

**Rep. Briscoe**

**Request Name:** Odyssey Dance Theatre

**Description:** For contemporary dance theater operations and production costs related to free and reduced cost live performances, workshops and scholarships for public school children.

**Agency:** Heritage and Arts

**Funding Amount:** General Fund - \$150,000 - 2021 (One-time)

**Odyssey Dance Theatre  
2020 Legislative Budget**

Amount Requested: \$150,000.00

**Scholarships for Odyssey 2 Junior Company**

Classes and Training

15 Dancers @ \$2500 per month - 9 Months \$22,500.00

Choreography Fees \$3,500.00

Costume Expenses \$4,500.00

Performance Expenses \$4,000.00

**Thriller - Local Dancers performance participation**

Rehearsal Times at Theaters

Crew - Overtime for extra Call Times \$8,245.00

Dancers working with Students \$3,380.00

**Thriller Free Tickets to Underserved**

1750 tickets \$35/tkt \$61,250.00

**Thriller School Performances at Kingsbury**

Kids bused in for 2 free performances

Theater Rental - \$2500/performance \$5,000.00

House Manager \$265.00

Ushers \$850.00

Stage Manager \$280.00

Custodial \$480.00

Equipment \$750.00

**Salaries**

Dancers \$22,000.00

Crew \$8,000.00

Administrative Costs \$5,000.00

\$150,000.00

## Odyssey Dance Theatre

1. The name, organization, job title, and contact information of anyone else that will be presenting with you.

Marlies Burns, Ed.D., Odyssey Board Chair  
Co-Owner - The Education Architect  
1420 E. Hudson Avenue  
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2. A detailed and itemized budget indicating how the funding recipient would spend the money within the specified timeframe. (Please see detailed budget attached.)

### **Outline of Budget & Disbursement Schedule**

Disbursement #1 – July – December 2020 (\$75,000)

Disbursement #2 – January 2021 – July 2021 (\$75,000)

#### Description of Funding

For contemporary dance theater operations and production costs related to free and reduced cost live performances, workshops and scholarships for public school children.

Odyssey Dance Theatre's mission is to make theatrical dance more accessible to the public, both in terms of access and in terms of the art itself. ODT creates original, full-length theatrical dance productions and re-imagines classical works in modern ways that appeal across all audience demographics. ODT not only provides quality live performance art with excellence, but it also employs and supports Utah's local dance talent.

#### Scholarships for Junior Company Odyssey 2 (\$34,500)

In an ongoing effort to nurture emerging artists, Odyssey Dance Theatre provides a full-scholarship, pre-professional training program, which gives young dancers the opportunity to spend a year training intensively and performing with the company. Fifteen dancers, ages 14 to 18, receive full scholarships for a full year to train extensively in ballet; jazz; tap; hip-hop; and acting at the COPA/Odyssey Studios in Draper. They perform with Odyssey during its Kingsbury Hall seasons and are mentored by Odyssey staff and dancers. They also have their own showcase at year's end. Full Scholarship includes all classes as part of the program. Performances include but are not limited to: *Thriller* and *Shut Up and Dance* Seasons with Odyssey, year-end Odyssey 2 show, and Fall and Spring performances with Utah COPA.

#### Testimonial

Odyssey 2 Member Cole Martin was studying dance at Utah COPA, when his parents told him they couldn't afford dance for him anymore. He was trying to imagine life without dance, when he heard about Odyssey 2. He auditioned and was chosen. He is so grateful for the opportunity that has made it possible for him to continue to do what he feels he was meant to do.

#### Local Dancers - Performance Participation (\$11,625)

Odyssey collaborates with the dance studios in the state to allow their students to perform with the Company. Derryl recognizes the many fine dance studios in Utah and works to maintain a mutually beneficial relationship with them. Instead of holding open auditions as in the past, Derryl decided to turn the entire process over to the local dance studios. He provides the audition criteria and choreography to the studio owners/directors. They audition their students, rehearse them and bring them to the theatre before the performance for a spacing rehearsal. Studio owners and directors

are so excited to be able to offer this to their students that within minutes of posting the notice, all of the slots are snatched up.

This is an excellent opportunity for these hundreds of children to perform with a professional dance company not only as an addition to their resume but, we've been told, it's just plain fun!

#### Testimonial

Millennium Dance Studio Director Koni Wray said: "As one of Utah's most prominent pioneers of the performing arts, Derryl has elevated Dance in Utah. He has created programs and trained dancers who are so talented and so diverse that they draw national and international attention. He has given countless dancers and artists the training they need to succeed, as well as the courage they need to dream. He has raised the bar of our expectations and lifted the ceiling of our limitations. Derryl continues to create outreach programs that are designed to grow a strong dance community in Utah. His work plays a critical role in the promotion and success of the arts in our State. Allowing our students to perform in his productions is part of his continuing to lift and inspire young dancers. We are so grateful to him for the amazing opportunities he has afforded our students."

#### **Thriller Free Tickets to the Underserved (\$61,250)**

As part of its Community Outreach Program, Odyssey donates performance tickets each season to service organizations to disseminate to their underserved constituents, who would not normally have the opportunity to enjoy the incomparable, in-theatre experience. For these young people and their families, the magic of theatre gives them an opportunity to imagine, to dream and to have a respite from their often troubled existences. Attending a live performance is an unattainable luxury but one that research supports as an integral component to their overall well-being.

