

Touring Schools with Gato con Botas

2021 Arts Education Project Grant

Boulder Opera

Ms. Dianela Acosta

dianela@boulderoperacompany.com
O: 646-438-0110

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.

PURPOSE: The Arts Education Project Grant provides opportunities for children in the City of Boulder to have unique experiences with practicing artists, access to tools and techniques, or improved instruction in the creative professions. The goal of the grant is to increase the exposure of students to unique and memorable experiences that may shape their future in cultural participation and creative careers.

In 2021, it is also important to the Boulder Arts Commission that the Cultural Grants Program is responsive to current pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic. There are no questions directly related to the pandemic on the application. However, the Commission asks the community to apply with projects, emphasizing collaborations, that directly address those most impacted by the pandemic. The goal is an equitable distribution of resources throughout the community in a way that supports economic and social recovery.

Total Funds: \$30,000

Awards: Approximately 10 awards at \$3,000 each

Details: The award amount of \$3,000 is a maximum funding guideline. Smaller requests will be accepted.

Cycle: Annual

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION: Monday, April 12 at 11:59 p.m.

TIMELINE

- Monday, April 12 at 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- April 12 to April 19 – Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- April 19 to May 3 – Preliminary review and score by panel (15 days)
- May 3 to 7 – Score processing by staff
- May 7 – Preliminary scores and comments sent to applicants via email
- May 7 to 17 – Applicants prepare and send written responses to the panel's questions. The written response should be emailed to Lauren Click at clickl@boulderlibrary.org by Monday, April 19, 2021 at 11:59pm.
- May 17 to 21 – Response processing by staff
- May 24 – Responses sent to panel
- May 24 to June 7 – Final review and score by panel (14 days)
- June 7 to 11 – Processing of final scores
- June 11 – Final scores sent to applicants via email
- June 16, 2021 – Arts Commission meeting. Discussion and final decisions on grants

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- **General eligibility.** Meets all general eligibility requirements.
- **Open to educators, administrators, and presenters.** Classroom teachers and school administrators in public schools, private schools, home school associations, and non-traditional classroom settings, as well as artists / individuals / organizations collaborating with schools on programming are eligible.
- **Service area and programming.** Projects must have a demonstrated benefit to school children in the City of Boulder.
- **Timing.** Projects must take place after the grant deadline and end before the end of the 2022 spring semester.

REVIEW PROCESS

- **Deliberation.** Applications are reviewed by the Boulder Arts Commission grants panel. Final funding decisions are made at public Boulder Arts Commission meetings. See schedule.
- **Evaluation of applications.** Funding in previous years does not imply continued support. Each application is reviewed anew in the context of current policies and applications. Applicants that have received repeated funding should be aware that the Boulder Arts Commission looks for indication of growth and a fresh approach to their work.
- **Evaluation criteria**
 - Benefit to students (Maximum 8 points)
 - Complementing curriculum (Maximum 8 points)
 - Proposed outcomes and evaluation strategy (Maximum 8 points)
 - Community Priorities (Maximum 8 points)
 - Cultural equity (Maximum 8 points)
 - Boulder focus (Maximum 4 points)
 - Encouragement points (Maximum 4 points)
- The complete scoring system and rubric for the Arts Education Project Grant can be found [here](#).

APPEALS PROCESS

Written appeals process. The deadline for a written appeal is 14 days after funding decisions has been made by the Boulder Arts Commission. The appeals process can be found on our website.

GRANT AWARDS

- **Notifications and dispersal of funds.** Staff notifies all applicants if their Application has been successful and begins the process of securing supporting information and issuing payment for successful applicants. Grantees must contact the grant coordinator to arrange for payment. Checks are sent by mail or electronically to bank accounts designated by the applicant.
- **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 collaborators or other

participants. This includes, but is not limited to, requirements for compliance with grant agreements, identifying Boulder Arts Commission sponsorship on publicity materials, and reporting.

