Mariachi in the Mainstream: Centering Mexican Culture in Boulder

2021 Community Project Grant - Organization Applicants

"I Have A Dream" Foundation of Boulder County

Dr. Perla Delgado
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O: 303-444-3636

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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.

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.

Awards: Organizations $60,000 @ maximum $10,000 each

Details: The award amount of $10,000 for organizations. Smaller requests will be accepted.

Cycle: Annually.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS – ORGANIZATIONS: Monday, February 15, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.
TIMELINE

- Monday, February 15 at 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- February 15 to 19 – Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- February 19 to March 8 – Preliminary review and score by panel (16 days)
- March 8 to 12 – Score processing by staff
- March 12 – Preliminary scores and comments sent to applicants via email
- March 12 to March 19 – 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 Friday, March 19, 2021 at 11:59pm.
- March 22 to 26 – Response processing by staff
- March 26 – Responses sent to panel
- March 26 to April 9 – Final review and score by panel (16 days)
- April 12 to 16 – Processing of final scores
- April 16 – Final scores sent to applicants via email
- April 21 – **Arts Commission meeting.** Discussion and final decisions on grants

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Open to all. Anyone may apply once the general eligibility requirements 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 https://www.municode.com/library/co/boulder/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=TIT14ARhttps://www.municode.com/library/co/boulder/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=TIT14ARChapter 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, 2022.

MORE INFORMATION

General Eligibility Requirements
2021 Grant Application Schedule
2021 Scoring System
General Grant Guidelines & Process
Grant FAQs

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 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 Grants can be found here.

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

**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.
- January 1990

**Mission statement**
If not applicable write N/A.
- To empower children from low-income communities to succeed in school, college, and career by providing academic, social, and emotional support from elementary school through college, along with a post-secondary tuition assistance scholarship.

**Annual budget**
If applying as an organization.
- $3,944,000.00

**Geographic area served**
If not applicable write N/A.
- Boulder County, with this grant request focusing on activities in Boulder

**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'.
Number of full time employees*
If not applicable write 0.

33

Number of part time employees*
If not applicable write 0.

1

Number of volunteers*
If not applicable write 0.

357

Project information

Project title*
Mariachi in the Mainstream: Centering Mexican Culture in Boulder

Amount requested*
The maximum award amount offered is $10,000 for organizations. Smaller requests will be accepted.

$10,000.00

Project summary*
Provide a brief overview of the project.

Mariachi music is a folk music genre from Mexico. Various combinations of trumpet, harp, violin, guitar, vihuela, guitarrón, and vocals typically comprise mariachi ensembles, and groups range in size. Mariachi music is played for celebrations, religious gatherings, parades, and more. It is quintessential Mexican music, famous for its distinctive sound and energy.

14% of Boulder County residents identify as Latinx/o/a, with many specifically as Mexican. However, Mariachi does not have a foothold in the city of Boulder. This project—a collaboration between the “I Have A Dream” Foundation of Boulder County (IHDF) and the Center for Musical Arts (CMA)—intends to change that.

With seed money from a generous foundation, IHDF and the CMA are launching a standards-based Mariachi curriculum that is professionally administered, diverse, and intergenerational, serving 60 Dreamer Scholars ages 10-18 from IHDF with instrumental and vocal lessons and ensemble work. Ensembles are also open to 30 of their caregivers/parents. The program will culminate in performances in Boulder in 2022 (with one confirmed at the Dairy Arts Center). We hope to renew this program annually and expand to students in Boulder beyond Dreamer Scholars.
**Project calendar**
Projects must take place after the grant deadline and be completed by June 30, 2022.

- **SPRING 2021:** IHDF and the CMA finalize program; IHDF leads recruitment
- **SUMMER 2021:** Planning and scheduling
- **FALL 2021:** Lessons commence at the CMA and IHDF’s Boulder Housing Partners’ (BHP) sites; semester-end performance/s
- **SPRING 2022:** Lessons continue at the CMA and BHP sites; Year-end performances at the Dairy Arts Center and possibly Pearl Street Mall and/or Bolder Boulder
- **SUMMER 2022:** Additionally, an ensemble may perform on the Chautauqua lawn before CMF’s Family Concert.

