

Peñas - A Celebration of Music, Poetry & People

*2019 Community Project Grant - Organization
Applicants*

Dairy Arts Center

Kathy Blegen-Huntley
2590 Walnut Street
Boulder, CO 80302

O: 303-440-7826 x113

Kathy Blegen-Huntley

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Application Form

Grant information and confirmation

Si prefiere leer esta información en español, por favor haga clic aquí. Se puede responder a la solicitud en español. Un miembro del personal de la Oficina de Artes y Cultura traducirá sus respuestas para que sean revisadas por el panel.

DESCRIPTION: Community Project Grants encourage innovation and exploration in order to achieve progress on the Community Priorities from Boulder’s Community Cultural Plan.

PURPOSE: The Community Cultural Plan identifies a set of “Community Priorities” derived directly from the hopes and aspirations of Boulder’s residents:

- Support the resiliency and sustainability of cultural organizations to enhance their ability to benefit the community.
- Create a supportive environment for artists and creative professionals, while fostering innovative thinking and leadership among them.
- Prioritize the civic dialogue about the ability of culture to positively contribute to the economy, social offerings, the environment, and the authentic expression of diversity.
- Develop Boulder’s creative identity in becoming an innovative world leader in cultural matters and projects that identity to the region and the world.
- Focus on the expression of culture and creativity in the public realm through public art, the urban landscape, culture in the neighborhoods, and serendipitous encounters with the arts.
- Amplify the vibrancy of Boulder’s cultural destinations: the lively mix of museums, performance venues, events, districts, studios, maker spaces, and other facilities that make Boulder an enticing place to visit, live, play, and work. Fill in the gaps and address issues of access and affordability.

These complex issues are the most important initiatives we can work on as a cultural community in the coming years. The purpose of the Community Projects Grant is to encourage innovation and exploration in order to achieve progress on these Community Priorities.

Total funds: \$80,000

Awards: Organizations \$60,000 @ maximum \$10,000 each // Individuals \$20,000 @ maximum \$5,000 each

Details: The award amount of \$10,000 for organizations or \$5,000 for individuals is the maximum grant offered. Smaller requests will be accepted.

Cycle: Annually.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS – INDIVIDUALS: Friday, January 18 at 11:59 p.m.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS – ORGANIZATIONS: Monday, February 11 at 11:59 p.m.

Community Project Grants – Individuals

- Friday, January 18 at 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- Jan. 18 to January 23 – Review by staff for eligibility. Revision by applicants if necessary
- Jan. 23 to Feb. 8 – Preliminary review and score by panel (17 days)
- Feb. 8 to Feb. 13 – Score processing by staff
- Feb. 13 – Preliminary scores posted online
- Feb. 13 to Feb. 20 - Applicants prepare 3-minute optional presentation for the Arts Commission meeting
- Feb. 20 – Arts Commission meeting. Presentations by applicants; panel rescore; discussion and final decisions on grants

Community Project Grants – Organizations

- Monday, February 11 at 11:59 p.m. - Deadline for applications
- Feb. 11 to Feb. 15 - Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- Feb. 15 to March 8 - Preliminary review and score by panel (22 days)
- March 8 to March 13 - Score processing by staff
- March 13 - Preliminary scores posted online
- March 13 to March 20 - Applicants prepare 3-minute optional presentation for the Arts Commission meeting
- March 20 - Arts Commission meeting. Presentations by applicants; panel rescore; discussion and final decisions on grants

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- General eligibility. Meets all [general eligibility requirements](#).
- Open to all. Anyone may apply once the General Eligibility Guidelines are met, including individuals, artists, non-profit organizations, organizations with pending non-profit status, fiscally sponsored organizations and for-profit organizations with a community focus. Organizations not headquartered in Boulder may be considered (refer to Panel Evaluation question entitled *Boulder Focus*).
- Service area and programming. Projects must have a significant component of public programming that takes place within the city limits of Boulder. This programming must meet the criteria described in the [Chapter 14-1-2 of the City of Boulder Revised Code](#).
- Projects must take place after the grant funding decision and be completed by June 30, 2020.