- **Implementation.** Grantees shall implement programs / projects as outlined in the grant application. Any change 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.
- **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 an arts grant. Details are available on the PERA website. See "Disclosure of Compensation."
- **Vendor forms.** Grantees must submit a City of Boulder vendor form and current IRS W-9 form in order to receive the grant award. The W-9 must be in the same name as the Grantee named on the grant application. Individual Grantees must also submit an Immigration Status Affidavit and Determination of Independent Contractor / Employee Status for Payment document. Colorado law requires proof of legal residency prior to payment. Applicants will receive the appropriate forms from payments@colorado.gov. Failure to supply a proper W-9 may invalidate the grant award.
- **IRS taxation.** Grant awards are non-transferable, taxable and are reported to the federal government.
- **Agreement.** When a grant award is made by the Boulder Arts Commission, the successful Applicant will be contacted by staff to sign a Grant Letter of Agreement. In that agreement, the Grantee will indicate the completion date of the project and the date a grant report will be submitted.
- **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/checks are delivered within the next three 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. 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 must sign a release form and submit photographs and/or videos of the project that the Office and Arts and Culture may use on its website, social media, printed materials or for any other publicity purpose.
- **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. 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 Grantee's ability to complete the project and/or the report, the Grantee must notify the Boulder Arts Commission before the original report deadline by submitting an email addressed to the Boulder Arts Commission at culturegrants@boulderlibrary.org with the following information:
 - an update on the project status,
 - a request to change the project completion date, and
 - new report due date.
- **Responsibility.** The Grantee is responsible for submitting a report by the due date. The Boulder Arts 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, all individuals or organizations / businesses attached as collaborators on the project will no longer be eligible to apply for Boulder Arts Commission grants until the delinquent 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.

Music
Theater
Literary arts

Tax status*

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

Nonprofit

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'.

Project information

Project title*

Touring Schools with Gato con Botas

Amount requested*

The maximum award amount offered is \$3,000.

\$3,000.00

Project summary*

A brief overview of your project. Include how it will connect with or complement the class curriculum, how many students the project will reach, if the project will benefit underrepresented populations, and the benefits that you expect for the students.

Boulder Opera Company seeks to bring our educational program of El Gato con Botas to 3 different BVSD Elementary schools in February and March 2022. The program consists of classroom visits to 4th and 5th graders, a Study Guide and a final performance of the work for the whole school.

We expect to reach a total of 1340 students. The performances for schools will be in Spanish, and we are partnering with the following bilingual schools: Columbine Elementary, University Hill and Foothills Elementary which have a high percentage of Spanish-speaking students.

Puss in Boots or El Gato con Botas is an Opera for children by Catalan composer Xavier Montsalvatge with a text by Charles Perrault which faithfully follows the familiar pantomime version of the tale. The Opera lasts one hour, features 5 singers and is accompanied by a pianist.

El Gato con Botas program is modeled on our Family Series success which we offered to the public in February 2020. Following the one-hour show, the performers will hold a Q&A with the students to engage them about the opera. Exposure to opera, connection to local artists, and authentic arts engagement are three main student benefits that we make possible with this program.

Project calendar*

Projects must take place after the grant deadline and end before the end of the 2022 spring semester.

June 2021- We will cast 5 singers for the show and secure a pianist and stage director.

July 2021- Prepare a study guide in English and Spanish for different grades (1st through 5th)

August-September 2021- Confirm dates for the shows to schools.
 January 2022- Rehearsal begins for El Gato con Botas.
 Feb- March 2022 classroom visits begin and performances at schools.
 March 2022 - School evaluation will include surveys and focus groups with each school.

Project location*

Where do your projects take place?

BVSD schools: Columbine Elementary, Foothill Elementary and University Hill Elementary

Project completion date*

This is the last day of any public event related to the project. Projects must take place after the grant deadline and end before the end of the 2022 spring semester.

03/18/2022

Date grant report is due*

One month after the project completion date.

