

**2020 GREATER HARRISBURG
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TRUST FUND
GRANT APPLICATION
DATE DUE: AUGUST 1, 2020**



Thank you for applying to the Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund of the Greater Harrisburg Community Foundation, a regional foundation of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities. Tell your story clearly and concisely. Attachments are required; follow all directions. Failure to answer questions, utilize this template, or provide required materials will disqualify your application. **Answer all questions using information that applies to the project seeking support of grant funds.** Contact Jennifer Strechay, Program Officer for Community Investment, at 717-236-5040 or jstrechay@tfec.org with questions.

APPLICANT SNAPSHOT

Applicant Organization Name

Gamut Theatre Group, Inc.

Provide your organization's name as currently recognized by the IRS

- Check box if the Applicant Organization Name above is a “Doing Business As” name and the provided 501c3 letter states a different name.** *To be recognized by the “Doing Business As” name, attach ONE legal document using the provided name. If not provided, TFEC will utilize the 501c3 name.*
- Check box if the Applicant Organization uses a Fiscal Sponsor and provide name here**
Click or tap here to enter text.

Name, Title, Email, Phone of Executive Leader

Melissa Nicholson, Executive Director, melissa@gamuttheatre.org 717-215-6186

All contracts and notifications of grant status will be addressed to the individual provided here

Applicant Organization's Physical Address

15 N. 4th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

Applicant Organization's Address for Mailed Communications

15 N. 4th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

All contracts and notifications of grant status will be sent to the address provided here

Name, Title, Email, Phone of Contact Completing Application

Kim Greenawalt, Director of Development, development@gamuttheatre.org, 717-269-1806

If application questions arise, this individual will be contacted by TFEC staff

Counties to be served as part of project; check all that apply.

- Cumberland Dauphin Franklin Juniata Mifflin Lebanon Perry
 Northern York (Dillsburg Area)

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Answer questions 1-5 clearly and concisely; no limit (except for Project Snapshot)

PROJECT TITLE JULIUS CAESAR GOES DIGITAL TOUR

Project Title must match title listed throughout application and online

APPLICANT ORGANIZATION MISSION STATEMENT

Gamut Theatre's mission is to tell classic stories in new and exciting ways. We envision a world where all people cherish classic stories and share them with future generations.

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

1. Capture your project and the community need it seeks to address in 200 words or less.

Schools will be suffering in the 2020-2021 school year. Their already tight budgets will be overextended as they meet the need to implement health and safety protocols, the magnitude of which they have never seen. Plexiglass dividers for every classroom, doubled school bus routes, and extra cleaning supplies are just some of the new costs they will need to manage. Field trips will be eliminated and many extra-curricular activities will be canceled in an effort to contain COVID-19. Additionally, many schools are going to a hybrid model of half in-building/half virtual learning. Teachers are scrambling for resources they can use in their online classrooms. Gamut has already been providing several free online resources to teachers to help them in their virtual classrooms. But how do we continue to offer in-depth quality cultural experiences for our students during this unprecedented time?

PROJECT NARRATIVE

2. Describe the proposed project, the geographic area it will serve, and the audience to be served; state why this audience was selected. You MUST use and complete the following statement within your answer, "Grant funds will be used to _____". Include when and where the project will take place. List dates and locations as appropriate in chronological order and state if provided dates/locations are confirmed, estimated, or to be determined.

To address the needs of our community, Gamut Theatre Group (GTG) has adapted to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic by offering online programming for audiences and educators alike. For teachers and students, GTG employees past and present have created a series of "Learn Something New" videos to teach new skills and "Clark's Shakespeare Questions," to spark discussion in classrooms about Shakespeare's plays. Gamut Theatre's Summer Academy has moved entirely online to our advantage: we are able to cater to students outside of the Capital Region and employ instructors from across the country. For audiences of all ages, GTG has created "Once Upon Online" Popcorn Hat shows, in which our children's theatre productions are pre-recorded and offered to audiences with pre show and post show talks with the actors. So far, our "Once Upon Online" Productions have successfully toured to all of Cumberland County's public libraries. As schools plan to resume in the fall, we would like to seek the Ben Franklin Trust Fund's support to expand upon our growing collection of online programming while maintaining our commitment to education with our *Julius Caesar Goes Digital* tour. Grant funds will be used to purchase the audio equipment and audio editing software necessary to create and provide the following to schools:

- 4-5 Digital episodes of the entire show, each episode 15-20 minutes in length.
- PDF of the Gamut script that is used in the episodes: an edited version of Shakespeare's text that ran 80 minutes when performed live.
- PDF of a study guide.
- Access to Gamut's production of *Caesar in Rome*, a unique digital performance combining theatre and travelogue that includes footage of modern-day Rome and where these events actually took place.
- A free 1-hour LIVE workshop/Q&A for each class conducted through Zoom webinar.