REVIEW PROCESS

- Deliberation. Grant proposals are reviewed by the Boulder Arts Commission grants panel, which is composed of the five Boulder Arts Commissioners and four members of the arts community. Final granting decisions are made at Boulder Arts Commission meetings. See schedule.
- Evaluation criteria.
 - Community priorities (Maximum 8 points)
 - Cultural offerings (Maximum 8 points)
 - Cultural equity (Maximum 8 points)
 - Proposed outcomes and evaluation strategy (Maximum 8 points)
 - Boulder focus (Maximum 4 points)

- Encouragement points (Maximum 4 points)
- The complete scoring system and rubric for the Community Project Grant can be found here.

GRANT AWARDS

- Notifications and dispersal of funds. Staff notifies all applicants if their proposals have been accepted or declined. If accepted, grantees must contact the grant coordinator to arrange for payment. Checks are sent by mail or electronically to bank accounts designated by the recipients.
- Communications. All official communications and notifications will be made to the named individual applicant or person designated as the organization contact. It is this person's responsibility to communicate Boulder Arts Commission requirements of the grant award to any collaborators or other participants. This includes, but is not limited to, such things as compliance with grant agreements, identifying Boulder Arts Commission sponsorship on publicity materials, and reporting issues.
- Implementation. Grantees shall implement programs / projects as outlined in the grant application. Any changes to the project, venue, grantee address, schedule, or staff / team members must be reported to culturegrants@boulderlibrary.org.
- Award amount. The Boulder Arts Commission reserves the right to adjust the amount of a grant award offered to an applicant. There are no restrictions as to the minimum amount that may be requested.
- PERA impacts. Retirees affiliated with the Colorado Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) will be impacted by a withholding requirement enacted by the Colorado State Legislature, if awarded a City of Boulder arts grant. Details are available on the [PERA website](#). See "Disclosure of Compensation."
- IRS taxation. Grant awards are non-transferable. Grant awards are taxable and are reported to the federal government. Upon award, a current IRS form W-9 must be submitted for the City of Boulder Finance Department records for each grant recipient, whether the recipient is an individual or an organization/business. The W-9 must be in the same name as the grant recipient named on the grant application. Failure to supply the corresponding W-9 number will invalidate the grant award.
- Agreement. When a funding award is made by the Boulder Arts Commission, the recipient will be contacted by staff to sign a grant project agreement with the City of Boulder. In the agreement, the recipient will indicate the completion date of the project and the date a grant report will be submitted to the Boulder Arts Commission. Reports are required one month after the project is completed, unless the agreement states otherwise. The report must be completed through the online system found at boulderarts.org.
- Vendor forms. All grantees must submit a City of Boulder vendor form and current IRS W-9 form so that they may be added to the City's vendor list. Individuals must also submit an Immigration Status Affidavit and Determination of Independent Contractor / Employee Status for Payment document. The State of Colorado law requires proof of legal residency at the time of payment. The W-9 must be in the same name as the grant recipient named on the grant application. The Grants Coordinator will send the appropriate forms to grant recipients.
- Issuance of funding checks. Once the agreement is signed, staff of the Office of Arts and Culture will submit it to City Finance along with the invoice. Funds are delivered within the next 3 weeks. Grants are initially funded at 80 percent of the grant amount awarded. The remaining 20 percent of the grant awarded is paid out upon receipt and Boulder Arts Commission approval of the grant report which is required one month after the project is completed. Failure to submit a final grant report will result in ineligibility to apply for future grants.

- Acknowledgment of Boulder Arts Commission funding. All publicity for Boulder Arts Commission-funded projects must include the following credit line: *This project is funded (or funded in part) by a grant from the Boulder Arts Commission, an agency of the Boulder City Council.* In lieu of the credit line, the Boulder Arts Commission Logo may be used. The grantee will also be asked to sign a release form and to submit photographs and/or videos of the project that the Office and Arts and Culture will be able to use on their website, social media, printed materials or any other publicity.
- Release form. The grantee will be asked to sign a release form and to submit photographs and / or videos of the project that the Office and Arts and Culture will be able to use on their website, social media, printed materials or any other publicity.
- Thanking City Council. It is suggested that all grant recipients write the Boulder City Council members to thank them for supporting the Boulder Arts Commission and the Office of Arts and Culture. Please let them know how this grant will be used, and the difference it will make to your organization. Please also invite them to attend your events and programs. Visit the City Council website page to find out more about contacting City Council members.

