 2. Artistic Redesign: Commissioning local artists to create a captivating mural that captures the essence of the movie "Hope Floats" while incorporating elements that celebrate the unique charm of Smithville.
- 3. Landscape Enhancement: Beautifying the surrounding area with suitable landscaping to complement the billboard and create a welcoming space for visitors.

Funding Plan: We are seeking financial support from the City of Smithville to realize this project's potential impact on our community. Our proposed budget of \$5,000 will cover all necessary expenses to revive the "Home of Hope Floats" billboard and make it a centerpiece of pride and attraction for Smithville.

#### **Expected Outcomes:**

- 1. Increased Tourism: By renovating the billboard, we anticipate a surge in tourism, positively affecting local businesses and strengthening our economy.
- 2. Preserved Heritage: This project will honor our town's heritage and history, ensuring that future generations appreciate the significance of "Hope Floats" to Smithville's identity.

3. Community Engagement: The revitalization of the billboard will foster a sense of community and pride among residents, encouraging active participation in preserving Smithville's unique identity.

Conclusion: The remake of the "Smithville, Home of Hope Floats" billboard is not merely a cosmetic project but a celebration of our town's past and a catalyst for its future. By investing in this endeavor, the City of Smithville can contribute to the overall prosperity and success of our businesses, providing more opportunities for our residents.

We kindly request the City of Smithville's support through a grant of \$5,000, which will ensure the realization of this meaningful project. Together, we can continue to make Smithville a cherished destination for travelers and nurture the vibrant spirit of our community.

Thank you for considering our proposal. We look forward to discussing this project further and exploring how it aligns with the city's vision for growth and development.

Sincerely,

Toni Dudley-Svrcek Chair, Smithville Downtown Business Alliance

Additional information provided in email:

"Broken down (slightly) The funds are needed to cover \$3,182 for paint and labor for Judy Paul from the lumberyard to replicate the "Hope Floats" sign. The remaining funds are to cover the substrate."

## **Proposal 2:**

Drums for Youth "Artscapes"



## Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

The City's Cultural District Grant requires a 10% cash or "in-kind" match.

Date: 8/4/2023
Name of Artist(s): TBD NOTE: Jacki Jackson and Bazille Lancelin submitted this request
Email: _
Phone:
Name of Project: "Artscapes: Transforming Public Spaces Through Art"
Potential/Actual Partners: Drums for Youth NOTE: This is the organization requesting funds
Brief Description of the Project:
To actively engage the community in the planning and implementation of the Artscapes project, ensuring their input, ideas, and feedback are incorporated throughout the process.
"Artscapes" is an innovative community project that aims to revitalize public spaces by integrating art into their design. By collaborating with local artists, the project seeks to transform underutilized areas, such as parks, plazas, and vacant walls, into visually captivating and engaging environments.
Plan for Public Participation:
Conduct outreach efforts to inform the community about the project, its objectives, and the opportunities for public participation.
Utilize various channels such as social media, local newspapers, community centers, and public meetings
Total Cost: \$ 5000.00 Total Match (10%): \$500.00
*NOTE: Smithville can rarely support public art projects that cost over \$5,000. Include the Budget Form Excel File with your application.
<b>Sponsorship/Matching Opportunities/Ideas</b> – where will the 10% cash/in-kind match come from? (be as specific as possible with names of people and organizations who you have contacted that would be willing to provide matching funds):
Drums For Youth
☐ I would like this application to be considered for a TCA grant  50% match will be required per TCA—City Staff will work with the artist(s) to work out match options.
Return this form:  By email: Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison: <a href="mailto:jstrube@ci.smithville.tx.us">jstrube@ci.smithville.tx.us</a>
Mail to:

Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison City of Smithville/Cultural District PO Box 449 Smithville, TX 78957



## **Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX**

#### **Cultural District Application Check List:**

Rec	Required:					
~	Project Proposal					
	Artist's Statement of Qualifications/Resume					
	W-9 Form					
<b>V</b>	Excel Budget Spreadsheet					
	Letter of commitment regarding match responsibilities (if the artist has asked another person or					
	organization to provide the match, that person/organization must supply the letter of commitment)					
	he proposal is submitted by a nonprofit:  IRS Letter of Determination					
Op	Optional					
<b>V</b>	Sketches, materials list, other information that will help envision the project					
	Letters of support from community members/organizations (up to three)					

#### **Criteria for Project Selection**

Criteria	Explanation	Max Points
Proposal includes all	Reviewers will require all components to ensure fair	Qualified
required elements	evaluation of all applications	Disqualified
Feasibility	The project must have the potential to be implemented	10
Project Budget	Realistic and researched budget	15
Experience & Qualifications	Artists need to have the experience and qualifications that	20
& IRS Letter (if applicable)	would ensure successful project implementation	
Commitment Letter(s)	Necessary to prove match is secured	5
Impact on Community	In order for public funds to be spent, the project needs to	25
	benefit Smithville residents	
Aesthetic Quality	The quality of the artwork needs to be of high quality	25
Total Points		100
Sketches, Materials List, etc.	Information that will help reviewers envision the project	Bonus: 10
Community Support	Letters of support, surveys, other backup showing evidence	Bonus: 5
	that the community is in favor of the project	
Bonus Points Total		15

Upon completion, the artist(s) will be required to provide a brief report including an evaluation of the success of the project in relation to any specific goals per project requirements, if applicable.

#### Smithville TX Cultural District Project Budget

Applicant: BAZILMUZIK, PRODUCTIONS

Project Name: Artscapes: Transforming Public Spaces

Through Art" Project

Date: 8/4/2023

Add more lines to any category as necessary

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Buget Items	Justification (why is this item important to the project)	Unit Type (hours, months, sessions, items, etc.)	# Units	Per	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Category Subtotal
EXAMPLE: Mural project							
Supplies Category: Latex paint	This will be a painted mural	Cans	5	\$	35.00	\$ 175.00	
Consultants (Admin/Artist Contract)							
Local Artists	Will create and intall art pieces in public spaces	Hours	10	\$	170.00	\$ 1,700.00	
Bazile Lanceline	BazilMuzik Producations will offer expertise	Flat Rate	1	\$	300.00	\$ 300.00	
Consultants Subtotal							\$ 2,000.00
Facility/Venue Costs							
Site Preparation/Installation	Areas where the artworks will be installed will include cleaning, repairing and priming	Hours	10	\$	80.00	\$ 800.00	
Facility/Venue Subtotal							\$ 800.00
Marketing/Promotion							
Photography/Videography	Create a portfolio or digital gallery of the artworks.	Hours	10	\$	35.00	\$ 350.00	
Local Newspapers/Community Newsle	This will raise awareness about the artwork and attract visitors	Article	2	\$	25.00	\$ 50.00	
Social media	This will raise awareness about the artwork and attract visitors	Post	5	\$	-	\$ -	
Marketing/Promotion Subtotal							\$ 400.00
Program/Exhibit Costs							
Workshops/Public Events	This will encourge community involvement and foster a sense of ownership	session	1	\$	250.00	\$ 250.00	
Art Talks	Create Opportunities for dialogue between the artists and the public	session	1	\$	250.00	\$ 250.00	
Program/Exhibit Costs Subtotal	•						\$ 500.00
Supplies and Materials							
Paint/Brushes	These supplies will allow the artists to bring their visions to life.	Items	4	\$	125.00	\$ 500.00	
Canvases/Sculptures	These supplies will allow the artists to bring their visions to life.	Items	4	\$	125.00	\$ 500.00	
Ladders/Scaffolding/Safety Gear						\$ -	
Category Subtotal							\$ 1,000.00
Other (Be Specific)							
Contingency	Unexpected expenses or minor adjustments that may arise during the project implementation phase.	items	1	\$	300.00	\$ 300.00	
Other Subtotal	•						\$ 300.00
TOTAL Project Cost	\$5,000.00					\$ 5,000.00	



#### **Description:**

"Artscapes" is an innovative community project that aims to revitalize public spaces, by integrating art into their design.

By collaborating with local artists, the project seeks to transform underutilized areas, such as parks, plazas, and vacant walls, into visually captivating and engaging environments.

