

QUARTERLY GRANT APPLICATION

Mission & Purpose

Option B: Community Organization

The County Foundation is committed to improving the lives of County residents by promoting philanthropy, encouraging community engagement, and responding to community needs. We believe that County residents achieve their human potential through continuous improvement in quality of life, educational achievement, and economic mobility.

With the aim of every resident achieving their human potential, the Continuous Improvement Grant was developed. To reach this vision, we must first understand that not all residents are starting from the same point. When it comes to life expectancy, educational achievement, and median household income, looking at the data disaggregated by race, illustrates the disparities in our community. The goal of these grant opportunities is to address those disparities by supporting a range of nonprofit organizations meeting the needs and improving the lives of County residents.

Continuous Improvement Grants will focus on the three amplified areas in the County Foundation's vision statement by which all County residents can reach their human potential: quality of life, educational achievement, and economic mobility. Further descriptions of these areas and examples of potential funding opportunities are listed below.

Quality of Life

This area addresses opportunities to improve the overall well-being of County residents through access to community and cultural programs, activities, and green spaces; improvement of physical and mental health; respite for those serving as caretakers; and access to resources that provide household stability.

Educational Achievement

This area is focused on reducing barriers to academic success and improving the educational achievement of Spartanburg County residents through supportive services and programs for K-12 students, access to post-secondary education and careers, and opportunities for return-to-learn adults.

Economic Mobility

This area is focused on improving the potential for upward economic mobility in the County community through increased ability for financial self-sufficiency, opportunities for asset building, and access to affordable and reliable transportation.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME OF ORGANIZATION Entertaining Pens		
NAME AND TITLE OF PROJECT DIRECTOR Brianna Genoble, President	NAME OF ORGANIZATION'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR <i>(if different)</i>	
ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP) Spartanburg, SC		
EMAIL EntertainingPens@gmail.com		
PROJECT DIRECTOR'S PHONE # 8646700290	ORGANIZATION'S PHONE # 8646785858	WEBSITE Entertainingpens.org
ORGANIZATION'S PRIMARY FOCUS Education		
PROJECT TITLE Entertaining Pens – First Semester		
BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION Entertaining Pens – First Semester comprises of the first few classes available to young girls in the organization. These will be the very first classes held by the organization, so some of it will be considered a trial run to see what works and what needs to be reworked. These first classes will feature novel writing, screen writing, and video game writing. The classes will be held in the afternoon as an after-school credit in a specified high school classroom. They begin in March and end in April.		
PROJECT DATES <i>Start Date: 03/04/24</i> <i>End Date: 04/29/24</i>		
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$ <u>33,100</u>	GRANT REQUEST AMOUNT \$ <u>11,000</u>	

Primary Project Function:

Quality of Life Educational Achievement Economic Mobility

NARRATIVE OF PROJECT:

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY AND FEASIBILITY (worth 35%)

Summarize the project activity and describe the goals of the project. Describe what will happen, who will participate, where it will happen, and when. Identify key people and collaborating organizations and individuals (if applicable), including project manager/program director. Indicate how and why these people are selected and what, if any, their roles will be in the planning of the project.

PUBLIC IMPACT (worth 35%)

State your organization's mission, its role in the community and the constituency it serves. Explain why you have decided to do this project. Why is this project important? Describe the value of the project to the public and/or community and define how you will know whether your project is successful. How is your organization specifically addressing the marketing of programs to new and more diverse audiences? Include any educational and outreach activities related to the project. How will you reach and involve underserved populations? Identify external support from the local community.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT (worth 30%)

How will you plan and administer the project? Describe how you will publicize the project/event? Describe marketing, media, and other promotional activities. Clearly identify other sources of financial support including in-kind goods and services to be provided throughout the project. Does this project have the potential to continue beyond the current funding to become self-sustaining?

Type your narrative here or attach it as a separate file. This box will expand as you type.
Remember this section should be no longer than 2-3 pages.

See attached document.

ESTIMATED PROJECT BUDGET: Round income and expenses to the nearest dollar. Some of these categories, you may not need, put a 0 in those. You don't have to fill every line just because it is an option.

Income Categories		Budgeted Amount
Grantee's cash	\$	0
Admissions / Sales	\$	750
Other Revenue	\$	0
Private support, corporate	\$	14,500
Private support, foundations	\$	5,350
Other private support	\$	500
Gov't grants, federal, state, local	\$	1,000
Amt of this grant request	\$	11,000
In Kind ² gifts total value	\$	0
Total Income:	\$	33,100

2:1 match of funds is required. Example: if applying for \$1,000 (Amt of this Grant Request), your expenses must total at least \$3,000. Income should be equal to or more than expenses. If income is more, please explain what the extra income will be used for in the Explanation box below.
²In Kind may not constitute more than 50% of the applicant's match

Expense Categories		Budgeted Amount
Administrative Personnel	\$	10,000
Artistic Personnel	\$	12,000
Technical Personnel	\$	8,000
Supplies/Materials	\$	300
Outside Fees/Services	\$	0
Space Rental	\$	800
Travel	\$	0
Marketing	\$	2,000
All Other	\$	0
Total Expenses:	\$	33,100