**Project location**
Where do your projects take place?

While our project serves all of Boulder County, our request in this application is for components (individual instrument lessons, ensemble practices, and performances) that take place entirely in Boulder.

**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 is a collaboration between IHDF and the CMA, who have partnered successfully for years. We attached our contract under Other Support Materials, which details our roles and responsibilities. Broadly speaking, the CMA will execute the instructional portion of lessons and ensembles and has the space and administration to execute the program overall. IHDF will cover recruitment, transportation for students and families, and translation of materials and at events.

**Art in Public Places**
By checking this box, I consider this project to include an art in public places component (for example, a public sculpture, mural, projection, or performance in the public realm). I have contacted publicart@bouldercolorado.gov and received feedback from staff which inform my understanding of project review, permitting, and timing considerations.

I confirm

**Project completion date**
This is the last day of any public event related to the project. Project must be completed by June 30, 2022.

06/30/2022
Date grant report is due
One month after the project completion date.
07/30/2022

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?

This project thoroughly addresses the priority of adding creativity in the public realm by engaging underserved communities in art-making for their community. If “creativity [is] an essential ingredient for the wellbeing, prosperity, and joy of everyone in the community,” this can only be achieved if Boulder’s Mexican and Latinx population is thoroughly served through and represented in the arts. Cross-generational Mariachi ensembles, standards-based instrumental and vocal lessons for students from disadvantaged economic backgrounds, and joyful community performances are some of the most culturally relevant ways to achieve this goal.

This project also supports artists and creative professionals, not only by providing professional development but by providing opportunities to teach and engage with music that is part of their cultural background. Numerous Latinx artists and creative professionals in Boulder do not have the opportunity to teach Mariachi to students and families; we look forward to engaging as many of them as possible.

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?
This program offers opportunities for Latinx students/families to learn about and celebrate their culture in ways that are not available in Boulder's mainstream. Traditional public school music education is based on western canon that excludes (or assimilates) specific cultures. Latinx students in BVSD may opt out of school music programs because their culture is not reflected in the programming. Of course, Mariachi music has been in Boulder for a long time and this project seeks to center and celebrate Mexican culture by including Mariachi in Boulder’s music education offerings. Mariachi performances should also be more accessible and not be exclusive to private events such as quinceañeras or family celebrations, which this project will address through four free performances with at least two in Boulder.

This program will be standards-based and rigorous. Mariachi requires skill both on an instrument and vocals. Our curriculum is sequential and students will learn both by rote and traditional music notation. Weekly lessons consist of a group instrumental lesson followed by a vocal session—a unique way to learn. Ensemble rehearsal will be added second semester, increasing weekly instructional time from 60 minutes to 105 minutes.

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 team specifically thought to apply to the BAC because of its focus on cultural equity. The Latinx population in Boulder is largely underrepresented in the arts, and this project wholly centers Latinx and Mexican artforms, artists, and audiences. Specifically, this project centers Dreamer Scholars and their families, who all qualify as low-income at the time of enrollment in IHDF and primarily identify as Latinx.

This project also aims to make Mariachi accessible to dominant groups in our community and to other minority groups who might not be familiar with this artform or seek it out. This project is larger than itself, taking an important step towards equity and representation in music education and performance in Boulder.

Lessons and materials will be free to Dreamer Scholars and participating caregivers/parents except for a $25 optional fundraising contribution from families with all other costs underwritten by donors. Professional artists will be paid competitive wages. Marketing and informational materials will be distributed in Spanish and translated into English. Culminating community performances will be free and accessible to Boulder residents, with translation of all audio (from Spanish into English).

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.