REQUIRED REPORTING

- Timeframe for reporting. The grant report is due one month after the project is completed.
- Method. Submit the report through the online system access through the boulderarts.org website. Log in with the same user name and password utilized to submit the application for funds. After logging in, go to the 'Dashboard', then you'll see a 'Follow Up' section for the grant. On the far right is the 'Edit' button. That will take you to complete the final report.
- Extension requests for reporting. If circumstances delay the grant recipient's ability to complete the project and/or the report, the recipient must notify the Commission before the original report deadline. The recipient must submit an email addressed to the Boulder Arts Commission at culturegrants@boulderlibrary.org that includes each of the following items:
 - an update on the project status,
 - a request to change the project completion date,
 - a new report due date.
- Responsibility. The grant recipient is responsible for submitting a report by the due date. The Commission recommends reviewing the online report form well in advance. There is no grace period for the report.
- Consequence of Delinquent Report. Unless an extension request is approved by the Boulder Arts Commission in advance of the due date, applicants and any individuals or organizations / businesses attached as collaborators on the project will no longer be eligible to apply for Boulder Arts Commission grant funds until the report has been received.

Certification*

I certify that I have read the above information and that this project meets the Boulder Arts Commission's eligibility requirements and, if a funding award is made, will continue to comply with the Boulder Arts Commission's requirements and meet with guidelines for high artistic quality, community impact, inclusiveness, funding acknowledgment and reporting.

I certify

Applicant information

Discipline*

Select your discipline. If multi-discipline, please check all that apply.

- Visual arts and crafts
- Music
- Theater
- Literary arts
- Dance
- Time-based media, film/video, digital art, and web-based art
- Festivals, exhibitions, and art in public places

Tax status*

Cultural organizations/businesses are eligible. Nonprofit status is not required for this category.

- Nonprofit

Date established*

Add the date your organization was established. If not applicable write N/A.

- 1992

Mission statement*

If not applicable write N/A.

The mission of the Dairy Arts Center is to provide arts opportunities that inspire, educate and entertain all community members through diverse performing, cinematic, and visual arts experiences.

Annual budget

If applying as an organization.

- \$1,400,000.00

Geographic area served*

If not applicable write N/A.

- City of Boulder, Boulder-Denver metro region

For individuals: organizational affiliation

Even if an organizational affiliation is stated, awards will be made to the individual whose account is associated with this application. If no organization affiliated, please state 'none'.

none

Number of full time employees*

If not applicable write 0.

11

Number of part time employees*

If not applicable write 0.

21

Number of volunteers*

If not applicable write 0.

216

Project information

Project title*

Peñas - A Celebration of Music, Poetry & People

Amount requested*

The maximum award amount offered is \$10,000 for organizations or \$5,000 for individuals. Smaller requests will be accepted.

\$9,000.00

Project summary*

Provide a brief overview of the project.

The entirety of Boulder's diverse community deserves opportunities for artistic expression. As Boulder's home for the arts, the Dairy strives to provide these authentic opportunities in a welcoming environment. In Latin America, this expression often comes in the form of a peña- a grassroots gathering that utilizes the arts to celebrate tradition and community. Members of Boulder's Latina community conceived of the notion of a peña at the Dairy, and working collaboratively with Dairy staff, brought the idea to fruition. Continuing this

collaboration, the Dairy is excited to present a series of peñas; two captivating celebrations of music and poetry that pay homage to Latin America's artistic traditions and rich cultural history.

The Dairy held its first peña in 2018. With minimal funding, the Dairy and its volunteer committee brought together six Latino artists and the vision of a celebration by the people and for the people. Though one of the volunteers described it as a "test run," the event engaged eighty community members in an evening of art and homage that lasted four hours. That evening, attendees were asking when the next peña was scheduled. One attendee simply summarized, "I loved being present because I felt at home."