Budget Notes and/or Explanation (optional):	The financial advisor and president of the organization would be paid \$5,000 per semester (administrative personnel). The writing teachers would be paid \$4,000 per semester (artistic personnel). The technical personnel would consist of either one or two people, but the budgeted amount for their salary is \$8,000 per semester. The space rental would be low since it would be an 8-week program in a small town high school.
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CERTIFICATION

By submitting this application, I certify to **the grantor** that:

1. **The applicant has read the grant guidelines.**
2. **The applicant is in compliance with stated eligibility requirements and all information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.**
3. **The governing body of the applicant has authorized the filing of this application and signature.**
4. **The activities and services for which assistance is sought will be administered by or under the supervision of the applicant solely for the described projects and programs.**
5. **The applicant and any persons that assist it will comply with all applicable Federal and State laws when conducting any program activity for which the applicant receives financial assistance from the grantor.**

Brianna Genoble

Dr. Mary Carlisle

ATA 365.01

31 March 2023

Grant Narrative: Entertaining Pens

Entertaining Pens is a non-profit organization that educates young girls in writing. The Entertaining Pens – First Semester project consists of three eight-week classes on alternating days. The three classes are as follows: novel writing (Mondays), screenwriting (Tuesdays), and video game writing (Wednesdays). Ten students are expected to fill these classes, but that is not to say that the same ten students cannot register for all three classes. This project's goal is to foster young girls' confidence and writing skills. Entertaining Pens aims to instill pride in young girls and increase their creative confidence. In each class, the designated writing teachers (up to three for each genre) will lead lectures; as stated before, up to ten students will attend. Outside the classroom, this organization's key people are the program president/director, the financial advisor, and the marketing expert. Collaborating organizations would be local stores or organizations like Hub City Bookshop and Spartanburg County Public Libraries. The organization's president will select three qualified writers in communication with the financial advisor and marketing expert. These three individuals will consider experienced local writers or writers looking to teach the craft. Entertaining Pens chose these people because of their skills and ability to encourage young people. Their roles in the project's planning will be flexible; if they decide they want total control over lesson plans and lectures, they can be creative.

Our mission is to facilitate writing programs for young girls interested in entering the entertainment industry. Its role in the community is to create a safe space for young girls where

they can foster creative skills without judgment. The constituency this serves is the young girls who wish to express themselves via the art of writing. Furthermore, this project is an important endeavor as there is a need for a positive representation of young girls and women in entertainment mediums. Even within the medium of literature, some female characters are portrayed negatively, and it may help if there were more female writers across all genres. This project will address that misrepresentation and allow girls to get a head start on their creative writing careers. This project will most likely be offered more in smaller towns to reach young girls who do not have this opportunity presented to them in their own school's curriculum. The value of this project is in how it cultivates a young girl's dream of becoming a writer.

Additionally, creative writing is a skill that can be applied to any discipline, which makes this program helpful for any student. Because the skills are transferable to other careers, this project may later be expanded to a co-ed program with specific topics, and perhaps a topic centered on empowering young girls. The project intends to help young girls find their voices in media, like films, television shows, and video games, that may somehow exclude them. The project will be successful if the students in the class feel that their writing has improved or if they feel a deeper appreciation for the craft. Additionally, if the students continue writing and working on the craft, this project has exceeded its goals. This organization specifically addresses the marketing of programs to new and more diverse audiences by welcoming any young high school student who does not identify as a boy. For instance, the project is open to those who do not fit in the gender binary and trans girls. The organization welcomes these students to advocate for safe spaces in schools. When this project expands, the organization also hopes to include outreach activities that involve queer representation in media and guest speakers who are a part of the LGBTQIA+ community. The organization will collaborate with local organizations that work with young

students who have experienced discrimination or bullying for their backgrounds. Some of these collaborations could include special events that the students in the chosen classes attend instead of regular lectures. The events could highlight anti-bullying organizations, queer representation, and representation for women of color. Overall, the organization hopes to maintain a safe environment for students who need support from their community.

Entertaining Pens will plan and administer this project by communicating with current educational organizations for support. Entertaining Pens will begin preparations for classes (the First Semester project) a year before it is scheduled. The organization will ask local libraries for supplies such as films or video game copies. After collecting the supplies, the organization will reach out to public high schools to gauge interest. Then, the organization will contact qualified writers to teach the classes. After this step, the organization will publicize the project by using marketing tools like promoting the organization via flyers in coffee shops, local grocery stores, and social media. Some of these will include posts on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. The organization will also feature its own website and a mailing list to which users can sign up. Some sources of financial support include state funding, local donors, sports, arts, and other for-profit organizations that support educational organizations and corporate donation requests. It may not be necessary to ask for in-kind gifts from organizations because of the support this organization may get for being an after-school program. For instance, classroom supplies may not be an issue since the teacher will conduct lectures in an already-established classroom. This project does have the potential to continue beyond the current funding to become self-sustaining because of the organization's plans to expand to multiple schools, which would increase registration and the organization's natural income.