## **Proposal 3:**

Janus Lee\*
Wishes to be considered for TCA Grant
"Smithville Sustainable Art Garden"

Date: 8/07/2023

Name of Artist(s): Janus Lee, Jo Watts

Email: Phone:

Name of Project: Smithville Sustainable Art Garden

#### **Partners:**

#### City of Smithville for Group Public Art Project by Janus Lee

**Jenny Busche,** craftsman 30 years Stain de Glas, owner, acrylic window, Texas Retired Certified teacher 25 years,

**Judy McAbe** Community Volunteer, Towers Nursing Home, Arts and Crafts and Smithville Silver Senior Center group Arts Supporter, Volunteer

**Jo Watts Artist**, Jo Watts Claysmith, business owner, 20 years, Artist in Action, business owner, 5yrs, Experienced potter, painter, illustrator, sculptor, hand painted silk, fiber art, mural art, and more. Teaching: Artist in Residence, 3rs, at San Juaquin Consolidated School District and Art Teacher at County jail in San Juaquin Co 3 years, Saudi Arabia Sculptor in children and adult classes, 3 years. Various Awards (15 years) for Best of Bastrop County, Smithville Artist of the year, 2016, Smithville Chamber of Commerce Artist of the year 2023, Hog Eye Blue Ribbon awards, and more. Attached: Jo Watts resume

#### **RE: Letter of Commitment**

We, Jenny Busche, Judy McAbe and Jo Watts are happy to lend our support for the Public Arts Project developed by Janus Lee.

We offer our talent and our time to provide teaching and the services needed to engage the community in various art projects.

We offer our efforts to fundraise the 10% match by fundraising throughout the community by various activities such as an online art auction, a farm-to-table dinner party and/or wine tasting event, and by seeking private donations.

#### Other potential partners:

Carol Jackson, Food Forest project Towers Nursing Home Dolores Leeper of Smithville, Bastrop 1832 Farmer's Market

#### **Brief Description of the Project:**

I envision a permanent art installation at a community gardens property with a vegetable mural (see *Radish Dance*, below), painted along a fence line or border wall, which also incorporates creatively handmade pottery for herbs growing at the base of this mural. Here, we beautify a public space, create a new Smithville destination for "selfies" and a potential garden party or farm-to-table dinner setting, as well as the start of a "food forest" initiated by members of the community.

To accomplish this, committed people of all ages and varying skill levels will work and learn together with the benefit of free open studio/ art classes at the MNAC as we plan out giant painted vegetables. In the second phase, we learn mural painting skills as we implement these ideas that we form together. In another phase (with Jo Watts taking the lead), we will create clay "pinch pots" in which to grow herbs, flowers, and vegetables.

**Plan for Public Participation:** To affect the broadest range of Smithville residents possible, as in the current "welcome sign project" I am bringing to fruition, I will offer art classes/open studio for free at the Mary Nichols Art Center. We will also offer related low-cost classes in hand-building pottery with Jo Watts, and possibly more advanced classes as we progress through all 3 or 4 phases of this project in 2023/2024.

One of my goals in public art projects that I am currently accomplishing with the Welcome Sign project is that of bringing people of different ages together in an open studio situation to learn from and enjoy each other. People working on individual aspects of a greater whole are seeing how valuable they can be in taking ownership of their own contribution. People of Smithville now want very much for this to continue, and through this grant process, I wish to continue what I've initiated.



Janus Lee Mustard in Full-Tilt Boogie Acrylic on canvas, 2017

#### Letters of recommendation:

To Whom it May Concern

I would like to cast my opinion of being in favor of the Art Grant that Janus Lee is trying to obtain for the City of Smithville Cultural District. Our town has many fine artists living here but we also have many yet undiscovered and those who are shy about taking classes. I myself am one of those. Hopefully this grant will be an avenue to opening the doors for those who might not otherwise venture out into the art world.

Sincerely,

Betty McBryar Smithville, TX

To the City of Smithville —

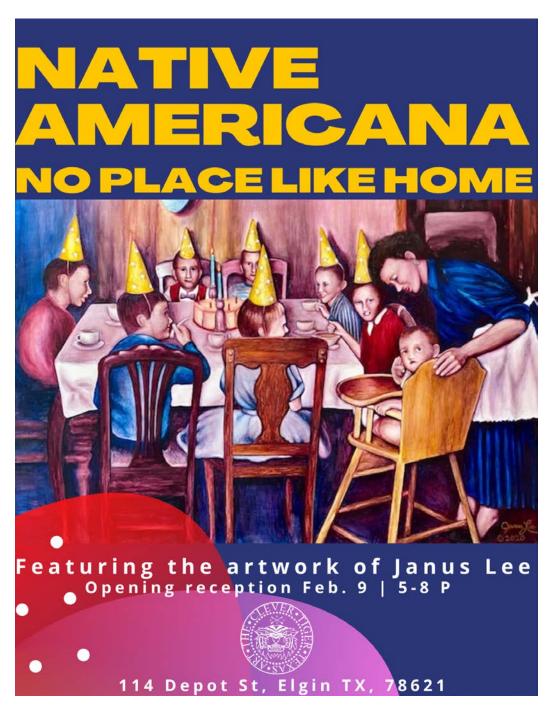
I highly recommend Janus Lee as an art teacher for the art grant proposal. I think it's an excellent way to bring citizens of all ages and persuasions together while learning to express themselves through art. I've worked with Janus on an art project and she's very talented, creative and great at teaching which is a talent unto itself. I look forward to continuing her free art classes!

Sincerely,

Carol Jackson

Janus Lee is an award-winning artist and illustrator working on various substrates in pen and ink, watercolor and acrylic painting, as well as in porcelain art. Janus has artwork permanently installed since 2014 at The Hite Institute of Art (<a href="http://louisville.edu/art/facilities-resources/">http://louisville.edu/art/facilities-resources/</a> in Louisville, KY, as part of the International Honor Quilt in conjunction with the Judy Chicago Dinner Party Project. Janus continues exhibiting her work in various states, including Michigan, Florida, Oklahoma, and throughout Texas. Earlier this year, 2023, Janus created a 20' x 6' crosswalk mural, Flower to the People, in Bastrop, and also produced a one-woman art show in Elgin, TX: Native Americana: No Place Like Home. As the featured artist for the summer months of 2022 at Lost Pines Art Center in Bastrop, you can see some of her work in this short video from her American Dreams: Lost & Found exhibit,

here: https://youtu.be/zslo1yPM2Rg



Janus is also an experienced educator using innovative practices and products in assisting others to grow into their best selves. She writes: In the many jobs I've held, in art, healing, and on farms, the work that brings me the most satisfaction is that which is productive. Artwork, like farming, brings something completely new into being, so there is a common thread in the end results. With art, healing, and agriculture, there is also a big element of uncertainty at various stages, which we learn to accept as a given, even a gift.

As a child, identifiable leaf shapes were one of the first things I ever drew with crayons. My artwork in shown at Prizer Arts & Letters \*Farmer as Artist\* for three consecutive years reflected my long-time

botanical art bent. As an undergrad, I took every botany class possible for my B.A. degree in design, art, and biology. After working as a graphic artist, publication designer and illustrator throughout the 1980's, I changed my plans for a master's degree in medical illustration and moved to Austin TX to complete a master's degree in Asian Medicine. I was then one of the first people in Texas to pass the national board exam in Chinese herbalism in 2000, and have practiced Asian medicine (including herbalism) during most my 26 years in Texas.



Radish Dance Janus Lee, 2017 Acrylic on canvas

**Total grant cost**: \$5000

**Total Match (10%):** \$500 — please refer to joint letter of commitment (above), plus personal donations of paint and other supplies totaling over \$500 in value

We would like this application to be considered for a TCA grant.

#### **Budget Items:**

Facilitation and instruction —
Consultants Janus Lee (Admin/Artist Contract)
Jo Watts (artist, instructor— clay pinch pots)

Mural project: 16 twice-weekly sessions of 4-hour open studio facilitation — 8 hours/week for a total of 10 weeks, 80 hours at \$50/hour inclusive of outside prep time and materials throughout duration of open studio/art classes \$4000

Hand building clay containers, Jo Watts — pinch pots \$800 total, inclusive of materials, instruction, etc.