William Shakespeare's works are great pieces of literature, however, first and foremost, they were written as plays intended to be seen and heard as performed by actors. As our student audiences see the play in live production, albeit digital, the language that seemed archaic on the page suddenly springs to life on stage, and sparks their interest in Shakespeare.

However, seeing the play is not enough. Students learn best from being involved. Therefore, by actively engaging the students during our specially designed workshops as well as Q&A, Gamut will also educate students on the life, times, and literary genius of William Shakespeare while introducing them to basic techniques of classical acting and theatre styles. The students will see photos and hear voice-overs of the highly talented professional actors from our live 2018-2019 production of *Julius Caesar*. Afterwards, GTG's current core company of actors and educators will engage with students in a post-show talkback and workshops centered around the play. Our goal is to make Shakespeare accessible to students by providing them with the opportunity to approach his work from a theatrical point of view. Students are able to see characters as more than just words on a page, but rather, as human beings possessing the same desires and fears as they possess. The results are compelling and exciting.

The director of *Julius Caesar Goes Digital* is company Executive Director, Melissa Nicholson. GTG will be working from an original, text-focused adaptation of *Julius Caesar* created by GTG co-founders Melissa Nicholson and J. Clark Nicholson and further adapted for digital viewing.

Each year since 1994, GTG/HSC has performed an educational engagement tour. Since this tour's inception, our reach has grown to cover Dauphin, Cumberland, Lebanon, York, and Perry Counties. However, due to public health concerns amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, it is not feasible for school groups to attend student matinees in our theatre or for our company to go on tour. Our main objective with *Julius Caesar Goes Digital* is to create a digital tour we can safely offer to teachers and students, featuring our 2018-2019 production of *Julius Caesar*. Additionally, we plan to subsidize tours and workshops for schools unable to afford them.

Targeted beneficiaries are economically disadvantaged children and schools in the Central Pennsylvania region. In Dauphin County, Harrisburg City School District's Harrisburg High School has a 96% minority student body, with 67% of the school population describing themselves as African-American. Additionally, 65% of Harrisburg High School's students come from economically disadvantaged homes, nearly twice the state average. We would provide performances and workshops for Harrisburg HS and other area districts serving economically disadvantaged children at no cost.

Education and engagement to economically disadvantaged children are at the heart of our company's mission. Prior to COVID-19, we operated year-round in-house Theatre School offerings in addition to our Pennsylvania Council for the Arts arts-in-education residency programming. We completed "ArtsSmarts," a U.S. Department of Justice-sponsored Arts Outreach program facilitated by Messiah College. We were featured in *PennLive* for the ArtsSmarts program at William Penn School, during which our actors taught underserved students. This work led us to develop the Theatre Alive! Mentorship program with Benjamin Franklin Elementary, an at-risk, inner city elementary school in Harrisburg. This program subsequently led to a partnership with the Harrisburg School District where a GTG teaching artist has initiated a theatre arts program at Harrisburg High School – John Harris Campus.

We will compile the materials needed for our digital tour from September through December of 2020 either at the theatre or working remotely. In November of 2020, we will begin to market our digital tour to Central Pennsylvania schools and continue to do so through April 2021. Digital tours will be available for schools beginning in January of 2021 through April 2021. The live workshops that accompany our digital tour will either be conducted remotely or from our theatre. We will evaluate the success of our programming in May, 2021.

FUNDING

- 3.** Restate the amount you are seeking from TFEC and describe any other funding sources and amounts. If this proposal is not funded at the level requested, will you be able to implement the project as stated? Explain as needed.

