



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Moisture Festival

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Organization's General Goals:

The Seattle Moisture Festival is the world's largest comedy/variety festival, running for four weeks every spring in Seattle. The Seattle Moisture Festival builds community by championing the variety arts and creating shared experiences of laughter, delight, and wonder. Our annual showcase celebrates diverse artists, engages our volunteers and contributors, and marvels audiences of all ages.

Date of Award:	Level:
2024 Q3	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Moisture Festival.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
TulalipCares.org

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Moisture Festival Education and Community Outreach

Project Activities

In tandem with the annual variety festival, the team at Moisture Festival proposed a range of outreach and education activities, providing different entry points for a range of community stakeholders. Events differed slightly from what was initially proposed due to teaching artist availability, venue scheduling, and a desire to respond to a new opportunity.

In the end we provided the following free events:

- Three family-friendly drop-in workshops after the Sunday Matinée shows (the 4th was cancelled due to a show over-run)
- A community performance opportunity
- An off-site juggling workshop for young people at Academia Latina followed by attendance at a performance
- A lecture for young people from Lambert House
- Two performance opportunities for youth performing groups from SANCA

Project Impact

Although this year's roster of workshops were more accessible (due to timing, venue, and content decisions) than in 2024, overall attendance was lower. A total of 117 people took part in the various learning opportunities, but half this number connected with us via partner organisations rather than as a result of our offer to audience members and their families. A further 78 attended and/or performed in our community performance on April 1st. There were 28 youth performers from SANCA at two of our Saturday matinee shows. *Total number of individual participants: 223*

On March 23rd, Lindsay Benner taught attendees how to do a magic trick with a scarf. Photos and video show happy and engaged learners and it is particularly heartening to see so many young women participating in light of how male-dominated magic has been. March 30th, RanD'Shine also taught magic, stepping the participants through a series of card tricks and feats of mentalism. Randy later wrote:

“My recent experience as a performer and workshop leader with the Moisture Festival underscored how variety entertainment plays a part in building community. Not only was I able to showcase my talent, but I was also able to uplift others and create a shared experience with the Seattle community which highlighted the importance of representation. This is in line with my belief that performance should be regenerative; sharing my unique qualities with an audience also serves to show others that they too have the option to create magic in their own lives and the lives of those around them”

The April 6th clowning workshop, led by Tyler West, was cancelled due to a show overrun and the final workshop, led by Shannon Collier, involved older adults in a creative dance/movement exploration of water inspired by Shannon’s aerial act. Participants were reluctant to be photographed stayed in the space, engaged in the creative tasks long after the workshop officially ended.

The biggest impact was undoubtedly made through our workshop with the community at Academia Latina on Saturday March 29th followed by free attendance at a performance on March 30th. The hour-long workshop was a riot of enjoyment, and the President of that education non-profit, Rosamaria Graziani, noted:

“I was a little hesitant because our kids do not need another reason to feel like a failure. But the children LOVED the juggling class. They were extremely focused and proud of what they learned. This year, deportation is on our children’s minds, and they feel powerless, unsafe, and fearful. One of them even tried to kill herself because she thought she would be deported alone to Mexico, without her siblings, who were born in the US. Unfortunately, our conversations usually drift to that topic and their concerns. Thanks to the juggling class, the children totally forgot about their worries and were full of questions about how to get better at juggling and when they would see Wren again.”

Project Evaluation

In future, Moisture Festival will focus exclusively on cultivating partnerships with local community groups, deepening its relationship with Lambert House, Academia Latina, SANCA and others, in order to more effectively connect with young people who can benefit from creative learning opportunities and make sure that keep all our activities strictly mission-aligned, most especially with respect to our commitment to accessibility.

Moisture Festival is currently working on a strategic review and planning process, with a draft proposal due to the Board in September 2025. Insights drawn from the past two years' attempts to provide meaningful, accessible educational outreach suggest that drop-in sessions, while fun and potentially impactful, do far less good than the events we are able to schedule with community partners, tailoring content to the needs of those specific groups.