04/18/2022

Panel evaluation

Benefit to students*

In what ways will this project directly benefit the students and their growth as cultural participants or in the creative industries? What new skills or experiences will be offered?

Students will experience the international and historic art form of opera in a kid-friendly, fun, interactive, and engaging way.

Students gain an understanding of a complex art form by seeing the many facets of its production: from singers on center stage to piano accompaniment, to costumes and set creation. In preparation for the actual performances, our Spanish-speaking performers and pianist will visit classrooms and discuss how music is used to depict emotion and story, and students will be able to ask questions.

Live performances are proven to enhance our ability to connect with others, as well as develop critical thinking and listening skills--a very important facet to develop at an early age. Students will gain exposure to a style of music that most are not accustomed to hearing.

Through the Study Guide we have created (in Spanish and English), students will explore character, plot, opera terminology, history, etiquette, and more. The Guide can be used by the Spanish language, music and literacy teachers. Based on past Family Series projects, we know that Boulder students will be drawn in by the music and familiarity of the story. We had great success with public shows and field trips this last February 2020.

Complementing curriculum and offerings*

How does this project enhance, or fill a gap in, the generally available curriculum and offerings? For more information about Curriculum in Colorado visit this website.

Our programming fulfills CDE Arts Standards while celebrating multiculturalism, a strong BVSD value. This project will enhance the musical education that students are already receiving. We believe in early exposure to opera as a platform for storytelling. Experiencing a live opera performance as a child, and any age, should be interactive--we encourage young audience members to laugh, to react, to applaud when they are moved to do so. We believe in dismantling the idea that opera is elitist, and our educational outreach program helps us to show the community that opera is for all.

The Study Guide that we will create enhances the students' experience in attending the opera performed in Spanish.

Our educational program will enhance the Colorado curriculum in music for 4th and 5th graders in the following Music areas:

Aesthetic Valuation of Music

1. Explain personal preferences for specific music
2. Comprehend and respect the musical values of others considering cultural context as an element of musical evaluation and meaning

Our study guide and classroom visits specifically address the title unit: Music tells story for 4th and 5th graders:

Terminology for musical elements provides a common language for expression.

Proposed outcomes and evaluation strategy*

Describe your evaluation strategy for this project and how you will collect data. How will the benefits to the students be measured?

Our primary projected outcome is to introduce opera to 1340 Boulder students in such a fun and interactive way that they will nurture a lifelong appreciation of the art form and potentially be inspired to create art themselves.

Boulder Opera Company uses both qualitative and quantitative measures of success to evaluate for each of our short-term productions.

Attendance Numbers give us a quantitative measurement of our success. We will track the following:

- Number of student and teacher participants at each of our in-School visits
- Number of students and teachers at our all school-wide assembly

Audience satisfaction (i.e. teachers, school administrators, students) combines both quantitative and qualitative data. Teacher/School administrator surveys with simple ratings from 1-4 provide important data on our ability to effectively work within the schools (appropriate content, ease of scheduling, etc). In addition to the survey, we will follow-up with school staff verbally and through focus groups to provide an opportunity for additional feedback.

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*

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? Or, does it address many? What specific benefits to the community are planned? How will success be measured?

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.

Our program addresses these Community Priorities:

Create a supportive environment for artists and creative professionals

The ability of culture to positively contribute to...the authentic expression of diversity

Amplify the vibrancy of Boulder’s cultural destinations

1. BOC supports local artists and draws from the same pool of dedicated, driven and passionate artists that perform in our major productions to assist with this educational program.

2. BOC’s outreach educational program focuses on culture by producing the opera in Spanish with 3 of our artists being native Spanish speakers. In our mission to make opera accessible, it is important that we are engaging with the Latinx and Spanish-speaking communities by putting on *El Gato con Botas*. We are also dedicated to bringing outreach to a school like Columbine that is 51.8% English Language Learners.