Our goal is to make a rigorous, standards-based Mariachi curriculum available to 60 Dreamer Scholars and 30 of their parents/caregivers in fall 2021 and spring 2022. Ideally, lessons/ensembles will take place in-person; launch may be pushed back a semester if COVID-19 restrictions are still in place. We aim to engage
1,200 audience members in four community performances. We aim for all students to achieve increased musical skill levels and cultural visibility. The curriculum is reflective of national standards, which focus on creating, performing and responding; and of Colorado standards, which focus on expression, creation, theory, and aesthetic valuation of music. Evaluation of students will be carried out via formative and summative measures. We have attached our working curriculum with detailed benchmarks for both program and student success.

The program's overall success will be measured by a retention rate of 85% or greater (which will help us see whether the program is sustainable beyond spring 2022); successful development of equipment and additional partnerships with venues, instructors, and community partners; student skill growth; and audience feedback about gained understanding of Mariachi and Mexican culture.

**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?

IHDF and the CMA are launching this program to serve those interested out of 625 Dreamer Scholars and their families who live in Boulder County, which includes Boulder, Lafayette, Longmont, and east Longmont (Weld County). IHDF’s office is located in Boulder, with five of its 12 classes (42% of students) located in Boulder. The CMA (and Colorado Music Festival) is also a Boulder-based organization. This application is specifically for the Boulder components of this program and any and all BAC funds received would be allocated to programming in Boulder, including the culminating performances.

We are also applying to the BAC because we believe that despite this program’s strengths and obvious importance, gaining traction in the mainstream of Boulder may be more challenging without the seal of approval from a group with your prestige. We would also be grateful for added visibility provided by the Commission’s partnership and especially look forward to feedback on our program as part of this application process. We would intend to leverage this $10,000 gift into additional support from other funders, helping to ensure the long-term sustainability of the program beyond 2021-22. Thank you for considering this request.

**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.

No
**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

**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

**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

**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".

- Support materials.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*
Perla Delgado

Submission date*
02/15/2021

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.pdf
- Venue confirmation letter.pdf
- Collaborator list.pdf
- Letters of support.pdf
- Support materials.pdf
## FULL EXPENSES - ENTIRE PROGRAM

36 weeks of instruction, fall 2021 and spring 2022

### CITY OF BOULDER PORTION

42% of full program, as 42% of IHDF’s students are in Boulder

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### REVENUE

- Boulder Arts Commission: $10,000
- Individual Donors: $7,460
- Other Grants: $8,660
- IHDF Parent/Caregiver Optional Fundraising Contribution ($25/student): $1,500
- SeiSolo Foundation (secured): $15,000

**TOTAL**: $42,620

**BALANCE**: $0

*Total is based on cost of group lessons per week (each semester) @ $27/lesson per instructor. This is an estimate, based on approx. $180/wk per instructor. This will vary depending on enrollment.

** $0.55 mileage rate * 8 round-trips * 10 months * 4 instructors
January 27, 2021

Elizabeth McGuire
Executive Director
Colorado Music Festival & Center for Musical Arts

Dear Liz,

I am pleased to hear that CMF&CMA is partnering with IHAD Foundation to create a "Mariachi in the Mainstream" program for grades 5 and above.

As you know, my passion for music education is still very much alive and we would be delighted to host one of the first public performances at the Dairy Arts Center in May of 2022.

What a great service to our community with possibilities for our own programmatic additions. Thank you so much for all you do.

All my best,

Melissa Fathman
Executive Director
Dairy Arts Center
Collaborator List

In collaboration with “I Have A Dream” Foundation of Boulder County, the Center for Musical Arts proposes to create a community program unique in Boulder County (and possibly the region). The two organizations will share staff and resources, combining efforts to ensure a quality program that educates and enlightens Boulder County citizens.

PLEASE NOTE: We’ve also attached our Contract which details the parameters of our relationship.