Promotion and marketing, and Program/Exhibit Costs — local social media advertising, design and printing posters, copies, etc. mostly for fundraising events such as an exhibition and an online art auction
Total \$200

Materials —

Mural supplies: heavy-duty Latex paint is required since this will be an outdoor mural requiring 6 gallons of paint in various colors, plus sealing agent

Units of paint:7 Item Cost: \$90/gallon Total: \$630 (included)

**TOTAL \$5000 for project** 

I've been making things from clay since I was about five years old – that's well over half a century! For a long time, I couldn't figure out just how clay became hard and durable. I tried freezing it and when that didn't work, I attempted to "cook" it on the space heater. Mom said no to that! What a smell! Determined to learn just how clay objects are made, I began as a teenager with hobby shop classes in ceramics and progressed to adult education courses and ultimately earned my associates degree in sculpture at an art college in the North of England. About 20 years ago I learned to throw pots at Sierra Nevada College at Lake Tahoe.

The budget in my high school barely paid for paper and pencils so I never had the opportunity to paint or work with clay. My teacher often sent me to the back of the room where I was instructed to draw my own hands ..... over and over and over. When I complained of boredom, she made me remove my shoes and socks and draw my feet! This was probably because I talked so much in class and it was her way of regaining control but it turned out to be a blessing in disguise for me. Today, when people look at my work, they most often notice the hands and feet!

My first and very successful one "man" show was in the North of England in 1976. I have since had studio/galleries in Elizabeth, Colorado and Incline Village (North Shore of Lake Tahoe, Nevada), and in Bastrop County, TX. While in California, I kept a studio at home and supplied work to galleries from Carmel to Lake Tahoe.

I began teaching both children and adults in the early 70's in Washington State. From there I went to England and gave workshops while going to college. My classes and workshops have included not only ceramics, but drawing, mold-making and several other forms of arts and crafts. As resident artist of one of the first and largest Children's Museums in the country, I was responsible for originating lesson plans and teaching dozens of children. As a Board Member of the San Joaquin County Arts Council in California, I was a resident artist in the public school system and partnered with another clay artist to set up a teaching program in the county jail system. After 17 years, it is still thriving.

As always, I love and am fascinated by porcelain, making it thinner and thinner with each project to show its translucent quality. My love for angels continues and is a perfect vehicle

for "pushing the porcelain envelope"! After about 20 years of trial and error, I've discovered a few stains that will hold their colors at the high temperature required for porcelains and I sometimes use them to accent the angels which seem to have become my signature pieces. I love making them; that must show in the finished product. More often, the colors are used in the hand-built bowls and platters I make using weeds, grape leaves, lace, and other "found" objects and textures.

Living in Europe, the Mid-East and several states in the US has broadened by perspective, my outlook and my goals. I've learned to learn from everyone and every experience. Life has been a kick!

Twelve years ago, my husband and I moved back to Texas after traveling the world. Students tell me that I'm a good teacher and the work they produce verifies that fact. I never forget what it's like to be a student and I think that is how I relate so well to students whether they are beginners or professional artists; we all have much to learn from one another. Since moving back to Texas, I have also begun to paint in acrylics and watercolor. Though my specialty is ceramics, I find I enjoy and do well with other mediums.

As I grew up in Texas, living here again has had a definite influence on my work. Using red high-fired stoneware for my wheel-thrown and hand-built work gives me that Southwestern look. Depending on the Texas humidity, a pot is ready to carve after 2-3 days drying time. Sometimes I measure and plan out a geometric design but what I love doing most is sitting down with the "blank clay canvass" and drawing and carving freehand on the clay. Horses and human faces are my favorite and most popular themes. Sometimes I use grapevines found on my little 23 acre "ranch" to make handles on the pots and bowls.

I now live with my husband of 45 years, a son and grandson, three dogs, four cats about 200 catfish (all named) and two horses (with one on the way) in the Lost Pines region of Bastrop County where my husband and son have recently built me a brand new studio! It's big enough and equipped for classes. My signature is the "Rafter J" which was my grandfather's cattle brand and is now registered in Texas as my own.

P.S. I haven't had the heart to use the branding iron on the horses.

#### Education:

John Marshall High School, San Antonio, Texas Adult Education and Colleges:

- o Apprenticeship and Ceramic Workshops in San Antonio
- Mississippi State University Painting
- o Drawing workshop in Cornwall, England
- o Howard Community College, Howard County, Maryland Painting
- Harrogate College of Art and Adult Studies (Harrogate, North Yorkshire, England) –
   Diploma Course in Sculpture and Ceramics
- o Life Drawing with George Carlson, Elizabeth, Colorado
- o Drawing, Painting and Ceramics workshops with various artists in Saudi Arabia
- o Sculpture and Mold -Making, Devon, England
- Sculpture, Wheel-throwing and Ceramics at Sierra Nevada College in Incline Village, Lake Tahoe, Nevada

#### Teaching Experience:

- o Ceramics classes for both sighted and blind adults in Alexandria, Virginia
- o Ceramics classes for Adults and children through YWCA, Yakima, Washington
- o Ceramics classes at Menwith Hill Adult Education / Art Center, England
- o Ceramics and drawing classes in Saudi Arabia
- o Resident Artist at Stockton (California) Children's Museum
- o Resident Artist with San Joaquin County Arts Council, Stockton, CA. I taught children in public Schools throughout the county
- o Founder and teacher in arts program for San Joaquin County Jail (Honor Farm) system
- Workshops in drawing, mold-making and ceramics in Dhahran and Ras Tanura, Saudi Arabia
- o Ceramics classes for Adult education program in Niagara County, New York
- o Program Manager for "ArtPark", a state park in New York State. Assisted in setting up and teaching children's art programs.
- o Adult and Children's classes and workshops in Bastrop County.
- O Working with the local Lost Pines Artisans' Alliance to set up and teach art programs for both children and adults.

## **Proposal 4:**

Bernadette Noll "Worries, Wins, and Wishes"

NOTE: Her checklist shows that Bernadette intended to submit supporting documentation but I have no records of the budget (or the artist's qualification). The last email I sent to her is below. I will follow up again to update you once I have the information.

From: Jill Strube

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 2:52 PM

To: Bernadette Noll

Subject: FW: Smithville Cultural District 2023-24 Call for Proposals

#### Bernadette,

I'm putting together my report for Council, and couldn't find the Budget info from you. Were you able to fill out this form? (attached)

If you have to just list the categories with a budget number on a Word document, that would be fine. I'd like to have something that offers a little more explanation on the expenses and why it costs what it does.

Thanks!



## Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

The City's Cultural District Grant requires a 10% cash or "in-kind" match.

Date: July 30, 2023
Name of Artist(s): Bernadette NoII
Name of Project: Worries Wins and Wishes; a community weaving
Potential/Actual Partners: Richie Ponder
Brief Description of the Project:
On a 8' long by 3' or 4' high ft cedar frame mounted on a stand, milled and built from local redwood at The Ponder Sawmill by Richie Ponder of Smithville we will create a colorful weaving, woven by visitors to the loom. The visitors to the loom will write a worry, a win or a wish on a piece of cloth chosen from the colorful array of fibers offered, remnants from Smithville itself. The remnants will then be woven into the community tapestry, a colorful and textural display of all those who walk around us every day. We can share our worries, wins and wishes with each other, lightening our loads, expanding our victories and helping us create our dreams. Next to the weaving would be placed two chairs where one could sit and unload in the company of a friend or neighbor.
Ideally this project could be easily moved and displayed in different locations around town: Community Gardens, MLK Park, Railroad Park, Public Library. The cloth strips could also be written at workshops at The Towers, the high school, and more. I would like to hold a public event at the weaving, with poets and word artists, sharing words on the theme.
Plan for Public Participation:
The frame will be made by local artisan, Richie Ponder, the warp will be created by me, and the rest of the piece will be created over time, always with room for more to be woven into the beautiful tapestry that is, community. I would maintain the condition of the weaving, tightening and tucking when needed and making sure that the supplies for participation are always kept in stock.
Total Cost: \$ 4200. Total Match (10%): \$420.00
*NOTE: Smithville can rarely support public art projects that cost over \$5,000. Include the Budget Form Excel File with your application.
Sponsorship/Matching Opportunities/Ideas – where will the 10% cash/in-kind match come from? (be as specific as possible with names of people and organizations who you have contacted that would be willing to provide matching funds):
would put out a call for donors. I don't know yet who they are but I do believe I can achieve that goal of \$380. easily.
☐ I would like this application to be considered for a TCA grant  50% match will be required per TCA—City Staff will work with the artist(s) to work out match options.

