Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization: Taproot Theatre Company

Mailing Address: PO Box 30946 Seattle, WA 98113

Contact: (206) 781-9705 https://www.taproottheatre.org

Organization's General Goals:

Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre Company creates theatre experiences to brighten the spirit, engage the mind and deepen the understanding of the world around us while inspiring imagination, conversation and hope.

Date of Award: 2017 Q3 Level: \$2,501 to \$5,000

Specific Use for This Award: For more information, please read the attached report from Taproot Theatre Company.



8802 27th Ave NE Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

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Producing Artistic Director

July 16, 2018

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

Re: Final Report Letter

Dear Marilyn,

We are so grateful to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund for your support of Taproot's 2017-2018 Road Company school tour! Through your generous gift of you reached 18,751 students at 33 schools in Snohomish County with plays that teach bullying prevention strategies and social skills like empathy, respect and assertiveness.

The remaining "scholarship" funds for schools in the Marysville School District designated in the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund's 2016-2017 grant to Taproot were carried over into the 2017-2018 school tour. This funding enabled Taproot's Road Company to offer two free performances at Allen Creek Elementary and two free performances at Cedarcrest Middle School during the 2017-2018 school year. Here is the completed financial report for the Tulalip Tribes 2016-2017 scholarship fund.

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund—Free Performances for Marysville Schools			
School			
Year	School	Starting Amount	\$
2016-2017	Liberty Elementary	1 Performance/Travel Fee	\$
2016-2017	Allen Creek Elementary	1 Performance/Travel Fee	\$
2016-2017	Marysville Middle	2 Performances/Travel Fee	\$
2017-2018	Cedarcrest Middle	2 Performances/Travel Fee	\$
2017-2018	Allen Creek Elementary	2 Performances (Discounted)	\$
		Total Expenses	\$
		Amount remaining in fund:	\$ -

We know that the true impact of Taproot's bullying prevention plays occurs over time as the Road Company is invited back year after year, becoming a regular part of the school culture. Because of this, we are particularly grateful to Tulalip Tribes for your continuing support allowing Taproot to build ongoing relationships with schools in the Marysville School District. Allen Creek Elementary School, for example, had never booked a Road Company show prior to the 2016-2017. Funding from Tulalip Tribes allowed Taproot's Road Company to offer this school one free performance in 2016-2017 and then to return and reinforce the bullying prevention message with two free performances in 2017-2018.

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A THEATRE OF HOPE

Taproot Theatre Company creates theatre experiences to brighten the spirit, engage the mind and deepen the understanding of the world around us while inspiring imagination, conversation and hope.

We value faith. We respect people. We celebrate theatre. In total, the 2017-2018 Road Company tour reached 119,571 students at 234 schools across Washington State and featured three bullying prevention plays for elementary, middle and high schools. This year's new elementary school show, *The Case of the Missing Friends*, told the story of Google; a smart kid who is good at solving mysteries, but struggling to make friends. Back for a second year of touring, *Alexandra and the*

Dragon took elementary students on a fairy tale adventure in which slanderous rumors about dragons turn out <u>not</u> to be true. Also back for a second year of touring, the Road Company's middle/high school show, **CyberZoo**, told a compelling story about cyber bullying and what happens when "jokes" about someone's appearance go too far.

The Road Company's bullying prevention plays have a powerful impact on student audiences. The exciting stories and the post show discussions with Road Company actors help root the lessons about friendshipbuilding and bullying prevention in the minds of students long after the Road Company has left. Each year, we ask our Road Company team to record some of the special memories from their experiences performing in schools. Here are two of our favorites from this year:



From Addy: "Today we visited a classroom to talk with students after the performance. One of the students asked if we had ever been bullied...I shared a story about being bullied for my hair. I have big curly hair and when I was younger I wore it in pigtails to class and students started to bark at me and tell me I looked like a poodle...By the end of our talk, this young black girl had taken her hair out of a ponytail and put it into two pigtails, like the ones I described. I was taken aback by that and it really reminded me of how important our work is on the Road Company. She was the only black student in that group, which I know from personal experience can be a very hard thing to go through in school. It was a sweet little gesture of solidarity, and even though that happened to me YEARS ago, it was incredibly moving."

From Sarah: "After the show today a little girl began to tell me about a girl in her class who has been bullying her and that she doesn't know how to handle it. She mentioned how it makes her feel sad and hurt, "Like you did in the play when Tessa was bullying you." I told her to try talking to this girl and if that didn't work to talk to her teacher about it and get her involved. The look on her face when she realized there was a way to deal with the issue was priceless. It brought tears to my eyes...It reminds me that this work matters and it changes lives. I'm grateful to be a part of that."

These stories of hope are just a few of the meaningful moments that your support makes possible. Thank you for investing in stories that can change a student's future! We would love to welcome you to see the Road Company team in action at a school near you. If you are interested in viewing a Road Company performance, please contact our Grant Writer, Sonja Lowe at 206.529.3672 or email at sonjal@taproottheatre.org

With deep gratitude,

Scott Nolte Producing Artistic Director, *Taproot Theatre Company*