

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:

Taproot Theatre

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Seattle, WA 98103

Mailing Address:

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Seattle, WA 98113

Contact:

(206) 781-9705
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Organization's General Goals:

Taproot Theatre Company tells stories of hope, serving the Pacific Northwest through live theatre and educational programs. We serve nearly 115,000 people annually throughout the Pacific Northwest with its Jewell Mainstage and Isaac Studio productions, touring programs, and Acting Studio camps and classes for all ages.

Date of Award:

2023 Q4

Level:

\$500 to \$2,500

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

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

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August 31, 2026

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

Re: Final Report Letter: 2023 grant (received April 2024)

Dear Marilyn,

I'm writing to express 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 2023-2024 tour of Taproot's bullying prevention educational plays.

The 2023-2024 school year began with a completely new set of actors performing assemblies to schools in Washington State. As we began planning for our 2023-2024 Road Company bullying prevention plays, we were aware of the on-going need for social-emotional tools to empower students to recognize and report bullying behavior just as had been the case for the many years before.



We are so grateful for the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund's trust and support of our mission. Your generous grant of [REDACTED] helped the Road Company's bullying prevention plays reach students across Washington State. Thanks to your support, the Road Company's tour reached 76,626 students in 160 schools. Of those schools, 47% were low-income. The fact that so many schools made room in their 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 three 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 brand-new show, *ROCKS!* presented a charming and humorous story. This play also taught students skills to “recognize, report and refuse” bullying behavior.

ROCKS!, written by Melanie Godsey, is a play for elementary age children about bullying prevention and celebrating differences. S’mores, stargazing, swimming—Jamie’s family promises him that Camp Obsidian is a hidden gem. And when he makes friends with Casey on the first day, he knows this camp could rock. But when Casey’s jealousy spreads like poison ivy, Jamie gets caught between a rock and a hard place. Is Jamie really being bullied? Or is it all a harmless prank? The other campers and Jasper, the down-to-earth counselor, will leave no stone unturned to make it the best summer ever.

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 all our assemblies, schools were able to experience the play at a lower price if booking in coordination with other schools in their district for discounts. In 2023-2024, our bullying prevention plays served 75 low-income schools. We were able to reach schools in Clark, Grant, Island, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, Whatcom, and Yakima Counties.

During the 2023-2024 school year, teachers, students, and families continued to rave about the impact of our plays and our actors interaction with students. In the final part of our Final Report, we wanted to let our school partners speak for themselves. Here is some of their feedback from that school year:

Shining Mountain Elementary School: *Just a note to tell you how wonderful the “Rocks” Assemblies were on the 21st at Shining Mountain. So many positive comments from staff and students. Such an important message for students to hear! The cast was awesome and so fun to visit with afterwards. I will definitely recommend this to other schools.*

Newcastle Elementary School: *I have seen at least a dozen of your plays over many years. The ROCKS was THE BEST! Wow. My first graders were 100% involved in the whole show. The character development was fantastic. The message is always the most important, and you did an excellent job*

explaining, reviewing and pointing out specifics. I appreciate the adult laughter you bring as well. Thank you. ~Kristen Thomas (seasoned) First Grade Teacher @ Newcastle

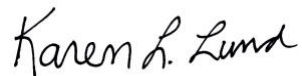
Fairwood Elementary School: *A student at Fairwood Elementary loved the show so much that he was able to see it twice; he had tears in his eyes near the end of the first performance, and he was absolutely captivated by it. He was completely immersed in the play, and it was a joy to interact with him.*

Meadowdale Elementary School: *The principal at Meadowdale Elementary complimented the structure of the message in *The Friend Ship* and how efficient our talkback was; he also appreciated the use of gender-neutral language in the play, and he said a lot of students would be affirmed by it.*

We are proud of all the moments of learning and connections 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 2026-2027 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 Education & Outreach Associate, Karissa Chin at 206.529.3669. Thank you again for your support!

With deep gratitude,



Karen Lund
Producing Artistic Director
Taproot Theatre Company

TaprootTheatre.org

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