**Return this form:** 

By email: Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison: <a href="mailto:jstrube@ci.smithville.tx.us">jstrube@ci.smithville.tx.us</a>



#### Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

#### **Cultural District Application Check List:**

R	<u>leq</u> uired:							
•	Project Proposal							
•	✔ Artist's Statement of Qualifications/Resume							
•	W-9 Form On file							
•	Excel Budget Spreadsheet Did not see this in her submission but will follow up and send ASAP  Letter of commitment regarding match responsibilities (if the artist has asked another person or organization to provide the match, that person/organization must supply the letter of commitment)							
	IF the proposal is submitted by a nonprofit:  IRS Letter of Determination							
	Sketches, materials list, other information that will help envision the project Letters of support from community members/organizations (up to three)							

#### **Criteria for Project Selection**

Criteria	Explanation	Max Points
Proposal includes all	Reviewers will require all components to ensure fair	5
required elements	evaluation of all applications	
Feasibility	The project must have the potential to be implemented	10
Project Budget	Realistic and researched budget	15
Experience & Qualifications	Artists need to have the experience and qualifications that	20
& IRS Letter (if applicable)	would ensure successful project implementation	
Commitment Letter(s)	Necessary to prove match is secured	5
Impact on Community	In order for public funds to be spent, the project needs to	20
	benefit Smithville residents	
Aesthetic Quality	The quality of the artwork needs to be of high quality	25
Total Points		100
Sketches, Materials List, etc.	Information that will help reviewers envision the project	Bonus: 10
Community Support	Letters of support, surveys, other backup showing evidence	Bonus: 5
	that the community is in favor of the project	
<b>Bonus Points Total</b>		15

Upon completion, the artist(s) will be required to provide a brief report including an evaluation of the success of the project in relation to any specific goals per project requirements, if applicable.

## **Proposal 5:**

Michelle Gardella "Community Archive Project"



## Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

The City's Cultural District Grant requires a 10% cash or "in-kind" match.

Date:
Name of Artist(s):
Email: _ Phone:
Name of Project:
Potential/Actual Partners:
Brief Description of the Project:
Plan for Public Participation:
Total Cost: \$ Total Match (10%): \$
*NOTE: Smithville can rarely support public art projects that cost over \$5,000. Include the Budget Form Excel File with your application.
<b>Sponsorship/Matching Opportunities/Ideas</b> – where will the 10% cash/in-kind match come from? (be as specific as possible with names of people and organizations who you have contacted that would be willing to provide matching funds):
□ I would like this application to be considered for a TCA grant 50% match will be required per TCA—City Staff will work with the artist(s) to work out match options.
Return this form: By email: Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison: <a href="mailto:jstrube@ci.smithville.tx.us">jstrube@ci.smithville.tx.us</a>
Mail to:

Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison City of Smithville/Cultural District PO Box 449 Smithville, TX 78957



### **Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX**

#### **Cultural District Application Check List:**

Required:
<ul> <li>Project Proposal</li> <li>Artist's Statement of Qualifications/Resume</li> <li>W-9 Form on file</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Excel Budget Spreadsheet</li> <li>Letter of commitment regarding match responsibilities (if the artist has asked another person or organization to provide the match, that person/organization must supply the letter of commitment</li> </ul>
IF the proposal is submitted by a nonprofit:  IRS Letter of Determination
Optional  Sketches, materials list, other information that will help envision the project

\_\_\_ Letters of support from community members/organizations (up to three)

#### **Criteria for Project Selection**

Criteria	Explanation	Max Points
Proposal includes all	Reviewers will require all components to ensure fair	5
required elements	evaluation of all applications	
Feasibility	The project must have the potential to be implemented	10
Project Budget	Realistic and researched budget	15
Experience & Qualifications	Artists need to have the experience and qualifications that	20
& IRS Letter (if applicable)	would ensure successful project implementation	
Commitment Letter(s)	Necessary to prove match is secured	5
Impact on Community	In order for public funds to be spent, the project needs to	20
	benefit Smithville residents	
Aesthetic Quality	The quality of the artwork needs to be of high quality	25
Total Points		100
Sketches, Materials List, etc.	Information that will help reviewers envision the project	Bonus: 10
Community Support	Letters of support, surveys, other backup showing evidence	Bonus: 5
	that the community is in favor of the project	
<b>Bonus Points Total</b>		15

Upon completion, the artist(s) will be required to provide a brief report including an evaluation of the success of the project in relation to any specific goals per project requirements, if applicable.

## COMMUNITY ARCHIVE PROJECT

by MICHELLE GARDELLA FOR SMITHVILLE CULTURAL DISTRICT



## PROJECT BLURB

Through the eyes of our town, we will compose a visual symphony that resonates far beyond the confines of our streets – a symphony that reminds us all that we are not just residents of a town; we are members of a vibrant, thriving community.

Every snapshot taken becomes a brushstroke on the canvas of our shared history. From familiar faces that light up our streets to the charming nooks and crannies that hold our fondest memories, these unfiltered glimpses will compose a tapestry of life in our small town. Each photograph, candid and unrehearsed, paints a story – a story of who we are, what we value, and the beauty that surrounds us.

I truly believe this project perfectly encapsulates the mission of the Cultural District.





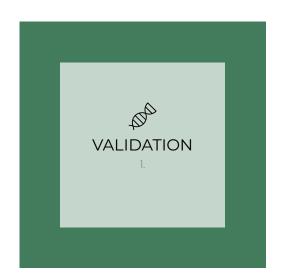


#### COMMUNITY ARCHIVE PROJECT is a

collaborative photography exhibit and educational series done in conjunction with Smithville residents. Rather than pay outside photographers from Austin and other towns, this project empowers and enables Smithville residents to own their own stories and share the beauty of what they love most with others.



## **EMPOWER COMMUNITY VOICES**



Validate the lived experience of our diverse Smithville population. By letting all residents know their story is important to document, through their own capable eyes, we celebrate our Smithville stories.



The act of framing a scene, capturing a smile, or revealing a hidden gem becomes a reminder that we are all part of a greater whole. Through these lenses, we see not just faces and places, but the shared experiences that define us.



By showing the completed works publically and including them in the official Smithville historical archives, the gap in the collective story is refilled, reclaimed and preserved.

# Disposable Cameras= ACCESSIBILITY

#### ALL SKILL LEVELS

Residents have the ability to capture their images without the price/skill gatekeeping that often surrounds photography

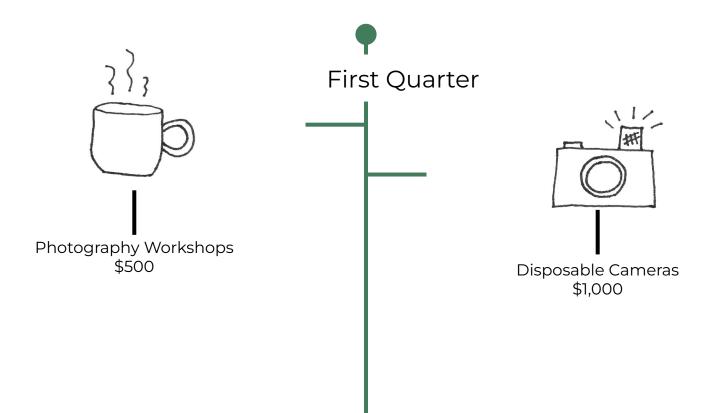
#### ALL AGES

Residents have the ability to capture their images without the complications of digital photography and editing

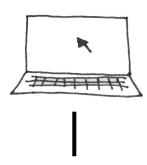
#### ALL BACKGROUNDS

This exhibit isn't just a showcase of photographs; it's a celebration of community, creativity, and the power of coming together.