“I Have A Dream” Foundation of Boulder County

Dr. Perla Delgado
Title: CEO & Executive Director
Contact Information: perla.delgado@ihaveadreamboulder.org

Dr. Perla Delgado comes to “I Have A Dream” with decades of leadership experience advocating for education equity and social justice. A Boulder native, she began working in the local community in high school and then later was employed by Emergency Family Assistance and Community Action Programs in Boulder. Perla will be joining the IHDF team by way of St. Edward’s University in Austin, Texas, where she served as the Director and Principal Investigator of the College Assistance Migrant Program. She holds a Ph.D. in Education from Texas State University.

Mario Martinez-Vareles
Title: Program Director, Griffin Class
Contact Information: mario.martinez@ihaveadreamboulder.org

Mario is Program Director for the Griffin Class, currently based at Centaurus High School in Lafayette. He served as the La Vista Program Director at Alicia Sanchez Elementary before assuming his current role. He earned a bachelor’s degree in International Affairs with minors in Leadership and Political Science from the University of Colorado-Boulder. Prior to joining IHDF in 2018, Mario worked with at-risk students in Boulder County.
Kathy Kucsan  
Title: CMA Co-Founder/Education Director  
Contact Information: kathyk@comusic.org

Kathryn Kucsan, Ph.D. is Co-Founder and Education Director of the Center for Musical Arts. She has 35 years of teaching experience in music, from K-12 through the undergraduate level. Dr. Kucsan was the Boulder County appointee and Vice-Chair to the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) Board of Directors, and is a member of the Advisory Board to the American Music Research Center (AMRC) at the University of Colorado College of Music. Past service includes the Boulder County Cultural Council, the Denver Foundation Arts & Culture Committee, and numerous grant review panels. Dr. Kucsan holds a BME from Indiana University, and a Master of Music Education and PhD from the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Alex Sierra  
Title: alexsierra29@gmail.com  
Contact Information: Voice and Piano Instructor

Alex Sierra has been teaching voice and piano at the Center for Musical Arts since 2002. He is an active performer throughout the Front Range, with concerts ranging from oratorios to Opera on Tap. Mr. Sierra conducts the CMA’s Coro Santuario, coaches local mariachi groups, and has students ranging in age from 10 to 74. Mr. Sierra holds a Master of Music from the University of Colorado-Boulder College of Music.

Elizabeth McGuire  
Title: Executive Director  
Contact Information: elizabeth@comusic.org

Having worked as a professional musician, Elizabeth's full-time administrative career began in 2004 as manager of the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestras. She became executive director of the Tuscaloosa Symphony where her service was recognized by an official Proclamation from the city's mayor. When her family transferred to the front range in 2013, she was named executive director the Cheyenne Symphony and has held her current position since 2016.

Elizabeth studied music performance at Western Carolina University and the University of Alabama. She received additional arts administration education at Florida State University and the Harvard Kennedy School of Nonprofit Management.
February 10th, 2021

Boulder Arts Commission:

My name is Jenny Peralta and I am a Dreamer Scholar in the I Have A Dream Foundation of Boulder County. During my time in the program I have simultaneously been a singer in my church’s choir. This led to a blooming passion for music and the power that it holds. With the support of my family and friends I was able to pursue this interest to various degrees.

I wholeheartedly support the partnership between IHDF and the CMA to create a Mariachi in the Mainstream program for Dreamer Scholars, and only wish I had the opportunity to participate. My personal growth and passion for music is something I would love to share with younger Dreamer Scholars in hopes that they can gain something from it as well. I hope in the near future I am able to volunteer and help in the continuation of such a program and mentor Dreamer Scholars in their pursuit of music.

Sincerely,

Jenny Peralta
Centaurus High School Class of 2021
Griffin Dreamer Scholar
February 4th, 2021

Boulder Arts Commission:

I write this letter on behalf of my organization, the “I Have A Dream” Foundation of Boulder County, to support the Mariachi in the Mainstream project grant application that they have submitted. As a Program Director with the organization my first hand experiences have demonstrated the impact and importance of the arts in the lives of Dreamer Scholars. Beginning in elementary through high school the pursuit and enjoyment of the arts allows our students to cultivate a sense of wonder, exploration, and self motivation to develop their craft to a higher level.