1,750 Donated Tickets - \$35.00/per ticket

#### Testimonial

Title 1 School Liberty Elementary's 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class attended *Thriller* on October 15, 2019. Teacher Jo Payton said: "Wow!! We had so much fun last night!! The kids just loved the performance, as did the chaperones and teachers. Thanks again for the incredible experience!!"

(Please see attached photo)

#### **Two Free School Performances of Halloween Spectacular *Thriller* for ages K through 12 (\$42,625)**

Our company is unique because we highlight all genres of dance, including ballet, jazz, tap, modern, ballroom and funk/hiphop. Our eclectic combination sets the tone for an entertaining, uplifting, and educational performance. In its inimitable style, Odyssey has, in addition to *The Nutcracker*, updated *Giselle*, *Romeo+Juliet*, and *Carmen*. Odyssey believes one can honestly update a classic, but at the same time engage the audience and demonstrate to them that dance can be accessible, entertaining and relevant to current times.

#### 3. Performance measures for how the funding recipient and the Legislature would determine success.

Between 2015 and 2020, Odyssey has donated 6,863 *Thriller* performance tickets, 959 *Shut Up and Dance* 2019 tickets and 7,885 school children attended free performances of *The Redux Nutcracker* at Kingsbury Hall each December (please see breakdown below).

#### **2015-2016**

Thriller tickets 1,000

Christmas Box Salt Lake City, Ogden and International, Boys and Girls Clubs, Salt Lake City, Ogden, Logan and St. George

*The ReduxNut-Cracker* School Performance, December 15, 2015

Total in attendance: 1,458

Districts: Canyons, Granite, Salt Lake City

**2016-2017**

*Thriller* tickets 1,223

Salt Lake Christmas Box House and Teen Group Homes, Ogden Christmas Box House, Journey Up Mentor Project, House of Hope Utah, Utah Youth Village, Hopeful Beginnings, Valley Junior High, City Academy, and Salt Lake School for the Performing Arts (SPA), St. Anthony's Utah House, Provo Canyon School, Salt Lake County Youth Services: After-School Programs in Magna and Kearns.

ShareTix distributed tickets to the following organizations:

Guadalupe School, Horizons of Hope, Salt Lake Peer Court, Lifeline for Youth, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Utah CASA, TURN Community Services

*The ReduxNut-Cracker* School Performances, December 19 & 20, 2016

Total in attendance: 2,314

Districts: Canyons, Granite, Jordan, Provo, Salt Lake City, Weber

Plus: Road Home Shelter, Youth in Custody

**2017-2018**

*Thriller* tickets: 1,672

The above, plus Big Brothers Big Sisters, Christmas Box Salt Lake Teen Group Homes, Boys and Girls Clubs, Utah Youth Village

ShareTix distributed tickets to the above organizations, plus LifeLine, United Angels Foundation, Huntsman Cancer Institute

*The ReduxNut-Cracker* School Performances, December 18 & 19, 2017

Total in attendance: 1,678

Districts: Canyons, Granite, Salt Lake City

**2018-2019**

*Thriller* tickets: 2,097

The above, plus Salt Lake County Youth Services Shelter Kids, Shelter Care Teens, Milestone Teens and Young Adults, Crisis Care Teens and Odyssey House Adolescent Program, Utah Foster Care

ShareTix, the above, plus Village Project, Hill Air Force Base Family Support

*The ReduxNut-Cracker* School Performances, December 17 & 18, 2018

Total in attendance: 1,545

Districts: Alpine, Canyons, Granite, Pleasant Grove, Provo, Salt Lake City

*Shut Up and Dance* tickets: 959

Through ShareTix:

Grandfamilies, The Other Side Academy, United Angels Foundation, Lifeline, IRC, Salt Lake Aging Services, Village Project

**Additional Community Outreach - Golden Spike 150 Conference**

In a continuing effort to build on a mutually respectful relationship between Odyssey and Utah's Asian American Community. Cheryl and Derryl Yeager and Company Members Diego Ballesteros and Peiter Mortensen volunteered their time to check in guests at the Golden Spike 150 Conference. Volunteer Coordinator Lan Ngu expressed her gratitude to all volunteers and said: "Your contribution, commitment to teamwork, service and community building will be remembered by all of us at CRWDA."

**Testimonial**

Volunteer coordinator Lam Pham Ngu said:

JOB WELL DONE TEAM!!! The collaborative efforts and quite apparent that each person went above and beyond your call of duty to help make Golden Spike 150 a success! It was historical and it was BIG and you were a part of such amazing celebration!

**2019-2020**

Thriller tickets: 871

Boys and Girls Clubs, St. Anthony's House, Christmas Box, Salt Lake County Youth Services, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Utah Youth Village, Liberty Elementary, Division of Child and Family Services, Journey House, Pivot Point Recovery Residence

Through ShareTix:

Neighborhood House, Salt Lake Peer Court, Turn Community Services, Utah CASA Program, Utah Youth Village

*The ReduxNut-Cracker* School Performance, December 19, 2019

Total in attendance: 890

Districts:

Alpine, Canyons, Granite, Murray, Salt Lake City, Tooele