We are requesting \$1,000 from the Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund. Of that \$1,000, \$580 is for 4 microphones at \$115 each, with an additional \$30 four year protection plan on each microphone. The remaining \$420 will be used to purchase sound editing software. Other funding sources include TFEC's Arts For All program, The Stabler Foundation, individual donors, and a sponsorship with Capital Blue Cross. If not funded at the level requested from the Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund, we will be able to implement the project, however, the production quality, specifically audio quality, would be reduced from what it could be without the proper quality of editing software and microphones.

PROJECT SUCCESS

4. What will project success look like and how will project success be measured and documented (i.e.: how will you know the project is successful? Are you collecting value statements, numbers served, surveys, photos, before and after images, or using other methods)?

A successful tour would include being able to offer all of the materials, created to meet Gamut's standards of artistic excellence, outlined in the narrative to schools between January and April of 2021. We will measure the success of our project in these ways:

1. First, and most importantly, we record the number of students we reach through our production, workshops, and residencies.
2. Gamut Theatre has developed a Teaching Observation Rubric which we use to evaluate our performance in each school (provided upon request). We will calculate and record the information gathered from our Teaching Observation Rubric. Our goal is to score a 28 out of 32 or higher on Workshop Evaluations, with a score of 14 of 16 or higher on the Teaching Artist Rubric.
3. For those schools who engage in a long-term residency with Gamut Theatre, we will administer both a pre-residency and a post-residency evaluation to the students. These tests are specifically designed to measure students' familiarity and knowledge of theatre terms and ideas. After a simple process of recording and comparing the results of both the pre-residency and post-residency tests, we expect to see a 60 percent increase in students' knowledge of theatre-related terms and ideas.
4. We will collect word-of-mouth evaluation from students and teachers for feedback as well. Teachers frequently report that students' understanding of Shakespeare grows dramatically after they've attended one of our shows; often, teachers provide letters of testimonial.

ACCESS & INCLUSION

5. As a community foundation, TFEC fosters a climate of purposeful inclusion that values diversity of gender, age, race, ethnicity, national origin, range of abilities, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status. Please state how your project will be made accessible to all individuals who qualify for participation in the project and describe any accommodations, modifications, technologies, or services you will offer to ensure that all eligible participants experience the best possible services or outcomes.

Gamut Theatre Group believes that diversity fosters greatness. The Harrisburg area has a tremendously diverse population, and Gamut, a decades-long service-provider to this region, is both mindful and celebratory of that diversity. In addition to taking purposeful steps to make sure that the diversity of Gamut staff, artists, and actors for our *Julius Caesar Goes Digital* tour reflect the diversity of its audience, Gamut now offers a fully ADA accessible facility at 15 N 4th Street. Moreover, after studying state and CDC guidelines for re-opening businesses, Gamut has developed extensive protocols to keep actors working on our projects, such as *Julius Caesar Goes Digital*, as safe as possible in our theatre.

As previously stated in our narrative, we plan to provide performances and workshops for Harrisburg HS and other area districts serving economically disadvantaged children at no cost, allowing Gamut to better serve a wider socio-economic audience.

BUDGET WORKSHEET

Complete the Budget Worksheet below; a Project Total is required.

ITEM OR SERVICE <i>Examples include: Contracted Services, Equipment, Personnel, Supplies; list your own as appropriate.</i>	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM OR SERVICE	REQUESTED GRANT FUNDS <i>List where funds sought through this grant opportunity will be applied.</i>	OTHER FUNDING SOURCES <i>List the names and amounts of all other funding sources.</i>	PENDING, COMMITTED, OR RECEIVED <i>Using a P, C, or R, indicate the status of all funding sources.</i>	\$ TOTALS <i>Add across to provide a total for each row. Total columns as indicated in bottom row.</i>
Administrative	Booking workshops, setting up digital links, etc. Jan-April 2021	\$0	Individual donor \$320	C	\$320
Publicity/Communication	Getting the word out to area schools	\$0	Capital Blue Cross Sponsorship	P	\$400
Study Guides	Research and compilation of materials to create study guides	\$0	Arts for All \$600	P	\$600
Supplies	microphones, editing software, video camera	\$1000			\$1000
Workshops LIVE online	\$150 ea for 1-hour workshops conducted by 2 artists. 1 per class. 40 workshops total	\$0	Stabler Foundation and Arts for All \$3000 each	P	\$6000
Production	Professional fees to produce the digital pieces, artists, technicians	\$0	Stabler Foundation \$1480 and Arts for All \$1400	P	\$2880
		\$			\$
		\$			\$
		\$			\$