Project calendar*

Projects must take place after the grant deadline and be completed by June 30, 2020.

This project encompasses two events. The first peña will take place in July of 2019, while the second will take place in January of 2020. The volunteer committee will be reviewing and solidifying exact dates at their next meeting.

Project location*

Where do your projects take place?

Each peña will take place at the Dairy Arts Center in Boulder, CO

Collaboration*

Describe your and/or your organization's most significant interactions with other organizations and efforts. If this is a solo project with no partners beyond the applicant, respond with "None."

This project has no organizational partners. Instead, the Dairy is working with a volunteer committee to develop the series in its commitment to presenting authentic peña experiences. This volunteer committee includes four individuals, each of whom is connected to and influential within Boulder's Latino community (see Collaborator List). The committee is guiding programmatic decisions, connecting the Dairy with Latin American artists and promoting the series to the Latino community.

Project completion date*

This is the last day of any public event related to the project. Project must be completed by June 30, 2020.

01/30/2020

Date grant report is due*

One month after the project completion date.

02/29/2020

Panel evaluation

Community Priorities. The City of Boulder’s Community Cultural Plan is a visioning and strategic document that describes how the people of Boulder will align efforts, with the support of the municipal government, to achieve our collective vision: *Together, we will craft Boulder’s social, physical, and cultural environment to include creativity as an essential ingredient for the wellbeing, prosperity, and joy of everyone in the community.* The Community Priorities are six points that summarize the community’s most common responses in answer to the question, “What is your vision for Boulder’s culture and creative economy?” Reference: Cultural Plan and Community Priorities.

Community Priorities*

Examples of ways to demonstrate impact on the Community Priorities may include descriptions of how your project or organization:

- Supports artists and creative professionals by providing professional development programming.
- Contributes to Boulder’s creative identity and creates a vibrant cultural destination through high artistic merit and excellence in the practice of a medium or discipline.
- Engages the community in civic dialogue about the arts through interactive outreach in the neighborhoods.
- Adds creativity in the public realm by engaging underserved populations in art making for their community.

In what way will this project contribute to one or several of the Community Priorities described in the Community Cultural Plan? Does the project contribute to one priority thoroughly?

The word *peña* has roots with the Chilean and Argentinian Mapuche indigenous peoples, who used the word *peñalolen* to refer to a “meeting between brothers.” With time, the term *peña* spread across the South and Central Americas and further into the Spanish speaking countries of North America and Europe. Predictably, *peñas* can be quite different from one country to another. In Spain, *peñas* often celebrate and promote Flamenco culture, while in Perú they tend to focus on what is known as *Música Criolla* - an array of sub-genres created from the fusion of Spanish, Andean and African cultures. The common thread, however, is a focus on musical genres and spoken word that emphasize socio-political issues and the human condition. *Peñas* provide social commentary and critique while embracing a Latin American identity that reclaims its Indigenous roots.

Thusly, this project espouses *peñas* as a catalyst for civic dialogue utilizing arts and culture to positively contribute to the authentic expression of diversity within Boulder’s Latino community and fills gaps in cultural offerings. The vibrancy of these two events contribute to Boulder's identity as a place for creativity.

Cultural offerings*

In what way does your project fill a gap in the variety of cultural offerings in Boulder? What is exciting or new about your project?

Peñas traditionally revolve around four essential themes: music, dance, food and drink. Out of context, these elements aren’t unique to Boulder’s cultural offerings. However, in the context of a *peña*, these elements are utilized as a springboard for expression and a lens through which to view and discuss a community’s angst, anguishes, and accomplishments. In fact, in many Latin American countries (particularly those that have been subject to times of civil unrest) *peñas* have provided safe spaces to protest oppression, to combat injustice, and to come together in solidarity with friends and neighbors.

Members of Boulder’s Latino community have remarked that the peñas they experienced at the Dairy have engendered this sense of community solidarity, and that generally, these experiences are infrequent across Boulder’s cultural scene. The Dairy strives to address this gap in culturally relevant offerings for a group that represents nearly 10% of the City of Boulder’s population; 14% when looking more broadly at Boulder County.

