



**CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS**

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Taproot Theatre Company

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Seattle, WA 98113

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<https://www.taproottheatre.org>

Organization's General Goals:
Taproot Theatre Company tells stories of hope, serving the Pacific Northwest through live theatre and educational programs.

Date of Award:	Level:
2022 Q3	\$2,501 to \$5,000

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

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TAPROOT THEATRE

ROAD COMPANY

August 29, 2023

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

Re: Final Report Letter: Q4 2022 14.2

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 2022-2023 tour of Taproot's bullying prevention educational plays.

The 2022-2023 school year began with a completely new set of actors returning to fully in-person assemblies to schools in Washington State. While some schools were still wanting our virtual assembly options, teachers and administrators were excited to bring us back in-person. As we began planning for our 2022-2023 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 now that everyone was back inside the classroom.



We offered both in-person and virtual options so that schools could have our programs in the way that made sense to them. Thanks in part to your support, we did it! Taproot's Road Company team not only

offered three assemblies to schools in-person (one being a brand-new show!), but we also recorded a new elementary school bullying prevention play and a new cyberbullying prevention play in January 2023. After the success of the virtual assemblies, we were excited to put what we learned into action again and continue to offer new virtual options to schools that needed it.

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 in-person and virtual tour reached 90,785 students in 187 schools in 13 counties. 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 in-person options and six 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 brand-new show, also available virtually, toured in-person during the fall. **BUGS!** presented a charming and humorous story filled with dreams about insects that focused on celebrating differences and how to be a positive bystander. This play also taught students skills to “recognize, report and refuse” bullying behavior.

Relationship Status 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 all our assemblies, schools were able to experience the play at a lower price if booking a virtual option or could coordinate with other schools in their district for more discounts. In 2022-2023, 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 2022-2023 school year, teachers, students, and families continued 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 bring us back out for bullying prevention student assemblies. In the final part of our Final Report, therefore, we wanted to let our school partners speak for themselves. Here is some of their feedback from last year:

Olympic View Elementary School: *There was something different about this performance. We have had Taproot come to our school many times over the years, but this performance has stuck. My students are being upstanders and sticking up for things. I have students reporting problems to me more now than after any other performance. So appreciative of your company and the work they do to make sure it is all kid friendly and connects to the things kids are working through in school. LOVE IT!*

Vashon Island High School: *Taproot's presentation was a wonderful compliment to the ongoing work we're doing at our school to foster a sense of belonging and inclusion for our students.*

Ordway Elementary School: *I've worked in schools for years and I've seen all kinds of different assemblies and performances, and this was the best one I've seen.*

Glacier Park Elementary School: *The performers were extremely professional. They showed up on time, communicated well with our staff, set up quickly, performed AMAZINGLY, interacted with students positively right after the show, tore down the set quickly, and were all around phenomenal.*

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 2023-2024 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

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