TOTALS	\$1,000 Total: Requested Grant Funds	\$10,200 Total: Other Funding Sources		\$11,200 PROJECT TOTAL
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GAMUT THEATRE OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alexis Campbell <i>Board President</i>	Press Secretary PennDOT
Kristopher T. Smull <i>Board Vice President</i>	Associate Attorney Colgan & Associates, LLC
Jessica Whitmyer <i>Board Treasurer</i>	Vice President of Finance/Controler, Members 1 st Federal Credit Union
Dr. Marvin Berger	Private Practice, Associated Periodontists (semi-retired)
Marla Gibson	Owner Changes Salon and Day Spa
Patrick Hughes	Private Practice Patrick Hughes Counseling
Sanford Krevsky	Senior Partner Krevsky and Rosen, PC
J. Clark Nicholson <i>Co-Founder, Artistic Director</i>	Artistic Director Gamut Theatre Group
Melissa H. Nicholson <i>Co-Founder, Executive Director</i>	Executive Director Gamut Theatre Group
Noel Slobada	Associate Professor of English Penn State York
Rob Smith	Creative Director Varsity Branding
Thomas Weaver	Teacher and Former Core Company Member Harrisburg School District
Jackie Williams	Director of Human Resources Shelly and Loy, Inc.

GAMUT THEATRE ADVISORY BOARD

Lois Lehrman Grass Community Volunteer	David Newhouse Community Volunteer
Peggy Grove Community Volunteer	Katharine Newhouse Community Volunteer
Margaret Hathaway Community Volunteer	Bob Ortenzio CEO, Select Medical
Bradley Jones CEO, Harristown Enterprises	Carl Schultz Senior Counsel, TE Connectivity
William Lehr Community Volunteer	David N. Taylor Executive Director, PA Manufacturers Association

2020 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TRUST FUND SIGN & SUBMIT FORM

Provide signatures from the applicant organization, below. Both organization representatives must sign.

By providing your original OR digital signature below, you agree that the provided information in this application is true to the best of your knowledge and may be submitted for review. Completion of this form is one component of your Complete Application.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | President/CEO | _____ | Melissa Nicholson |
| | | Ink Signature | Digital Signature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Board President | _____ | Alexis Campbell |
| | | Ink Signature | Digital Signature |

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS TO BE UPLOADED & SUBMITTED BY 4PM IN THE DEADLINE DATE

All grant materials must be submitted through the TFEC online application system by 4pm on the deadline date. This grant opportunity does not utilize delivered or mailed materials.

- Complete Application:** Applicant Snapshot, Project Narrative, Budget Worksheet, and Sign & Submit Form with original or digital signatures.
- Board of Directors List:** Professional affiliations (ie: work positions and/or titles as applicable) must be included.
- Letters of support are OPTIONAL for this grant opportunity but must be uploaded by the deadline date. No more than TWO letters of support with original or digital signatures may be provided.** Letters of support from the applicant organization's Board of Directors will not be accepted; identical form letters are discouraged.
- Applicants who utilize a FISCAL SPONSOR** must include a letter signed by the Executive Leader of the Fiscal Sponsor organization indicating agreement to serve as the Fiscal Sponsor. An original or digital signature is required.
- IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter**
- 1st Page of Applicant Organization's Most Recent 990.** If 990 is not available, upload applicant organization's most recent audit or financial statement.

QUESTIONS

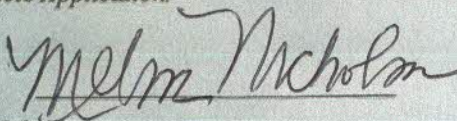
If you should have any questions regarding this form or TFEC grant opportunities, contact Jennifer Strechay, Program Officer for Community Investment, at jstrechay@tfec.org or 717-236-5040.

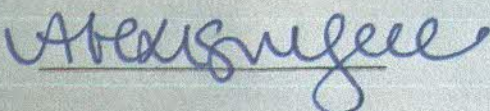
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		\$			\$
TOTALS		\$1000	\$10,200		\$11,200
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President/CEO  Click or tap here to enter text.
 Ink Signature Digital Signature

Board President  Click or tap here to enter text.
 Ink Signature Digital Signature

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