On the topic of relevant offerings, one of the event’s volunteer leaders candidly remarked, “There’s a thirst for events that are cultural that don’t boil the Latino community down to tacos.”

Cultural equity*

Among the goals of the Boulder Arts Commission is to encourage the equitable, fair, and just distribution of funds in support of the community. This includes providing support to applicants whose organizational leadership or audience represent groups who are typically underrepresented, i.e. culturally diverse groups, organizations focused on age diversity, etc.) Describe how your project does or does not fulfill one or several of these categories. Describe how your project will address affordability, availability, accessibility, accommodation, and acceptability to diverse groups. For reference, please review the Boulder Arts Commission and Americans for the Arts Statements on Cultural Equity.

References:

Boulder Arts Commission Statement on Cultural Equity
Americans for the Arts Statement on Cultural Equity

This project is, in its simplest form, an effort to engage a culturally diverse group through the arts. Moreover, this project utilizes a traditionally authentic artform to do so. The Dairy recognizes that in order to create authentic experiences, this project must have leadership and buy-in from the community it seeks to serve. Therefore, the Dairy will continue to take direction from its representative committee of volunteers, whose leadership has already resulted in two successful peñas.

The first peña at the Dairy was a pilot that was offered free to the public, resulting in 80 attendees. The Dairy’s strategic goal to compensate artists appropriately (above the initial stipend of \$50) led to the decision to sell tickets to the second peña at a cost of \$15. Even still, attendance nearly doubled to 150, selling out the event. While the cost associated with the second peña didn’t have a negative impact on the community’s appetite for such an event, the Dairy strives to remain accessible to all, and moving forward, plans to offer reduced admission. If grant support is obtained, the Dairy plans to offer ‘family rate’ tickets that would allow a family of three to attend for \$30, with additional youth tickets at a cost of only \$5.

Proposed outcomes and evaluation strategy*

Describe your evaluation strategy for this project and how you will collect data. Please also include your goals for this project and how the benefit to the community will be measured.

The overarching goal of this project is to engage Boulder’s Latino community with culturally relevant and impactful programming, and in doing so, support the Dairy’s Strategic Plan. Quantitative evaluation of this goal will be measured utilizing the metric of ticket sales. With the assumption that culturally relevant and inclusive programming will draw more attendees, the ticket sales goal is at least 75% capacity at each event. While the Dairy was thrilled that its first two peñas attracted a significant turn out, traditional peñas are intimate affairs. Therefore, the committee has suggested that the size of the events be limited to that of the Dairy’s intimate Carsen Theatre, which has a capacity of 100. Because of the popularity, artistic quality and

uniqueness of these events, the Dairy is, however, seeking to offer access to more attendees by adding third event to the series if funds become available.

Qualitative evaluation will come in the form of surveys. Following each event, a sample of ticket buyers will receive a brief survey. Surveys will collect feedback to gauge progress toward the project's overarching goal and collect data that helps to inform programmatic decisions for subsequent events.

Additional Questions

Boulder focus*

Are you a Boulder organization/individual serving Boulder or are you an organization/individual outside of Boulder and to what degree do you focus on Boulder programming?

The Dairy Arts Center in Boulder, CO was established in 1992, and since that time, has focused almost exclusively on Boulder programming. Though programming at the Dairy draws participants and attendees from beyond the City of Boulder, the Dairy is first and foremost, Boulder's home for the arts.

Encouragement points*

Among the goals of the Boulder Arts Commission is to encourage the equitable, fair, and just distribution of funds in support of the community. This includes providing support to applicants who have not yet received a grant in this cycle. Confirm if your organization has been funded in the current cycle.

No

Attachments

ATTACHMENTS

The following attachments are required. Please title your attachments according to the headings listed below.

Budget summary*

Provide a brief budget summary for this project including all revenue (monetary and in-kind contributions, including this grant) and expenses. Please title the attachment "Budget summary". Permitted file types: xl, xlsx, pdf.

Budget Summary.pdf

Partner/Collaborator List

Provide a list of each individual / organization that has a significant coordinating role in this project. Please title the attachment, "Collaborator list". Include their name, contact information, and role. Permitted file types: doc, docx, pdf.

