

Urbana **POPS** Orchestra

*lays well
with others*

Public Arts Coordinator
City of Urbana, Public Arts Program
Community Development Services
400 S. Vine Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801
ArtsGrant@urbanaininois.us

Sept. 30, 2017

Dear Public Arts Coordinator,

I hereby certify that I am authorized to approve this Report, which serves as a Request for Reimbursement, that I have reviewed the attached invoices in the amount of \$1,907.50; that all costs claimed have been incurred for the Project in accordance with the Agreement between Urbana Pops Orchestra and the CITY OF URBANA; that all submitted invoices have been paid; and no costs included herein have been previously submitted.

Sincerely,

Debra Levey Larson

(217-979-1910; debra@urbanapops.org)

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Urbana Pops Orchestra—207 W. California, Urbana, IL 61801





plays well with others!

Post Project Evaluation, September 30, 2017

Accomplishment and Use of Funding – Urbana Pops Orchestra (UPO) offered three recitals and two concerts completely free of charge to the community in 2017.

Cartoons in Concert was held on Saturday, June 10 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium at Urbana High School. This concert had several highlights: The winning piece from the Composition Contest 18-and-over senior division was performed. The piece by Chicagoan Christopher Cozzi was titled *Call of the Blood Moon*. This was the fifth year that UPO performed the winning composition of young composers. Associate Conductor Stephen Larson was also the guest artist for the June concert, singing *If I Can't Love Her* from *Beauty and the Beast* with the orchestra.

Made in the USA was held on Saturday, July 15 in the in the auditorium at Urbana High School. The winning piece from the Composition Contest under-18 junior division was performed. The piece by Willowbrook's Isabella Spinelli was titled *Elbrus: A Tone Poem*. Spinelli was in attendance and recognized at the concert.

Another fun addition was the march *Colonel Bogey* by Kenneth Alford. This march was made popular when used in the movie *Bridge over River Kwai*. For this piece, Principal Conductor Daniel Southerland had the orchestra members play the theme, then coached the audience on whistling it. During the piece, Southerland cued the audience whenever it was time to whistle.

Rounding out the evening were excerpts from this year's Urbana Park District's Youth Summer Theatre production of *Seussical* performed by cast members and accompanied by music specially arranged for the full orchestra. For both concerts, enthusiastic audiences packed the high school auditorium.

Impact of Grant Funding – Although people in every profession expect to be paid for their work, for some reason, people believe musicians should play for free. This is strange, given that it takes about 10,000 hours of practice and expensive lessons to be able to play an instrument at a high-proficiency level. Due to the complexity of its music, UPO is not a volunteer-only orchestra and pays its adult musicians a very small stipend. With an orchestra of UPO's size, even a small stipend adds up to a sizeable amount—much more than local fundraising can accomplish.

The size of this year's City of Urbana Arts Grant paid for the personnel for almost one entire concert. It cannot be stressed enough what an enormous help this was to this year's finances. And, it should be noted that while other orchestras charge students a fee, UPO student musicians are mentored by professionals, given special student-only rehearsals, and are not charged a fee to participate—also, thanks to the Urbana arts grant.

The number of hours spent in completing the project – over 1,000 (see attached sheet). These hours do not include the practice and performance hours of UPO’s musicians.

The number of participants in events or activities – *Cartoons in Concert* featured 51 paid professional musicians, 12 student interns, and approximately 225 people in the audience. *Made in the USA* included 48 pros, 4 students, 36 Park District cast members, and an audience of approximately 200 people.

UPO provided the pit orchestra for Urbana Park District’s Youth Summer Theatre performance of *The Seussical*, which included a cast of over 60 youth and were supported by 6 professional musicians and 1 student, assuring a solid sound. *Seussical’s* four performances entertained a total of approximately 1,200 audience members.

Attendance at the three free recitals at Urbana Free Library ranged from 35 to 80 per recital, each attracting a very range of people—from babes in arms to over 80. Many were unfamiliar with Urbana Pops Orchestra and knew the recitalist or had stumbled on the recitals as a result of the music wafting up the staircase.

Community Collaborations – UPO has very successful ongoing collaborative agreements with the Urbana Park District, Urbana School District #116, and Urbana Free Library—promoting and co-hosting recitals in their lower-level auditorium.

UPO simply would not exist without these collaborators. Taken alone, the fact that USD #116 provides the practice and concert space and use of percussion instruments, chairs, and music stands would amount to a sum this organization could never raise –even for just one concert.

This year’s pit orchestra for *Seussical* is a wonderful way for UPO each year to remember its roots in this community and support Urbana’s youth musical theatre efforts. Urbana Park District provides \$500 toward the pit, pays UPO postage for the fall mailing, and covers the cost of criminal background checks for musicians 18 and over. These are also big costs that would be difficult to pay.

A new collaborator this year is the Community Center for the Arts—C4A. Several educational podcasts were produced using C4A facilities and musicians.