Channeling these sentiments through the Mariachi music style we aim to engage with our predominantly Latino community. To further explore cultural heritage and celebrate the diversity that in turn can help bring us together. Partnering with the Center for Musical Arts we hope to call on their music education, instrument, and performance expertise to ensure a sustainable and successful program.

As a Program Director for the I Have A Dream Foundation of Boulder County, I am confident that our network and organizational strength will lead to a program that will be celebrated and respected within our community.

Sincerely,

Mario Martinez-Varelas
Program Director- Griffin
"I Have A Dream" Foundation of Boulder County
5390 Manhattan Circle #200, Boulder, CO 80303
720-335-9301 | mario.martinez@ihaveadreamboulder.org
www.IHaveADreamBoulder.org
January 29, 2021

Boulder Arts Commission:

I am pleased to write this letter for the “I Have A Dream” Foundation of Boulder County’s application to support the Mariachi in the Mainstream project grant. As a deeply rooted collaboration between our two organizations, this project is aimed at providing musical opportunities that, if supported, will make a tremendous impact on the lives of each participant by embracing and publicly celebrating this rich and culturally expressive music.

By supporting IHDF’s network of families, exceptional staff and proven ability to communicate and logistically implement large-scale programs married with the Colorado Music Festival & Center for Musical Arts’ musical expertise, ability to acquire instruments and present concert programs to the community, this project has the potential to expand and become a centerpiece of Boulder’s musical activities.

As a long-time partner of the “I Have A Dream” Foundation, I am more than confident in their qualifications and commitment to carry out this project. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth McGuire
Executive Director
elizabeth@comusic.org
303-665-0599 x101
Introduction/Summary
Mariachi music is a folk music genre from Mexico, originating in the mid-late 1700s. Various combinations of trumpet, harp, violin, guitar, vihuela, guitarrón, and vocals typically comprise mariachi ensembles, and groups range in size, generally depending on available musicians. Mariachi music is played for celebrations, religious gatherings, entertainment, fiestas, parades, and more. It has become known as quintessential Mexican music, famous for its distinctive sound and energy.

Mariachi is designated by UNESCO as “a practice, representation, expression, knowledge, or skill considered…to be part of a place’s cultural heritage.” Mariachi is not geography-specific and Mariachi can be found in many parts of Mexico and is not specific to a particular region. In the US, Mariachi began to grow in popularity in the early 20th Century. Mariachi groups can be found in many areas of the US, and some public school systems (Texas, Arizona, California) have established robust, standards-based mariachi programs. Colorado has several programs associated with public schools as well as stand-alone community programs.

On November 24, 2020, Google celebrated mariachi with a Doodle and a Doodle video: https://www.google.com/doodles/celebrating-mariachi

Program Description
In creating this program, the Center for Musical Arts recognizes the absence of Mexican culture reflected in the schools and local arts organizations. Respect and authenticity define this program, as do US national music education standards (creating, performing, responding) and Colorado state music education standards (creation, expression, theory, aesthetic valuation). Mariachi requires skill both on an instrument and vocally. This curriculum is sequential, and will increase in complexity as the program progresses and expands. Students will learn both by rote and traditional music notation, which will establish music literacy for more advanced ensembles. Mariachi style/forms represented are: Ranchera, Bolero, Son Jaliscience, and Son Huasteco. For the first semester of the program, 5th grade students will choose an instrument and will be assigned to groups of 6-10. Each group will have a weekly mariachi session that consists of a group instrumental lesson followed by a vocal session. In the second semester, a 45-minute ensemble rehearsal will be included, increasing the instructional time from 60 minutes to 105 minutes total.
According to Rachel Yvonne Cruz (author of The Art of Mariachi - a Curriculum Guide), “There should be no difference between teaching a beginning band, orchestra, or choir class from teaching beginning mariachi class. True, the mariachi ensemble incorporates different instruments that are not found in the band or choir: however, the theory, vocabulary, notation, sight-reading, the theoretical components of music learning should be consistent through all ensembles.”