Collaborator List.pdf

Venue confirmation letter*

Attach confirmation from the hosting venue that the project is approved and scheduled. Please title the attachment "Venue confirmation letter". Permitted file types: doc, docx, pdf

Venue Confirmation Letter.pdf

Letters of support

Attach any letters of support that will be useful in understanding community involvement and enthusiasm for the project. This is optional. Please title the file, "Letters of support". Permitted file types: doc, docx, pdf

Letters of Support.pdf

Other support materials

Attach any documents that will help the jury fully understand the project, including videos and other materials that may help the commission evaluate artistic quality. This is optional. Please title the file, "Support materials". Permitted file types: doc, docx, xl, xlsx, pdf

Support Materials for Dairy Arts Center Community Project Grant 2019.pdf

Submission and signature

Application on the website (optional)

I certify that, if funding is awarded, my application may be presented on the boulderarts.org website. The Office of Arts and Culture staff will send a copy of the document to the applicant listed for approval in advance of posting on the website.

Yes

Certification*

I certify that all information contained in this application and attachments is true and accurate. All funded activities must provide equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and may not discriminate on the basis of disability, color, creed or religion.

I certify

Full name*

Kathy Blegen-Huntley

Submission date*

02/11/2019

TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

All required fields must be filled in with the appropriate information and/or attachments. Click on the "Submit Application" button and an email notification that your application has been received will be sent. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please notify staff immediately. Note that once the application is submitted, it cannot be revised or added to. Please make certain that you have included all information and attachments prior to submitting.

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Budget Summary.pdf
- Collaborator List.pdf
- Venue Confirmation Letter.pdf
- Letters of Support.pdf
- Support Materials for Dairy Arts Center Community Project Grant 2019.pdf

Peñas - A Celebration of Music, Poetry & People

Budget Summary

Income		Notes
Ticket Income	\$ 2,000	100 tickets at full price/100 tickets at \$5
Concession Income	\$ 500	
Individual Donations	\$ 160	collected at previous event
Grant Support	\$ 9,000	
Total Income	\$ 11,660	

Expense		Notes
Artist Fees	\$ 6,000	12 artists at \$500 each
Concession Expense	\$ 350	
Venue	\$ 750	
Printing/Production	\$ 2,000	programs, posters, invitations, ads
Personell Expenses	\$ 2,500	administration, staff time
Total Expense	\$ 11,600	

Peñas - A Celebration of Music, Poetry & People

Collaborator List

- Manuela Stewart Sifuentes, manuela.sifuentes@gmail.com, volunteer committee
- Mary Dolores Young, YoungM@bouldercolorado.gov, volunteer committee
- Rossana Longo Better, rossanabetter@gmail.com, volunteer committee
- Carmen Reina Nelson, carmenrnelson@gmail.com, volunteer committee

DAIRY ARTS CENTER

February 10, 2019

Boulder Arts Commission
Boulder Office of Arts and Culture
1001 Arapahoe Ave.
Boulder, CO 80023

Dear Commissioners:

Peñas - A Celebration of Music, Poetry & People is a series of two events that are planned to take place in July of 2019 and January of 2020 at the Dairy Arts Center. A volunteer committee will select exact dates for these events at an upcoming meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of project support for this exciting endeavor.

Sincerely,



Melissa Fathman
Executive Director

Peñas - A Celebration of Music, Poetry & People
Notes of Project Support

“The opportunities for members of the Latino community to come together around the arts are infrequent in the Boulder community. The two peñas that have so far been held at the Dairy Arts Center have accomplished this in inspiring and heartwarming ways. Seeing so many people whose origins hail from throughout the Americas coming together to sing familiar songs, dance to Latin beats, read poetry and support each other in a city owned public space was a beautiful and rare event!

As a member of the Boulder City Council, I commend the Dairy for walking the talk of working towards becoming an inclusive place for all.”

- *Mary Dolores Young, Volunteer Committee*

“The Latino community is under represented in the art scene in the Boulder area. These nights have been a good exception. The success in turnout proves there's appetite for more in the community, not just within the Latino people, but beyond. Personally, it was very emotional for me to listen to songs my parents would play when I was growing up. It's good to educate our non-Latino community about the history in Latin America, its art and heritage, which is now also American heritage as our children grow up here.”