## **△TIMELINE + BUDGET**

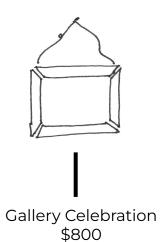


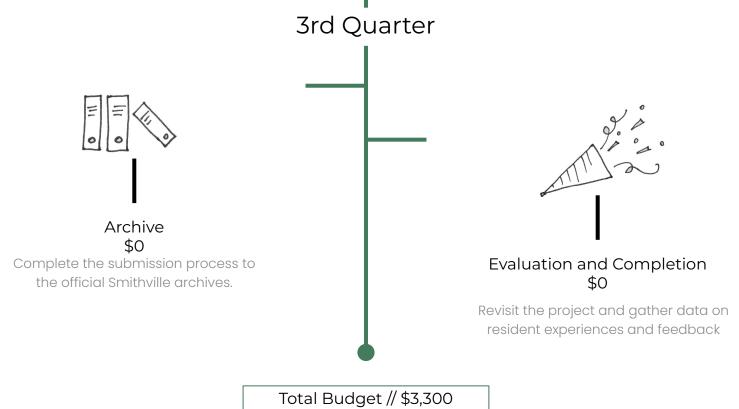
## 2nd Quarter



Film Development and Curation \$1,000

Film is processed through The Dark Room





Total Budget // \$3,300 Total Time // 9 months



# **ABOUT**MICHELLE

Michelle Gardella is a highly celebrated photographer with over two decades of experience. Voted "Top 30 Photographers in the World" by Rangefinder Magazine and holding a host of cherished industry sponsorships, she is truly at the top of her field. Michelle has a solid history of teaching, publishing, printing, curating and hanging gallery work. Her website can be found at: www.michellegardella.com



#### **Books, Exhibitions, Distinctions**

#### Published Books:

Floret Farm's Cut Flower Garden: Garden Journal (Chronicle Books., ISBN-10: 1452172919, ISBN-13: 978-1452172910)

The Handcrafted Wedding (Sellers Publishing Inc., ISBN-10: 1416206663, ISBN-13: 978-1416206668)

The Inspired Wedding (Sellers Publishing, Inc., ISBN-10: 1416209166, ISBN-13: 978-1416209164)

Catch and Release

River Story

#### Gallery Exhibitions and Awards:

MAIN Gallery, Smithville, TX, River Story 2022

Julia C. Butridge Gallery, Austin, TX, Solo Exhibition, Opening August 2021

Julia C. Butridge Gallery, Austin, TX, Solo Exhibition, August 2020

City of Austin Cultural Arts Division 15th annual People's Gallery Exhibition 2019

Upstream Gallery's 10th Annual Juried Photography Show, New York 2019 Jurors: Craig J. Barber, Alexandra Grant

2nd Annual Women Artists Art Exhibition 'Winning Artist,' Palm Springs, CA

# Distinctions and Awards cont.

Columbia College Literary Review
Robert's Gallery, Cambridge MA
Joseloff Gallery, Hartford CT
ArtSpace Gallery, Hartford CT and NYC
Art for AIDS Exhibition, CT and NYC
Gallery at the Noah Webster Library, West Hartford CT

#### Awards:

City of Austin BBB, Austin Creative Worker Grant Recipient September 2020 City of Austin - Capacity Building Grant Maximum Award Recipient 2019 Top 10 Photography Educators in the World, Rangefinder Magazine Top 30 Photographers in the World, Rangefinder Magazine Rising Star Award, Rangefinder Magazine Top 10 Photographers in the US, Professional Photographers of America



Smithville community members who support Michelle and this project, and who are happy to submit written and/or verbal recommendations:

Claire Whitehead

Dan Fields

Heather Sundquist Hall

# **Proposal 6:**

Courtney Dyer
"Cultivating the Colors of Sound"



# Richard D. Latham Cultural District

## Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

The City's Cultural District Grant requires a 10% cash or "in-kind" match.

Date: Aug 8, 2023
Name of Artist(s): Various Local Musicians in the Farmers Market Musician Applicant Pool
Email: _
Phone:
Name of Project: Cultivating the Colors of Sound
Potential/Actual Partners:
Brief Description of the Project (Must fit in this space):
Our project aims to elevate the vibrancy and cultural richness of our downtown area by fostering a stronger, local music community during the farmers market. This project recognizes the intrinsic value of music as a unifying force and seeks to harness its potential to attract visitors, engage residents, and amplify the notoriety of our downtown district. By investing in local musicians and fostering an environment that celebrates creativity, diversity, and community engagement, we can position our downtown district as the thriving cultural destination that it is.
Plan for Public Participation (Must fit in this space):
Our project will include weekly offerings of engaging music hosted during the farmers market on Sundays that will be carefully curated to showcase a variety of genres and styles, thus appealing to diverse audience preferences. These events will be free to the public and will help to cultivate Smithville's Sunday culture.
Total Cost: \$ 2400 Total Match (10%): \$ 240
*NOTE: Smithville can rarely support public art projects that cost over \$5,000. Include the Budget Form Excel File with your application.
<b>Sponsorship/Matching Opportunities/Ideas</b> – where will the 10% cash/in-kind match come from? (be as specific as possible with names of people and organizations who you have contacted that would be willing to provide matching funds Must fit in this space):
Sunday Market will match 10% of the total cost of the project through use of its vendor membership fees and personal donations. We also plan to set up Friends of the Farmers Market once we secure our nonprofit, tax-exempt status later this year, that will allow donators to make tax-deductible donations.
☐ I would like this application to be considered for a TCA grant  50% match will be required per TCA—City Staff will work with the artist(s) to work out match options.
Return this form:

#### Mail to:

Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison City of Smithville/Cultural District PO Box 449 Smithville, TX 78957

If your application does not fit in the space provided, you may attach a document (PDF preferred) no more than two pages long to provide more information.

Brief Description of the Project: Music is art to the ear. It is the color of sound. Our project aims to elevate the vibrancy and cultural richness of our downtown area by fostering a stronger, local music community during the farmers market. This project recognizes the intrinsic value of music as a unifying force and seeks to harness its potential to attract visitors, engage residents, and amplify the notoriety of our downtown district. By investing in local musicians and fostering an environment that celebrates creativity, diversity, and community engagement, we can position our downtown district as the thriving cultural destination that it is. So, we are asking for help to fund musical talents for the months of October, November, and December.

**Plan for Public Participation:** Our project will include weekly offerings of engaging music hosted during the farmers market on Sundays that will be carefully curated to showcase a variety of genres and styles, thus appealing to diverse audience preferences. These events will be free to the public and will help to cultivate Smithville's Sunday culture.

**Artists' Statement of Qualifications:** All musicians are either recommended by Will Holcomb of Songs of Smithville or are vetted by the market manager through our musician application process in which musicians must submit video or audio samples of their work to be considered.

# Cultivating Colors of Sound Grant Proposal Budget

Month	# of Sundays	<b>Musician Cost</b>	Total Monthly Budget	
October	5	\$200/wk	\$1,000	
November	4	\$200/wk	\$800	
December	3*	\$200/wk	\$600	*closed Christmas Eve
			\$2,400	Total Cost of Project

<sup>\*\*</sup> no materials needed as musicians provide all of their own equipment



August 8, 2023

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to inform you of our commitment to a 10% match of the Cultural District's Grant Program proposal submitted in order to obtain funding for the months of October-December for local musicians to play during the farmers market, which is a weekly event put on for the community of Smithville.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sunday Market Courtney Dyer

smithvillemarket.com smithvillemarket@gmail.com

#### Dear Smithville Cultural District,

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the grant application submitted by the Smithville Farmers Market, also known as the Sunday Market. As an integral part of our community's cultural landscape, the Sunday Market plays a pivotal role in promoting local agriculture, fostering community engagement, and enriching the market with local musicians.

The Smithville Farmers Market has consistently demonstrated its commitment to creating a vibrant and inclusive gathering space that celebrates the unique blend of local produce, artisan crafts, and community spirit. The market serves as a platform for local farmers, artists, and entrepreneurs to showcase their products, contributing not only to economic growth but also to the preservation of our region's cultural heritage.

The grant funding requested by the Sunday Market aligns seamlessly with the goals and values of our Cultural District. By supporting this initiative, we have an opportunity to invest in the sustainability of our local economy, encourage healthy lifestyles through access to fresh and locally grown produce, and foster a sense of belonging and togetherness among our residents.

The Sunday Market's dedication to organizing upcoming educational workshops, cultural performances, and interactive activities further underscores its significance as a cultural hub.

I firmly believe that granting financial support to the Smithville Farmers Market will not only enable it to continue its operations but also empower it to expand its offerings and impact. The market's success is intricately linked to the success of our entire community, and we are confident that the resources provided through this grant will be utilized effectively and efficiently to achieve the outlined objectives.

In conclusion, we wholeheartedly endorse the grant application put forth by the Smithville Farmers Market. I believe as a community we recognize the pivotal role it plays in strengthening our Cultural District's mission and its positive influence on the community's economic, social, and cultural dimensions. I kindly request your favorable consideration of their grant proposal.

Thank you for your commitment to nurturing our community's cultural vitality. I look forward to the continued growth and success of the Smithville Farmers Market and its enduring impact on our small town.