Educational Environment
Learning is student-centered, meaning that the educational environment will be positive, student-focused (the learner is seen, appreciated, respected and validated), and based on positive interpersonal relationships. Lessons and rehearsals will take place at the CMA (for east county groups), and in Boulder (at 1-2 elementary schools and 1-2 Boulder Housing Partners locations). The space requirements include four separate teaching rooms (smaller for group lessons and a larger space for singing class). There will be 12-15 students in each cohort group. Space should be secure and free from outside noise and distractions.

Goals
- Establish a strong mariachi presence in Boulder County and the region
- Include as many interested students as resources available
- Provide a robust music learning experience for students of all backgrounds and abilities
- Build curriculum on US music education standards as well as Colorado state music education standards, and provide formative and summative assessments
- Provide authentic learning and performance opportunities
- Promote mariachi, creating awareness and visibility in the community

Instructional Objectives
- Students will understand, through learning and experience, the importance, history, and significance of mariachi music
- Students will have the opportunity to learn from high caliber instructors in a dedicated music learning environment
- Students will gain skill, technique and the ability to play a musical instrument
- Students will develop the ability to match pitch, learn and memorize melodic sequences, and sing authentically in the mariachi style
- Students will experience personal growth, develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, and deepen their understanding of music overall

Performance Objectives
- Students will gain proficiency on mariachi instruments and in singing in the mariachi style (see attached rubric)
- Students will demonstrate learning by engaging in in frequent community events and performances, starting in the first semester of instruction
- Student ensembles will appear at civic and community events, creating visibility for the program as well as awareness of mariachi
Sample Schedule
Boulder sites - elementary school (TBD), Boulder Housing Partners (TBD)
Four groups total, 60 students

Semester 1 - 60"/weekly
(schedule is identical for both locations)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 - 4:30 Group Lessons</td>
<td>4:00 - 4:30 Singing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:45 - 5:15 Singing</td>
<td>4:45 - 5:15 Group Lessons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Group lessons on trumpet, violin and guitar will be taught by 2 teachers for each instrument. Each group will have 2-3 students. (It may be possible to have one group of 5 per instrument, depending on student aptitude.

Benchmarks for Success
Program Success
- Retention rate of 85% or greater
- Successful development in terms of equipment, resources: additional funds ($20k) raised; sourcing 20 trumpets, 10 vihuelas, 10 guitarrones, 6 arpas. (violins already on hand can be used by the mariachi program)
- Student growth indicates expansion of program to middle school level within one year; by retaining 30+ rising sixth-graders (who participated as fifth-graders and have experienced year one of the program)

Student Success
- By the end of Semester 1, students will be able perform 3 mariachi songs by memory in their cohorts
- Students will be able to:
  - Play at least a one-octave chromatic scale on their instrument
  - Adequately tune violin, guitar
- Individual successes include gaining skill and technique on their instruments as well as skill and confidence in vocal performance (see attached rubric)
- Students will experience personal growth, confidence and pride through participation
- Students will gain awareness of Mariachi culture, sharing it with immediate and extended family as well as school communities

Materials
Tuning Guides: Vihuela, Guitarrón
Print Music: ¡Simplimente Mariachi! Method Book (Northeastern Music Publications)
Mariachi Program  
Student Progress Tracking – Semester 1  
Student ________________ Instrument ________________  
School: ________________ Group: ________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL 1</th>
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<th>October 1</th>
<th>November 1</th>
<th>December 1</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>Trumpet</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sound production</td>
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<tr>
<td>ID 4 meter</td>
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<td>ID bolero ranchera pattern</td>
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<td><strong>Vocals</strong></td>
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<td>Pitch matching</td>
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<td>Repeat warmups</td>
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## Mariachi Program