- *Susana Hernansanz Lopez, Attendee*

“The Peñas are important for me because, in the times I grew up of repressive governments and military regimes, organized resistance was too dangerous but a social event, a meeting to share music and wine, offered an opportunity for political expression in a relatively safe environment. This is still relevant. Recreating a peña reminds us all of the commitment we felt as young people”

- *Carmen Nelson, Volunteer Committee*

“Noches de Peña provide one of few spaces for people of color to express themselves artistically, for the community as a whole to learn about and appreciate the diverse population that enriches this beautiful city of Boulder. For me, personally, Noches de Peña represents the pride of our Latin American roots. I loved being present at the last event because I felt at home. There are few spaces in Boulder where I see folks from diverse ethnic backgrounds.”

- *Gloria Cazarez, Attendee*

“We need Noches de Peña to lift our spirits exhausted with misunderstanding and divide. What you see at these events is the healing of stereotypes and negative rhetoric of the Latin American culture. Latinxs living in the US are very rich in diversity. We need events like these to bridge different identities among all nationalities, including the various Latin American nationalities. As a Latina, what I enjoyed most was

to see so many different nationalities represented by the performers and their art forms. We need more spaces where we can SEE the true multicultural presence we have in BoCo! #inspireBoCo”

- *Laura Adriana Soto Rubalcava, Attendee*

“I love the space la Noche de Peña held to enhance those cultural aspects of our rich Hispanic and Latin American diversity through poetry and music. This is a space “we” crave and miss from our native lands. Deepening the appreciation of our roots has an impact on the nostalgic side of us, but also enhances the pride we have of our roots. Roots that we strive to share with younger generations that often times struggle to have a sense of belonging while growing up in this wonderful state. I hope to bring my kid next time and see more youth there.

Keeping it accessible is fundamental, keeping it consistent, too. Thanks [volunteer committee] for your efforts and The Dairy for looking into making it sustainable! It’s lovely to see the support of those who share a passion for our cultures regardless of their place of origin or language. We need unity and diversity in our beautiful town!”

- *Ingrid Castro, Attendee*

“Noche de Peña is an opportunity to share music from Latin America. It’s also a space to be in community with the Spanish-speaking community. These events should be supported, especially in arts organizations. The time has come for our community to have more spaces for cultural and artistic recreation. Noches de Peña must continue [at the Dairy] or in other locations.”

- *Elena Aranda, Attendee*

“I loved the Peña because it seemed like a space where we could share art and become inspired, together as a Spanish-speaking community. A night to enjoy celebrate our community!”

- *Mar Matlak, Attendee*

“The art scene in Boulder is not very culturally, racially, or socio-economically diverse. Further, when Latin American arts and culture is celebrated or showcased, it’s often through a very limited lens (like salsa dancing). Yet, Latin America boasts a vast array of genres in music, literature, poetry, dance, film or other art forms, and that is what Noches de Peña highlights. The music typical of peñas, the Nueva Canción, was also an art form that sprang in response to political oppression in our home countries, but oppression which was supported and even financed by the United States, and yet this history is seldom taught in schools here. So these peñas also offer a certain level of validation to immigrants whose journey here—either personal or that of their parents—is linked to US support of oppressive regimes: we know our history, we remember our history, we honor our history.”

- *Manuela Stewart Sifuentes, Volunteer Committee*

Support Materials for Dairy Arts Center Community Project Grant 2019

This photo is from a recent article in the Daily Camera and attests to the need for the kind of programming the Dairy's grant application is talking about.

After Boulder diversity officer's unexplained exit, city seeks outside help on race and equity

By Shay Castle

Staff Writer



Adolfo Romero, a Chilean musician, performs at the Noche de Peña gathering at Boulder's Dairy Arts Center on Saturday evening. In Latino cultures, a peña is a social event centered around live music that, as the Dairy Center puts it, "celebrates community through poetry, prose, gastronomía and culture." (*Cliff Grassmick / Staff Photographer*)