



# Funds Distribution Report

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**Recipient Organization:**  
**Taproot Theatre**

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 30946  
Seattle, WA 98113

**Contact:**  
(206) 781-9705  
<https://taproottheatre.org>

**Organization's General Goals:**

Taproot Theatre Company was founded in 1976. From its humble beginnings as a touring group, the company is now Seattle's largest mid-size theatre company. Today Taproot Theatre serves over 150,000 people annually with a mission to tell stories of hope, serving the Pacific Northwest through live theatre and educational programs.

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<b>Date of Award:</b>	<b>Level:</b>
2021 Q4	\$2,501 to \$5,000

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

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

# TAPROOT THEATRE

ROAD COMPANY

August 8, 2022

Marilyn Sheldon  
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund  
8802 – 27th Ave. NE  
Tulalip, WA 98271

**Re: Final Report Letter: Q4 2021 14.2**

Dear Marilyn,

I'm writing to express once again our thanks to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund for your generous grant to Taproot Theatre Company. I'm excited to share this final report regarding the completion of our Road Company's 2021-2022 "virtual school tour" for Taproot's bullying prevention educational plays.

The 2021-2022 school year began with plans to return to in-person assemblies at many of our regular schools in Washington State. Our teachers and administrators continue to prove themselves as heroes; pivoting back and forth between online and in-person instruction. Here at Taproot Theatre, as we were planning for our 2021-2022 Road Company bullying prevention plays, we were aware of the continuous need for social and emotional tools to empower students to recognize and report bullying behavior during this ongoing crisis.

We entered this school year not knowing if we would be allowed back into schools due to social distancing and COVID-19 restrictions. We knew we needed to have both in-person and virtual options so that schools could have our programs out in the way that made sense to them. Thanks in part to your support, we did it! Taproot's Road Company team not only brought our new elementary show out to schools in-person, we also recorded a new elementary school bullying prevention play and a new cyberbullying prevention play in September 2021. After the success of the 2020-2021 virtual assemblies, we were excited to put what we learned into action again.

These newly recorded plays were then added to our library of virtual assemblies and offered to schools via online streaming sessions so that they could show these bullying prevention plays as "virtual student assemblies" for their school population. Even though we couldn't be physically on campus, students were able to gather in their classrooms and watch the assembly on a shared screen. With a classroom study guide we sent out, teachers could lead students in



discussions after they watched the play.

We are so grateful for the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund's trust and support of our mission. Your generous grant of \$██████ helped the Road Company's bullying prevention plays reach students across Washington State, even during the midst of continued challenges from the pandemic. Thanks to your support the Road Company's in-person and virtual tour reached 58,709 students in 121 schools in 11 counties. The fact that so many schools made room in their complicated hybrid schedules for a bullying prevention play is a tribute to the quality of the Road Company's work and the need that these schools felt for bullying prevention education to continue.

This past year, the Road Company's tour featured two in-person options and four virtual options. These plays teach the bullying prevention strategies and Social/Emotional Learning concepts highlighted in the Committee for Children's *Second Step* bullying prevention curriculum.



Our newly added virtual options also toured in-person during the fall. *Allies from Outer Space* presented an out of this world story that focused on accepting and celebrating differences and using technology responsibly. This play also taught students skills to “recognize, report and refuse” bullying behavior.

*The Social NetWorth* told the story of high school students navigating negative online behavior and cyberbullying. In addition to cyberbullying prevention strategies, the play deals with themes of body positivity and toxic masculinity.

One of our ongoing goals at Taproot Theatre is to keep our school touring program accessible to as many schools as possible. We are pleased to report that for our virtual assemblies, schools were able to experience the play at a lower price, and could coordinate with other schools in their district for more discounts. In 2021-2022, our bullying prevention plays served 47 low income schools. We were able to reach schools in Benton, Island, Grant, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Thurston, Vancouver, and Yakima Counties.

During the 2021-2022 school year, teachers, students and families were all forced to continue to adapt to new ways of working. Taproot's Road Company was in the same situation and we are grateful to all the schools who decided to take a chance on us and try out a new format for bullying prevention student assemblies. In the final part of our Final Report, therefore, we wanted to let our teacher partners speak for themselves. Here is some of their feedback from last year:

**Vaughn Elementary School:** *This combination of performance and message was the best we've seen from Taproot thus far. Several teachers and staff commented the same - that it was their favorite production from Taproot. Your performers are professional, kind, flexible, independent, and fun to interact with. Their show is engaging and entertaining. They have effective skills interacting and leading*

*the audience of K-5 students during their Q&A and discussion time after the show. We love having Taproot here at Vaughn!*

**Lake Tapps Elementary School:** *Yes, the actors were exceptional, not only with their performances, but also the interacting with the students following their performance.*

**Our Lady of Fatima School:** *The kids really enjoyed the superpower theme. Everyone was talking about the play, and I have heard some kids using the terminology they learned in the play. The actors are super energetic and do such a great job! The kids were very attentive and engrossed in the play. Great message!*

**Twin City Elementary:** *I appreciated that the characters were able to apologize, forgive, and accept that others can change. Your virtual performances are well done and send a perfect message.*

We are proud of all the moments of learning and connection that are described above. And these are moments made possible by the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund! Thank you for being a part of this important work. This past year has been another extraordinary one in so many ways, and now we are looking forward to getting the Taproot Road Company back on the road for the 2022-2023 school year.

If you would like to learn more about Taproot's Road Company bullying prevention plays or would like to see a performance at a school near you, then please feel free to contact our Director of Education & Outreach, Lindsey Long at 206.529.3669. Thank you again for your support!

With deep gratitude,



Karen Lund  
Producing Artistic Director  
Taproot Theatre Company

TaprootTheatre.org

P.O. Box 30946  
Seattle, WA 98113