### Student Progress Tracking – Semester 1

**Student** ______________  
**Instrument** ________________

**School:** _______________  
**Group:** ____________________

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<thead>
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<tr>
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Mariachi Program
Student Progress Tracking – Semester 1
Student ___________________________ Instrument ___________________________
School: ___________________________ Group: ___________________________

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AGREEMENT

"I Have A Dream" Foundation of Boulder County
and the Center for the Musical Arts

This Agreement is made and entered into as of February 1, 2021, between the "I Have A Dream" Foundation of Boulder County (IHDF) and the Center for the Musical Arts (CMA).

1. **Purpose** IHDF and CMA desire to join efforts and leverage their expertise to increase the collaboration on the shared goal of creating Mariachi ensembles and delivering high-quality Mariachi-related instrument and voice lessons to Dreamer Scholars. We will collaborate to provide music lessons and instruments to approximately 60 IHDF student participants (“Dreamer Scholars”) in the IHDF programs, based throughout Boulder County. The SeiSolo Foundation is providing seed funding of $15,000 for one year to cover the budget of this program, and we are also seeking additional funding to support other costs.

2. **Description of Agreement** IHDF and CMA will each appoint at least one person to serve as the official contact that will coordinate and oversee the activities of each organization in carrying out this Agreement. The initial appointees are:

"I Have A Dream" Foundation of Boulder County
5390 Manhattan Circle #200 Boulder, Colorado 80303

Perla Delgado, Ph.D. (grant appointee) CEO and Executive Director
Phone: 512-318-0449 E-mail: perla.delgado@ihaveadreamboulder.org

Mario Martinez (program appointee), Program Director of Griffin Class
Phone: 720-335-9301 Email: mario.martinez@ihaveadreamboulder.org
1) Responsibilities:
IHDF will: a) Invite Dreamer Scholars families (including siblings) to the Meet the Instruments event. b) Provide a list of Dreamer Scholar Scholars and their parents contact information for those who will participate in the music lessons (up to 26 for the Griffin Dreamer Scholar Class and/or another Dreamer Scholar Class). c) Hire and manage a driver to transport Dreamer Scholars to classes and performance outings. d) Coordinate at least one or more outings for Dreamer Scholars to attend a symphony, ballet, or other performance. e) Will invoice CMA once for the agreed upon funding to cover transportation, outing and program coordination costs. f) Invite Dreamer Scholar musicians to events if available.

Center for Musical Arts will: a) Provide music instructors, instruments, and materials for each Dreamer Scholar participating in this program b) Organize an introduction / Meet the instruments for Dreamer Scholar families as required. c) Collect deposits and registration forms from families to help cover cost of Dreamer Scholars missing a class. d) Invite Dreamer Scholars to community performances. e) Provide music instructors name, contact information, and program site location schedule. f) Provide appropriate background screening for music instructors. g) Record actual program attendance. h) Follow up with Dreamer Scholars and parents when a student misses a class or rehearsal. i) Inform IHDF staff when a class gets cancelled to change transportation arrangement.

2) Funding:
This one-year project is being provided through a grant from the SeiSolo Foundation of $15,000. This Agreement is contingent upon receipt of such funds. Each Party shall fulfill its respective obligations at its own cost, without contribution from the other Party. Other funding will be sought so the program can run at its fullest imagining.
3) Confidential Information:
With respect to each organization: any personal information pertinent to the Dreamer Scholars or any staff member, volunteer, or other person affiliated with the IHDF and/or CMA organizations; and any technical and non-technical information, whether communicated orally or in writing, including, without limitation, patent, copyright, trade secret and proprietary information related to the current, future or proposed products, services or projects of either organization and includes, without limitation, information concerning research, development, design details and specifications, business forecasts and sales and marketing plans and any derivatives for the foregoing; and instructional materials, training materials, curriculum and lesson plans, and any other materials developed by either organization, or its employees, agents or subcontractors, or any individual working for or supervised by either organization, and any information that either organization treats or maintains as confidential, proprietary, restricted or otherwise as not to be disclosed generally.