3. Because BOC is the only opera company in Boulder, we believe it makes Boulder an exciting place to live and visit. Our high-quality productions add a unique offering to Boulder’s creative landscape and the school’s arts education. BOC encourages and challenges students to spend time at live performances, connecting and engaging with music, art, and local artists.

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

Our project will address affordability, availability, accessibility, accommodation, and acceptability to diverse groups. We provide an educational experience to Title I schools (just be sure all 3 are Title I) at a low cost to them with the help of grants like this one and sponsorships. Additionally our Study Guides and school visits will be in Spanish as well as English.

With the help of this grant we can provide this program at half the cost to the schools. Each school will receive 2 classroom visits, a Study Guide and a school-wide performance. The cost to be able to bring it to schools is \$600 and we propose to offer it for \$300 for each school, a fee each school has agreed upon. Other comparable programs cost \$800 for just bringing a show to the school, without the supplemental classroom visits or study guide, so our program is an exceptionally good value.

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 proposed education program is 100% focused on Boulder and will benefit Boulder elementary school students through school performances and in-person classroom visits. We are optimistic that by February and March of 2022 we will be able to present in-person, but if the pandemic resurged, we could offer Zoom presentations where necessary.

The Boulder Opera Company is a Boulder-based organization. We perform for the community in accessible and unique places such as; the Museum of Boulder, the Nomad Theatre, Dairy Center for the Arts, the Boulder Public Library, The Spark, local restaurants, senior centers and eTown. We rehearse at the Spark, The Dairy Center for the Arts, and at Nevei Kodesh Church. Since 2012, we have produced 125 shows in Boulder and provided 25 performances and workshops to Boulder schools. In that same time, we have presented six shows at the Broomfield Auditorium, six at the Dickens Opera House in Longmont, seven shows at the Longmont's Stewart Auditorium and four at the Louisville Center for the Arts.

It is our mission to keep opera alive in Boulder by producing operas that engage and build up the community.

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 received more than \$1,000 in funding from the Boulder Arts Commission in the current cycle, including if you'll be receiving General Operating Support funding.

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.xlsx

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.

Partner_ Collaborator list_ BOC educational outreach 2011_2022.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

letter of Venue_ BVSD schools.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

BAC-BOC Grant Support Letter.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

video link .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*

Dianela Acosta

Submission date*

04/12/2021

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.xlsx
- Partner_ Collaborator list_ BOC educational outreach 2011_2022.pdf
- letter of Venue_ BVSD schools.pdf
- BAC-BOC Grant Support Letter.pdf
- video link .pdf

Boulder Opera Company Project Budget for Gato con Botas

Revenue

Contributed Revenue		
Boulder Arts Commission	\$	3,000.00
Gala concert fundraiser (October 2022)	\$	1,100.00
Business Sponsorships (pending)	\$	1,500.00
Total Contributed Revenue	\$	5,600.00
Earned Revenue		
Workshop Fee from 3 schools \$300	\$	900.00
Total Earned Revenue	\$	900.00
Total Revenue	\$	6,500.00

Expenses

Administrative Expenses

Rehearsals, Admin Time	\$	1,500.00
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Program Expenses

Singers 5 x \$125 x 3 shows	\$	1,875.00
Pianist 6 x 150	\$	900.00
Stage Director + manager	\$	800.00
Education Director	\$	600.00
Classroom Visits	\$	600.00
Materials	\$	200.00
Total Expenses	\$	6,475.00
Net Income	\$	25.00



BOULDER OPERA

303.731.2036 | info@boulderoperacompany.com | www.boulderoperacompany.com

Collaborator list:

-The Boulder Opera has a long history of collaboration and partnerships with Boulder local schools, and for this project we are partnering with:

1. Columbine Elementary School: Title 1 Bilingual

Every year since 2014 we have either brought students from Columbine to the theater for cultural field trips, done workshops, or brought a whole show to the assembly.

