**Graduate Student Project Funds Application : Entry # 1567**

**Requestor Information**

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maribem3

**Name of Requesting Student:**

Maribel Martinez

**Requesting Organization:**

Brown Bag Theatre Company

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**Contact Email Address (repeated):**

maribem3@uci.edu

**General Program/Event Information**

**Program/Event Name:**

Brown Bag Theatre Company presents "The Service Worker's Project"

**Description of Program/Event:**

Brown Bag Theatre Company is proud to present "The Service Worker’s Project". This play gives undergraduate and graduate students from every major the chance to be part of all aspects of a professional theatrical production from planning to performance. Brown Bag Theatre Company strives to bring together the Claire Trevor School of the Arts with the wider campus community to expand the presence of Latino/a art and artists.

One of our production goals for this year is to broaden the community of supporters of Latino/a art and thus gain a more prominent voice on the UCI campus. To meet this goal we are seeking to expand our audiences through reaching out to new communities and groups on campus.

Our artistic production this year will be a devised play to be created by our club members currently entitled “The Service Worker’s Project.” This project’s goal is to partner with the service workers on our campus and document through interviews and cultural research what their experiences are in hopes of shedding light on the workers that maintain our campus every day and in turn creating a closer UCI community. As we will be building this piece from ground zero, we will be relying heavily on our dramaturgical skills to maintain the integrity of the different cultures we will be encountering and displaying in our production.

This production will take place in the Robert Cohen Theatre April 30th to May 2nd 2014. Following the first performance we will hold a reception with food and beverages; after the second performance we will hold a designer and actor talkback to give the audience the opportunity to speak to the creative team directly and learn about their create and decision making-processes. These talkbacks are an integral learning opportunity for students to critically analysis the material and contextualize the themes and artistry of the production.
As stated in our mission, we aim to produce work that is engaging. We believe that this project will open the eyes of not only the community members on campus, from students to staff to administration but also outside of our community. This type of immersive story telling it really is the perfect vehicle to changing the lives of every audience member by displaying stories that hit close to home. And it is our hope that our production sparks the conversations that create change in our community.

The stories of UCI service workers will be collected anonymously through informal interviews. No identifying data will be collected. The script that will be produced from these interviews will be based on these stories, but will not be a word-for-word transcription. Stories will be collected through informal social connections made at community engagement events. We will hold three community engagement events to allow the UCI service workers community to meet the theatre company.

The production will be fully staged with professional quality lighting, set design, sound and music, and costumes. It is important for our group to create opportunities and empower our undergraduate members therefore our undergraduate UCI student members will be creating and assisting the design of the show under the mentorship of graduate UCI students, raising the standards of professionalism and academia within our own group. This grant will help to secure not only the equipment to fully realize this production but also the ability for the students and future leaders in our fields to develop our artistic skills.

To facilitate our goal of serving the community we outreach to Estancia and Santa Ana High Schools and junior colleges with underserved student populations. Through the support of the Claire Trevor School of the Arts Outreach department we arrange to provide transportation to UCI for these students and offer performance tickets free of charge. This allows us to work towards encouraging students from underrepresented backgrounds to attend college. This was done with our production of Yerma in the previous year and was highly successful.

To expand our outreach efforts, we will be inviting the Estancia and Santa Ana High School students and junior college students to be involved in the creative process more thoroughly as a means of assisting in their preparation for college-level artistic education. These students will be the central focus of production talk-back events. Further, in conjunction with the Service Worker's project we will be holding Chicano Classics Staged Reading Series. In this Series we will perform readings of the contemporary Chicano adaptations of classic Greek plays. These plays represent the cornerstone of dramatic history and knowing the productions will prepare students for their college educations.

In order to strength our ties to the larger UCI community beyond the Claire Trevor School of the Arts we have established a connection with the Chicano-Latino Studies department. Through this connection we reach out to undergraduate students interested in Latino art to attend performances and to volunteer at the performance. Additionally we work with the Ballet Folklorico de UCI student dance group to expand the audience base for the production.

Under the supervision of faculty advisor Professor Lonnie Alcaraz, Brown Bag Theatre Company produces an annual full-length production of profession quality. The plays Brown Bag Theatre produce are comparable and equal in design and quality to the mainstage departmental productions. In order to make a show of such high caliber work smoothly, a group of seven undergraduate students work throughout the year to manage each aspect of the professional show. These select students serve as committee leaders that manage a committee of general members. Each committee leader has specific individual responsibilities overseen by the faculty advisor and graduate student mentors. Every member of Brown Bag Theatre Company is expected to work together to contribute towards the success of our annual production from planning and fundraising, to design work, to performance, and in evaluation.

A full PDF of the budget details and project timeline can be provided.

Location of Program/Event:
Robert Cohen Theatre, Claire Trevor School of the Arts, UCI

Date of Program/Event:
04/30/2015

Start Time of Program/Event:
07:00 pm

Expected Attendance

Number of UCI Graduate Students Expected to Attend:
300

Number of UCI Undergraduate Students Expected to Attend:
200

Number of UCI Admin/Faculty/Staff Expected to Attend:
50

Number of Other People Expected to Attend:
50

How are you predicting the attendance numbers listed above?
We are predicting the attendance numbers based on our attendance records from our successful production of "Yerma" last year. We have elevated the estimation of the number of UCI staff expected to attend since the production will be directed at telling their stories.

Planned Methods of Advertisement:
We will advertise through community engagement events, food sales, and a staged reading series. We will create flyers to pass out at these events. We will additionally hang posters and take out an ad in the New U, and another on campus blog. We will advertise on social media including Facebook.

Request and Budget

Amount of funding requested from AGS Project Fund:
$1500

How much do you expect the event to cost in total?
$14,325.25

Are you receiving other funding for this event?
Yes
### Itemized Budget for Program/Event

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items w/ Description and Quantity</th>
<th>Cost (in dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scenic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Costumes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighting</td>
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<td>Stage Management</td>
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<td>Staged Readings</td>
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<td>Advertising</td>
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<td>Labor Costs</td>
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### Has your organization received AGS Projects Funding in the past?

No