Sincerely,

Jeannie Ralph

Smithville, August 8th 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

The Smithville Farmer's market is a total joy to attend, a place where community gathers and meets commerce, and I've attended every single market day and purchased honey, bbq, goat cheese, vegetables, hibiscus flowers, coffee, donuts, muffins, pizza and pickled cucumbers, salsa...and more to come.

It's a coveted part of my week, a day when I know that I get to gather with fellow citizens in this town that I call...my place in Texas.

An element of music surrounds the tiny market and adds a nice ambiance to everyone's Sunday.

There is no shortage of talented musicians and many of them are residents in Smithville or nearby and the pavilion seems to lend itself to a stage.

Hopefully, this musical aspect can grow into it's best form with performers that grasp the sensitive ears of the market place and by doing so expand on what's already going on so successfully.

As a fellow artist (photographer) I'd very much like that.

Courtney is on point.

Sincerely,

Nils Juul-Hansen Smithville Resident MAYOR SHARON FOERSTER

MAYOR PROTEM TOM ETHEREDGE

COUNCIL MEMBERS
JANICE BRUNO
JIMMY JENKINS
TYRONE WASHINGTON
MITCH JAMESON



317 MAIN STREET P.O. BOX 449 SMITHVILLE, TEXAS 78957 (512) 237-3282 FAX (512) 237-4549

CITY MANAGER ROBERT TAMBLE

#### August 9, 2023

I am writing this letter to endorse Courtney Dyer's grant application for the Cultural District Program in support of her initiative to enhance the musical experience at Sunday Market in Smithville. Having collaborated with Courtney, I am confident that her efforts will significantly contribute to the market's vibrancy and appeal.

As Community Engagement Coordinator for the City of Smithville, I have interacted with numerous attendees, vendors, and performers at the Sunday Market in Smithville. The enthusiasm for live music at the market has been overwhelmingly positive. While I was conducting a survey at the market, I spoke with people of all ages and backgrounds, and they have expressed their appreciation for the musical entertainment. I think it creates a welcoming place that encourages engagement and patronage.

While people took the survey, I asked what brought them in. Here are several anecdotal comments:

- I was over at Texas Antiques and I heard the music, so I had to come over and see what was going on. Business owner
- We just finished eating at Serenity Star, and I wanted to see what the music was about. It sounded nice so we walked over. Local Resident
- The market's vibe and music, it's got an ambiance and I like it a lot. New Attendee
- I don't think the music's too loud. I was in the park and the music just came floating over and it stayed nice and mellow as I got closer. This is great. Market Attendee

The statistical data collected also underscores the positive impact of music on Sunday Market:

- When asked how they learned of the Sunday Market, 24% of respondents marked Other, and their comments were about walking over and hearing the music.
- When asked if they enjoyed their experience, 98% said Yes, demonstrating the positive influence of music at the Sunday Market.

There are wonderful benefits of integrating music into Sunday Market's offerings, and I wholeheartedly recommend Courtney Dyer and the Sunday Market as a deserving candidate for the Cultural District Program. The dedication to fostering an excellent environment through music is praiseworthy, and I am confident that her project will yield lasting positive outcomes for Sunday Market in Smithville.

Sincerely,

Andy Esquivel Community Engagement Coordinator City of Smithville

# **Proposal 7:**

Yarn Bombers "Planting Joy"

# Richard D. Latham Cultural District Proposal

#### for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

The City's Cultural District Grant requires a 10% cash or "in-kind" match.



Date: August 08, 2023

Name of Artist(s): Smithville Yarn Bombers ("SYB")

**Email: Phone:** 

Name of Project: Planting Joy!

**Potential/Actual Partners:** SYB, a group of about 30 fiber artists, PLUS participation from other yarnistas throughout Smithville, the state, and the country.

**Brief Description of the Project:** An 800+ square foot, botanical themed, temporary yarn mural assembled from individual 2 foot by 2 foot crocheted and knitted squares, collected from local, state and national submissions. The squares submitted will be attached to cattle panel for stability and hung outside on a building downtown (location TBD). The installation is intended to remain in place for a month during the Spring of 2024. SYB shall hire a professional to do marketing and PR to raise awareness of the project to get more submissions as well as visitors to come to town for the unveiling event.

Plan for Public Participation: The community will have the opportunity to submit squares to go into the mural and help us push social media awareness to get submissions from around the country. After "unveiling," the entire Smithville community shall be invited to vote on their favorite squares, sparking conversation about art and why certain art appeals more to one individual than another, reminding us that what is considered art can be very subjective. In the afternoon SYB shall host a reception and celebration, awarding People's Choice prizes to entrants as well as prizes for things like farthest travelled, oldest and youngest participant, etc. Entrants must be present to win (visitors!).

The squares will later be sold through a silent auction and the funds raised shall be recycled back into future community involvement and public art by replenishing supplies the SYB uses to teach people to crochet (for free), to provide scholarships for more economically challenged members of the community to attend the SYB annual Yarn Bomber Retreat, and to provide seed money to turn this into an annual public art installation and event which grows in size and scope each year. The long-term goal will be for Smithville to host an annual national yarn bombing conference and festival, but we want to start small and learn to improve the event each year as we grow.

**Total Cost:** \$ 5,865.35 **Match** \$ 3,922.79 **Funds Requested:** \$ 1,942.56

#### Sponsorship/Matching Opportunities/Ideas

- Each person submitting a square will be using their own yarn, not yarn purchased and provided by the SYB. Each square shall require an average of approximately \$10 (plus tax) of yarn, depending upon the type and quality used. We are estimating a minimum of 200 squares, which equates to over \$2,000 of yarn donated by participants.
- We shall have prizes donated from two or three fiber arts industry sponsors, estimated retail value over \$1700.

#### **Cultural District Application Check List:**

#### Required:

- \_X\_ Project Proposal
- X Artist's Statement of Qualifications/Resume
- \_NA\_ W-9 Form
- \_X\_ Excel Budget Spreadsheet
- \_X\_ Letter of commitment regarding match responsibilities (We received MANY but are providing 3.)

#### **Optional**

- \_X\_ Sketches, materials list, other information that will help envision the project
- \_X\_ Letters of support from community members/organizations (up to three)



Jennifer Drinkwater,'s work showing the direction we're envisioning for our "Planting Joy! A Botanical Themed Yarn Mural of Monumental Proportions"

For the SYB project, each of the squares will be larger, 2 foot by 2 foot, and each will be a self-contained work of art, more similar to the images below.





#### Smithville TX Cultural District Project Budget

Smithville Yarn Bombers

Applicant: Project Name: Date: Planting Joy! August 7, 2023

Buget Items	Justification (why is this item important to the	Unit Type (hours, months, sessions, items, etc.)	#Units	Pe	r Unit Cost		Item Cost	Category Subtotal
EXAMPLE: Mural project								
Supplies Category: Latex paint	This will be a painted mural	Cans	5	\$	35.00	\$	175.00	
Consultants (Admin/Artist Contract)								
Kim Iberg	Yarn Boss					\$	-	
Beckett Franklin-Gray	Cheerleader					\$	-	
Michele Rutherford	Scribe					s .	_	
Monica Poss	Bean Counter					Ś	_	
Consultants Subtotal	bean counter					7		\$ -
Facility/Venue Costs								<u> </u>
,	Considering MLK Park for celebration/awards. Attendees can purchase food from Word of Mouth and a couple local food trucks we recruit. No cost to SYB/Project.					\$	-	
Facility/Venue Subtotal								\$ -
Marketing/Promotion								
Marketing & Promotion - Mars Kampa	Promote the project nationally to gather participants from far and wide, putting eyes on Smithville.	hours	30	\$	25.00	\$	750.00	
Ads purchased	Supports marketing above - increasing scope and reach	TBD how breaks down				\$	400.00	
·	4.14 / 64611	155 New 51 cans down				\$	-	
Marketing/Promotion Subtotal								\$ 1,150.00
Program/Exhibit Costs								
Item 1						\$	-	
Item 2						\$ \$	-	
Program/Exhibit Costs Subtotal								\$ -
Supplies and Materials								
Yarn	Participants will use yarn to knit/crochet	skeins	400	Ś	5.41	ć	2,165.00	
10111	squares Squares will be sewn to panel for installation	JACITIO	400	ڔ	J. <del>4</del> 1	٧	2,103.00	
Cattle nanel	framework	EO" v O' nanole	26	Ś	22.72	ć	590.76	
Cattle panel		50" x 8' panels	26 78	\$	22.72			
Masonry anchor hooks	Hooks will be used to hang the cattle panels	hooks	/8	\$	2.59	\$	201.80	ć 2.0F7.FC
Category Subtotal								\$ 2,957.56
Other (Be Specific) Prizes for places People's Choice								
favorites, farthest traveled, youngest and	Provides extra impetus to participate and come							
oldest participants, etc.	to Smithville in person to receive the prize (heads in beds). Prizes will only be awarded to participants who are present.							
- Furls crochet hooks, 8 hook - Odessey		hook set	2	\$	280.58	\$	561.17	
- Furls crochet hooks, 8 hook - Streamlin	e	hook set	2	\$	176.45	\$	352.90	
- Furls crochet hooks, 8 hook - Wood		hook set	2	\$	124.49	\$	248.98	
- Furls 10 pack crochet yarn		yarn	6	\$	54.13	\$	324.75	
- Fiber Arts Now Magazine - 1 year		magazine subscription	6	\$	45.00	\$	270.00	
Other Subtotal								\$ 1,757.79
TOTAL Project Cost						\$	5,865.35	