Contact: Ms Stephanie Fida - music teacher stephanie.fida@bvsd.org

Contact: Jennifer Hutman- Literacy 4th grade teacher jennifer.hutman@bvsd.org

2. University Hill Elementary School Title 1 Bilingual

This is a new partnership that started in 2020 with the spanish teachers of 4th and 5th grade.

Contact: Ignacio Figueroa- spanish teacher ignacio.figueroa@bvsd.org

Contact: Cecilia Lopez - Spanish teacher cecilia.lopez@bvsd.org

3. Foothill Elementary;

Students from Foothills have attended our shows in the past 3 years with help from the PTO and they have a high percentage of hispanic students who we subsidize tickets for.

Contact: Maria Bloomfield: pto fundraising foothillpto.community@gmail.com

Contact: Ilce Rivero- Community liaison ilce.rivero@bvsd.org

Friday April 9,2021
Boulder Arts Commission

(from email exchanges)

We are confirming that Boulder Opera will bring their program of El Gato con Botas to Foothill Elementary In early Spring of 2022. The bilingual program will be offered to grades 4th and 5th and we will hold their final performance at our auditorium for the whole school.

Pending the pandemic, it is possible there will be 2 shows to be able to limit capacity and social distancing.

Thank you,

Ilce Rivero
Community Liaison ilce.rivero@bvsd.org

April 12th, 2021
To Boulder Arts Commission,

This email is to confirm that Boulder Opera will bring their educational program of El Gato con Botas to University Hill Elementary school in the Spring of 2022. We will hold an assembly in our auditorium.

We are excited to have Boulder Opera bring this great program to our school and we look forward to introducing 4th and 5th graders to this beautiful work in Spanish. We are especially thankful for a program that is presented in Spanish.

With much gratitude,

Cecilia Lopez - cecilia.lopez@bvsd.org
Ignacio Figueroa ignacio.figueroa@bvsd.org

Dear Ms Acosta,

I'm excited at the prospect of having Boulder Opera come to Columbine next school year and I will set aside some funds to make that happen in 2021-2022.

Stephanie Fida, M.A., M.S.
Music Educator, BVSD
Preferred pronouns: she/her/hers





Dear Boulder Arts Commission,

I am writing this letter in support of the Boulder Opera Company as they seek funding for their educational programs in the coming school year. In addition to fostering opera talent and creating high quality operatic performances, I believe the Boulder Opera Company has a strong commitment to music education and to community partnership, and would be a worthy recipient of Boulder Arts Commission funding.

As a music educator working from home this school year, I reached out to Boulder Opera director Dianela Acosta to have her present virtually as part of my 4th grade opera unit. Her presentations were informative, interactive and well received, giving my students insight into what it is like to be an opera singer and work in the arts industry. As a bilingual educator, Dianela was able to give presentations in both English and Spanish which effectively reached my students (all of whom are learning both languages in our bilingual school setting).

Boulder Opera's presentation of "Puss in Boots" would bring an art form to our school that is often inaccessible to families who can't afford tickets or transportation to a venue. Columbine Elementary is a Title 1 school with about 60% of our student body receiving free or reduced fee lunch. Furthermore, "Puss in Boots" is a perfect fit for our student population as it was originally written in Spanish and is part of the genre of children's opera due to its short duration and easy to understand, fairy tale plot. Having a live performance such as this at our school is the ideal culmination of the study of opera and will be inspirational and memorable for students.

We are excited to bring Boulder Opera's bilingual program of "Puss in Boots" to Columbine Elementary in 2022. We will plan to hold an assembly performance for the whole school (approximately 500 students), and performers from Boulder Opera will also visit classrooms to give presentations in Spanish and English in preparation for the show.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Fida

Music Educator, Columbine Elementary
stephanie.fida@bvsd.org



BOULDER**OPERA**

303.731.2036 | info@boulderoperacompany.com | www.boulderoperacompany.com

This is a video link to our last production of Puss in Boots at ETown which we performed in english and in spanish, so we had two casts. Now we plan on touring this show at local school in the Spring of 2022:

-https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_qdEy4uyCLM