Additional Information – The 2017 UPO season was particularly satisfying because of the ability to offer all 3 recitals and both concerts absolutely free to the public. At each event, there were many seniors and families with several small children – populations that often cannot fit this caliber of live entertainment into their tight budgets.

The accessibility of UPO’s programs allows listeners to experience familiar music in a new way. This year’s *Cartoons in Concert* played pieces such as Wagner’s *Ride of the Valkyries*—music that many may only associate with Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd could be appreciated in a new way from seeing and hearing a live performance.

UPO Composition Contest offers an extremely unique educational opportunity for young composers.. The winning piece in the senior division in this year’s composition contest was premiered at the June

concert and the winning piece in the junior division was premiered at the July concert. Facilitating the composition contest is an extra unfunded program sponsored by UPO that promotes and supports music education. In addition, every contest entrant, not just the winners, receives personal notes from the professional adjudicators.

This year, UPO's free recital series --one recital on the second Sunday of February, March, and April in The Urbana Free Library-- offered a wide variety of music. Each month a UPO principal musician performed for about an hour. February- Tamra Gingold, violin; March-Christopher Raymond, bassoon; and April-Robin Kearton, viola. Student musicians performed alongside the adult soloists at each recital. This year, because of the grant and generous donors, UPO was able to offer each of the adult musicians a small stipend.

Name	Planning	Administration	Promotion	Production	Concerts	Individual Total	
Daniel		72	160	9	84	30	355
Stephen		30	34	1	200	30	295
John		16	8	8	48	10	90
Debra		30	48	16	22	8	124
Liesel		14	10				24
Richard			16			4	20
Kellie			15			2	17
Eve		10	15			2	27
Mark			15			2	17
Diane			15			2	17
Sheri			10			4	14
Tim			15		20	10	45
Sub total		172	361	34	374	104	
					grand total		1045

Urbana Pops Orchestra presents

Music from family-friendly animated classics including
Looney Tunes, Beauty & the Beast, Toy Story, Prince of Egypt, & Frozen

“Cartoons in Concert!”

Saturday, June 10, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Urbana High School Auditorium

1002 S. Race St.



urbanapops.org



plays well with others!

This program is supported in part by a City of Urbana Arts Grant. Affiliated with Urbana Park District and Urbana School District #116.

Urbana Pops Orchestra presents

MADE IN THE USA

A Celebration of American Music

Featuring Urbana Park District Youth Summer Theatre Cast of **"Seussical"**



Saturday, July 15 at 7:00 PM
Urbana High School Auditorium
1002 S. Race St.



urbanapops.org



plays well with others!

This program is supported in part by a City of Urbana Arts Grant. Affiliated with Urbana Park District and Urbana School District #116.

GRANT AWARD FORM

Grant Award Form: Please complete the Project Questions below and include this page in your

Final Report materials submitted to the address below.

The information provided in question #1 - 5 should be the same as the information on your Urbana Arts Grant Agreement with the City.

1. **GRANTEE:** Name of Applicant or Primary Contact:

Urbana Pops Orchestra (Debra Levey Larson)

Address: 207 W. California, Urbana, IL 61801

Project Title: Urbana Pops Orchestra 2017 Season

2. **TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDS AWARDED:** \$3,815.000

3. **TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED TO DATE:** \$1,907.50

4. **GRANT PERIOD:** April 1, 2017 through April 1 2018.

5. **EXPENDITURE DEADLINE:** ____ August 15, 2017 ____.

6. **DATE OF PROJECT COMPLETION:** _ July 15, 2017.

Urbana Pops Orchestra and Urbana Free Library present

Recital Series

Sunday, February 12

Tamra Gingold, violin

with students from Urbana High School

Sunday, March 12

Christopher Raymond, bassoon

Sunday, April 9

Robin Kearton, viola

with students from Community Center for the Arts

**urbana
pops**
Orchestra

Free Admission

2:00 pm at Urbana Free Library

210 W Green St, Urbana

urbanapops.org

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency through federal funds provided by the National Endowment for the Arts. Affiliated with Urbana Park District and Urbana School District #116.



Urbana Pops Orchestra
2017 Finances

2017

INCOME

Donations from Fall mailing	\$4,896.00	
Concert tickets	\$0.00	
Concessions	\$0.00	
Donations	\$2,376.00	
Grants - Urbana Arts Council	\$1,907.50	2nd half due after final report submitted
Pit Orchestra Compensation	\$500.00	
escrp	\$37.26	
Amazon Smile	\$47.60	

TOTAL INCOME \$7,856.86 plus \$1907.5 = \$9764.36

EXPENSES

Administrative Supplies	\$0.00	
Membership Dues		due to BMI - approx. \$224
Misc		
Musicians	\$7,630.00	
Sheet Music	\$178.00	
Venue janitorial/tech/staff fees	\$1,326.25	
Venue Insurance	\$562.00	

TOTAL EXPENSES \$9,696.25