# PLANTING JOY! SOCIAL MEDIA & PR

YARN BOMBING IS A FORM OF STREET ART IN WHICH ARTISTS ADORN AN OBJECT OR AN AREA IN A PUBLIC ENVIRONMENT. IT IS AN INTERNATIONAL PHENOMENON, BRIGHTENING ENVIRONMENTS AND CREATING BEAUTY AND FOSTERING CREATIVE COLLABORATION

**GOAL:** TO CREATE BOTH LOCAL AND NATIONAL AWARENESS OF THE **PLANTING JOY YARN BOMB INSTALLATION** SCHEDULED FOR SPRING 2024 IN SMITHVILLE, TEXAS.

CREATE A SUSTAINABLE ANNUAL FESTIVAL BRINGING ARTISTS AND ENTHUSIASTS FROM OUTSIDE OF SMITHVILLE TO VISIT AND PARTICIPATE

PR: CREATE AND SEND PRESS RELEASES CREATING A CALL TO ACTION FOR ARTISTS TO SUBMIT PIECES TO CONTRIBUTE, AND JOIN US FOR THE INSTALLATION. WE WILL REACH OUT TO RELEVANT LOCAL AND NATIONAL ARTISTS, GROUPS, PUBLICATIONS, AND FIBER ARTS MAGAZINES AND WEBZINES.

**MEDIA:** CREATE AND PURCHASE DISPLAY ADS TO RUN IN LOCAL AND NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

**IMAGERY:** SHOOT "IN-PROGRESS" PHOTOS DURING CREATION, AS WELL DURING INSTALLATION AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** WILL PROVIDE IMAGERY, COPY AND HASHTAGS FOR SMITHVILLE YARN BOMBER'S INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK ACCOUNTS. WILL TARGET AND ENGAGE LOCAL AND NATIONAL FIBER ARTISTS ENTHUSIASTS TO PARTICIPATE

ESTIMATED 30 HRS @\$25/HR. \$750.

PLACE DISPLAY ADS \$400.

TOTAL FOR PR, MEDIA & SOCIAL MEDIA \$1150.



# THANKYOU

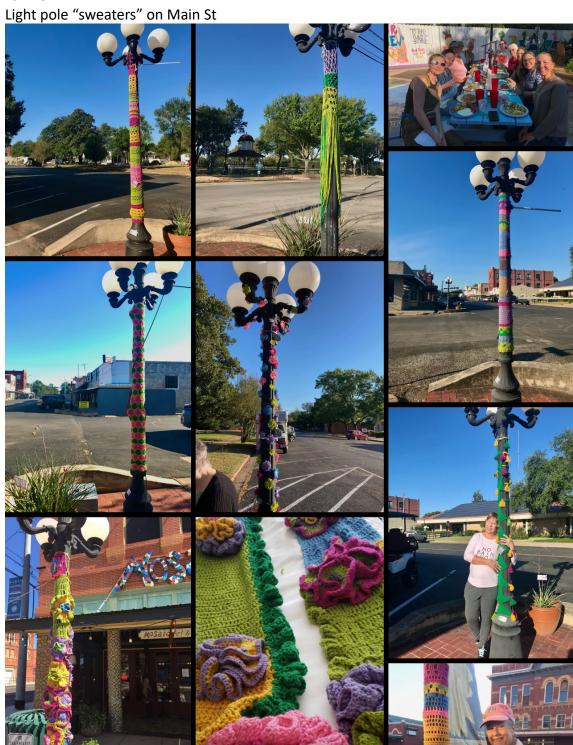




#### Artist Statement of Qualifications/Resume

The Smithville Yarn Bombers ("SYB") were founded in July 2021 and since then have completed four community "yarn bombs". What we set our minds to, we complete!

#### Fall 2021



#### Summer 2022

Bicycles

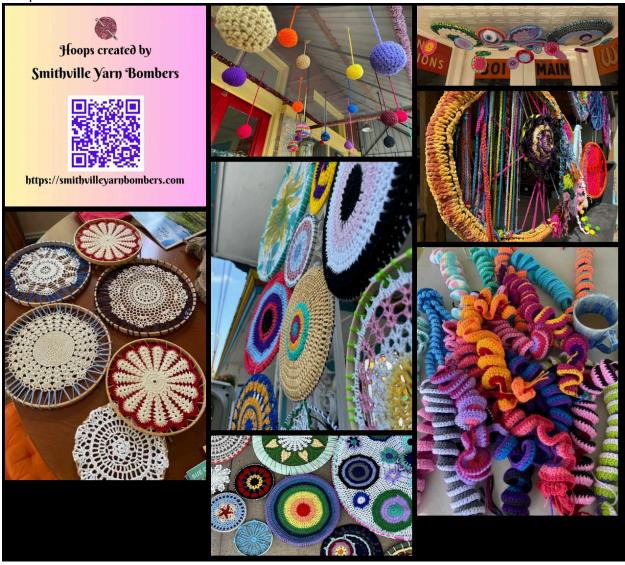


#### Winter 2022 Garden Mural



#### Summer 2023

Hoops



Our Winter 2023 project is underway!







Free lessons! Yarn Bombers teaching crochet at the Community Gardens Creative Space, MAKE/DO week, July 2023





Learning to crochet with the Yarn Bombers! Free lessons, 2022 at Blazer Cafe



#### **ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN ELGIN COURIER, NOVEMBER 2022**











## Bastrop County Tourism & Economic Development

To Whom it may concern:
The Yarn Bombers brighten up our community of Smithville! They have shared their creative talents and giving spirit successfully several times and all with great appreciation by those that have had a chance to see their work.
Their concept of creating a gathering of Bomber contributors and visitors is exciting. With the energy this group brings to their projects, I see this idea as an opportunity to encourage art in a fun way, create a buzz about the project, broaden community spirit, and bring visitors and their economic development dollars to our businesses.
I look forward to seeing this group develop another exciting project. Bombing is fun!
Thanks for all you do!
Adena Lewis, Director Tourism & Economic Development Office 512-581-4011 adena.lewis@co.bastrop.tx.us



#### **Letter of Support for Smithville Yarn Bombers**

4 messages

Susie C. <
To: "smithv

Sat, Aug 5, 2023 at 1:10 PM

Dear Monica,

I am honored you reached out to me and my message is sincere when I say that I believe the Smithville Yarn Bombers are a worthy recipient of Cultural District funds.

The Smithville Yarn Bombers have been actively involved in transforming public spaces into vibrant art installations using their crochet expertise. Their dedication to this craft is evident through the countless hours of hard work and creative energy they pour into each project. What has impressed me is the uniqueness and diversity of each project. From bicycles to dreamcatchers to poms on our lamp-posts, I have marveled at the ingenuity on display.

I am writing to wholeheartedly recommend the allocation of Cultural District funds to help the Smithville Yarn Bombers bring to life their next-level project. Their commitment to create large-scale crochet works of art, which are prominently displayed for the community to enjoy, has not only added beauty to our town but has also fostered a sense of unity and pride among its residents.

The impact of their artistic endeavors extends beyond the aesthetic value. The Yarn Bombers' installations have sparked conversations about art, culture, and community engagement. My heart has been particularly warmed to see free crochet lessons being offered to anyone – no experience or supplies needed. This open-arms invitation is an antidote to loneliness. Projects such as these break down cultural, generational and economic barriers and carry an intrinsic value that can't always be easily measured.