All confidential information created solely by either organization will be the property of that organization, except that such organization hereby grants the other rights to have access to and use the Confidential Information of the disclosing organization for the purposes of fulfilling its obligations under this Agreement.

An organization will not disclose Confidential Information of the other organization to any third parties without the prior written consent of the disclosing organization, except as may be reasonably required for the accomplishment of provisions in this Agreement. The CMA will retain ownership of the content it allows IHDF and program participants to use, with the understanding that the content can be accessed by students, parents, schools, partners, and college organizations.

CMA and IHDF will jointly own content that is created through collaborative efforts. An organization will not use or distribute any content to third parties without the prior written consent of the other organization, understanding that it is the mission of both organizations to impact as many students and communities as possible.

5. Insurance/Indemnification
A) During the term of this Agreement, each party shall, at their expense, maintain in full force and effect Commercial General Liability insurance with minimum combined limits of ONE MILLION DOLLARS ($1,000,000) for each occurrence and ONE MILLION DOLLARS ($1,000,000) aggregate. The policy shall be applicable to all premises and operations. The policy shall include coverage for bodily injury, broad form property damage (including completed operations), personal injury (including coverage for
contractual and employee acts), blanket contractual, independent contractors, products, and completed operations. The policy shall include coverage for explosion, collapse and underground hazards. The policy shall name the other party to this agreement, its employees and agents as additional insureds for the purposes of the matters covered by this agreement, shall be on an "occurrence" basis, and shall include waiver of subrogation provisions.

B) Each party shall maintain Workers' Compensation insurance to cover obligations imposed by applicable laws for any of their respective employees engaged in the performance of work under this Agreement.

C) Each Party shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other party, and its agents and employees from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to attorneys' fees, arising out of or resulting from this Agreement, provided that any such claim, damage, loss or expense (i) is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property including the loss of use resulting therefrom, and (ii) is caused, or alleged to have been caused, in whole or in part, by any negligent act or omission of that Party, any subcontractor of that Party, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable.

6. Miscellaneous

A) The parties agree to not use, or arrange any third-party use, any publicity technique or program that the other party reasonably determines may injure it or any affiliated program or the goodwill associated within the Areas of Agreement.

B) Each organization will seek the input of the other organization before launching any media campaign or special event related to the Areas of Agreement, during the term.

C) This Agreement is the entire understanding between the organizations regarding the subject matter hereof, and may be altered, changed, added to, deleted from or modified only by agreement in writing, approved by both organizations.

D) This Agreement will be governed by, construed, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of Colorado, without giving effect to the principles of conflicts of law thereof.

E) Each organization will comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, orders or other requirements of Colorado and any governmental authority relating to the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

F) This Agreement may not be assigned, delegated, transferred, pledged, or hypothecated by either organization, whether voluntary or involuntary, without the prior written consent of the other organization. This Agreement will inure to the benefit of and will be binding upon the organizations and their permitted successors and assigns.
G) This Agreement does not constitute, and will not be construed as constituting, a partnership or joint venture between the organizations.
H) The organizations agree that they will execute and deliver or cause to be executed and delivered from time to time such other documents and will take such other actions as the other organization reasonably may require to more fully and efficiently carry out the terms and spirit of this Agreement.
I) This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which will be deemed to be an original and both together will be deemed to be one and the same Agreement.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, IHDF and Center for Musical Arts have executed and delivered this Agreement as of the date first written above.

"I HAVE A DREAM" FOUNDATION OF BOULDER COUNTY
By: Perla Delgado, Ph.D
Title: CEO and Executive Director
Date: 2/10/20221
Signature: 

CENTER FOR MUSICAL ARTS
By: Elizabeth McGuire
Title: Executive Director
Date: 1/30/2021
Signature: 

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