



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Seattle Repertory Theatre

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Organization's General Goals:
Seattle Rep collaborates with extraordinary artists to create productions and programs that reflect and elevate the diverse cultures, perspectives, and life experiences of our region.

Date of Award:	Level:
2023 Q4	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Seattle Repertory Theatre.

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

November 13, 2024

Marilyn Sheldon
Director
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

Dear Marilyn:

On behalf of all of us at Seattle Rep, thank you for the Tulalip Tribe's support for the Public Works program. Since 2016, this program has propelled Seattle Rep's vision of a world with theater at the heart of public life through community-engaged theatermaking. As a long-running and key Public Works supporter, we wanted to take this opportunity to share with you additional details about the impact of your support.

In 2024, the Public Works team held 40 free theater classes at three partner locations during our winter and spring quarters, along with seven one-day workshop held at four of our partner locations and at Seattle Rep. We also held two open mic nights at our theater for the Public Works community in response to their desire to showcase their skills outside of classes. In total, 149 people attended classes, workshops, and open mic nights at Byrd Barr Place, Ballard Northwest Senior Center, Path With Art, Renton Veterans' Center, Seattle Central College, and onsite at Seattle Rep.

At Ballard NW Senior Center, Teaching Artists Danny Kam and Taylor Symons co-taught Musical Theater Performance to seniors in two eight-week sessions in winter and spring quarters. In this popular class, participants learned songs from musicals like "Zero to Hero" from Disney's Hercules and "Any Way the Wind Blows" from Hadestown, complete with simple choreography that was easily adaptable to all levels of mobility. At Renton Veterans' Center, VJ Orduña taught Storytelling to veterans in both winter and spring, working with participants to shape their personal stories into compelling monologues. And in winter quarter, Neen Williams-Teramachi taught Intro to Drama at North Seattle Boys and Girls Club to budding thespians.

**Theater
at the
heart of
public life.**

Seattle Rep Report to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Trust
Q4 2023 14.2 / www.seattlerep.org / Page 1 of 4

One day workshops offered in winter and spring included: an Introduction to Public Works at Seattle Central College with Shaunyce Omar; two dance workshops at Byrd Barr Place lead by Lexi Warden; a scene study class at Path with Art with Taryn Collis; Teague M. Parker’s signature Improv for Wellness workshop held at Seattle Rep; a scene study mega session with Pilar O’Connell, VJ Orduña, and Amelio Garcia at Seattle Rep; and Production 101 lead by Ollie Ward, where participants could learn more about the behind-the-scenes process of making theater at Seattle Rep.



Image Credit: Associate Director Hattie Claire Andres leads the Community Ensemble in a movement workshop. Photo by Sayed Alamy.

Free Public Works theater classes prepare participants to audition for, rehearse, and perform in a pageant-style production onstage at Seattle Rep. This year, we evolved our approach to community-engaged theatermaking by experimenting with a new model for our Public Works program. Rather than a standalone pageant-style production, this season we incorporated Community Ensembles into our mainstage production of *The Skin of Our Teeth*, with the plan of creating a unique and repeatable community-engaged theater model that can be employed in one show every season. During the course of *The Skin of Our Teeth*, 267 community members graced the Bagley Wright stage alongside a professional cast of 14. By engaging our community in a full-run production, this model allowed us to exceed the total number of community members involved in any past Public Works pageant production. In total, 37 performers from our Public Works community made up the rotating Community Ensemble who rehearsed and performed approximately three times per week; 111 special guests played the “Hours of the Night” and read passages from Plato, Aristotle, Spinoza, and the Bible; and an additional 119 community members joined the full-company scenes in each act. We also invited local performance ensembles and artists to perform in our lobby during intermission, hosting a total of 12 intermission performances by community groups including buskers from local Pike Place Market, various barbershop groups, and the Men’s Whistling Chorus.

Between classes, workshops, open mic nights, and *The Skin of Our Teeth*, 416 people in total participated in the Public Works program in 2024. The number of overall participants in *The Skin of Our Teeth* alone is five times as large as the number of participants in our 2023/24 Public Works production of *The Tempest*, and it was seen by nearly four times as many patrons. A total of 10,518 patrons attended *The Skin of Our Teeth*. Combined, a total of 10,934 people were impacted by Public Works in 2024. We are proud of the impact this program has made, and we are already looking forward to how we might replicate this new model for the program next year.



Image Credit: The Community Ensemble of The Skin of Our Teeth at rehearsal. Photo by Sayed Alamy.



Image Credit: Public Works Manager Ally Poole and the Community Ensemble in rehearsal. Photo by Sayed Alamy.



Image Credit: Members of the cast and community ensemble of The Skin of Our Teeth (2024) at Seattle Rep. Photo by Bronwen Houck.



Image Credit: Members of the cast and community ensemble of The Skin of Our Teeth (2024) at Seattle Rep. Scenic design by Stephanie Kerley Schwartz. Photo by Bronwen Houck.