It is my understanding that the Smithville Yarn Bombers hope to collaborate with yarnenthusiasts all across the United States! Two foot by two foot squares will be knit or crocheted and mailed to Smithville to be sewn together to create one massive tapestry which will be publicized and unveiled in a celebratory way. What a creative, colorful and fun idea to put Smithville on the map in a new way!

By awarding the Smithville Yarn Bombers with Cultural District funds, we would be investing in the arts and culture of our town and empowering a group of dedicated volunteers to continue making a positive difference. Their enthusiasm, passion, and ability to beautify AND UNIFY our community are commendable and deserving of recognition and support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susie Cannon



#### Letter of Recommendation from Kansas City, Kansas

2 messages

Ray and Joan Daniels < To: "SmithvilleYarnBomb

Fri, Aug 4, 2023 at 8:56 PM

Linda Rooks sent me the Facebook post about the Smithville Yarn Bombers and their ambitious project for the community. Linda and I are "comadres" (we share grandchildren). I am an avid knitter and am very impressed with the idea of this "yarny" community project to make a significant yarn bombing for the city of Smithville. It is definitely a worthy project which will bring interest from all members of the community and folks from around the area. It will also be a great team building activity for all those who are actively involved in seeing it to fruition.

I look forward to following the progress of the yarn bombing and will share photos with my colleagues at the Kansas City area Sunflower Knitters Association. Let me know where to send my 24" x 24" knitted block.

Joan Daniels Kansas City, Kansas This letter of support is submitted to show that we are ALREADY getting support and promises of entries from people out of state, and we have not even begun promoting the project. SYB

Smitl
To: R
Cc: m

Sat, Aug 5, 2023 at 7:41 AM

Dear Joan,

Thank you so much for your enthusiastic support of our artful community endeavors. Your response to our creativity is what we dream of!

Warm regards,

Kim Iberg President, Smithville Yarn Bombers

# **Proposal 8:**

Jorge Sanhueza-Leon "Smithville USA"



## Richard D. Latham Cultural District

#### Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

The City's Cultural District Grant requires a 10% cash or "in-kind" match.

Date: 08/06/2023

Name of Artist(s): Jorge Sanhueza-Lyon

Name of Project: Smithville USA

Potential/Actual Partners: Prizer Arts and

Letters

#### **Brief Description of the Project:**

This show featured portraits of residents of Smithville, Texas by photographer Jorge Sanhueza-Lyon. About the exhibit, Sanhueza-Lyon writes: "Photography for me has always been an excuse to boldly walk up to people and meet them. Here in Smithville, I had the opportunity to photograph about one hundred and fifty people and was introduced to many more folks. Everyone has been warm and inviting and willing to be vulnerable in front of the camera - willing to share things that maybe they haven't been asked to share in a while, or ever. To me, that's the greatest gift anybody can give you - their attention and time and stories. I am grateful for the moments I have had with people here in Smithville and for all who were willing to take the risk of being photographed. With this show, I hope to give viewers an opportunity to get outside of their comfort zone, too, and look at themselves and their community in a new way."

#### Plan for Public Participation:

Gallery Opening invited members of the entire community to meet eachother and foster a closer relationship moving forward.

Total Cost: \$ \$1250

\$65 x 9 - 17x22 prints (Total \$585)

- Wayne Washington
- Joanna Morgan
- Sharon Foerster
- Janice Bruno
- David Repka
- Tom Etheredge
- Andy Esquivel
- William Dildine
- David Herrington

\$315 x 1 - 44 x 55 print (Total \$315)

• William Breeden

\$350 x 1 - 44 x 55 print (Total \$350)

Collage of Participants

\*NOTE: Smithville can rarely support public art projects that cost over \$5,000. Include the Budget Form Excel File with your application.

**Sponsorship/Matching Opportunities/Ideas** – where will the 10% cash/in-kind match come from? (be as specific as possible with names of people and organizations who you have contacted that would be willing to provide matching funds):

□ I would like this application to be considered for a TCA grant 50% match will be required per TCA—City Staff will work with the artist(s) to work out match options.

#### Return this form:

By email: Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison: jstrube@ci.smithville.tx.us

#### Mail to:

Required:

Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison City of Smithville/Cultural District PO Box 449 Smithville, TX 78957

#### **Cultural District Application Check List:**

_ Project Proposal	
_ Artist's Statement of Qualifications/Resume	
_ W-9 Form	
_ Excel Budget Spreadsheet	
Letter of commitment regarding match responsibilities (if the artist has asked another persorganization to provide the match, that person/organization must supply the letter of commitment)	on or
the proposal is submitted by a nonprofit:	
_ IRS Letter of Determination	

# **Traditional Partnership:**

Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce Music in the Park



PO Box 449

Smithville, TX 78957

# **Richard D. Latham Cultural District**

## Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

The City's Cultural District Grant requires a 10% cash or "in-kind" match.

Da	ate: August 7, 2023
N	ame of Artist(s): TBD musicians
Er	mail: _
	ame of Project: Music in the Park, free outdoor concert series during Spring 2024
	otential/Actual Partners: Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce
Bı	rief Description of the Project:
D G m	ince 2018, the Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce, with support from the City and Cultural istrict, has facilitated a concert series in Railroad Park, with singers/musicians performing live at the sazebo. This is a very popular event and we hope to continue it in 2024. In the past, a 50/50 natching grant arrangement was done between the Chamber and the Cultural District and we are sking for that again this upcoming year.
Pl	an for Public Participation:
po W	he concert series will be advertised using print and digital media, spreading the word to locals and otential visitors to come and enjoy an evening in Smithville. The concerts are free and open to any ho will come and the geographical layout of Railroad Park, with the position of the gazebo, lends self to drive-by and walk-up attendees being able to partake, even if they arrive a little late.
To	otal Cost: \$ 1,600.00 Total Match (10%): \$800.00
	NOTE: Smithville can rarely support public art projects that cost over \$5,000. clude the Budget Form Excel File with your application.
(b	consorship/Matching Opportunities/Ideas — where will the 10% cash/in-kind match come from? be as specific as possible with names of people and organizations who you have contacted that would be illing to provide matching funds):
2024 a	mithville Area Chamber of Commerce hopes/intends to host a 3, or 4 installment concert series during Spring and will obtain financial backing through sponsorships. If awarded Cultural District funds, that would alleviate on of the sponsorship requirement or could also expand the advertising budget.
	I I would like this application to be considered for a TCA grant  Ohne match will be required per TCA—City Staff will work with the artist(s) to work out match options.
Re	eturn this form: By email: Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison: <u>istrube@ci.smithville.tx.us</u>
M	lail to: Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison City of Smithville/Cultural District

## Smithville TX Cultural District Project Budget

Applicant: Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce

Project Name: Music in the Park concert series, Spring 2024

Date: August 7, 2023

Add more lines to any category as necessary

Budget Items	Justification (why is this item important to the project)	Unit Type (hours, months, sessions, items, etc.)	# Units	Per	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Categ	ory Subtotal
Consultants (Admin/Artist Contract)								
NA						\$ -		
Consultants Subtotal							\$	-
Facility/Venue Costs								
Facility 1: Railroad Park & Gazebo	Venue City would provide at no charge as a lead partner					\$ -		
Facility/Venue Subtotal							\$	-
Marketing/Promotion								
Marketing & Promotion 1	Graphic Design to create digital poster & Content	hours	2	\$	35.00	\$ 70.00		
Marketing & Promotion 2	Printing costs for color poster	items	38	\$	0.80	\$ 30.00		
Marketing/Promotion Subtotal							\$	100.00
Program/Exhibit Costs								
Item 1: week 1, band 1	Singer / Musician		1	\$	375.00	\$ 375.00		
Item 2: week 2, band 2	Singer / Musician		1	\$	375.00	\$ 375.00		
Item 3: week 3, band 3	Singer / Musician		1	\$	375.00	\$ 375.00		
Item 4, week 4, band 4	Singer / Musician		1	\$	375.00	\$ 375.00		
Program/Exhibit Costs Subtotal							\$	1,500.00
Supplies and Materials								
NA						\$ -		
Category Subtotal							\$	-
<b>TOTAL Project Cost</b>				•		\$ 1,600.00	•	