Humanities/Arts Examples

Title: [Student name redacted] - Choreography Project

Project Description:
The intent of this 15-20 minute dance choreography project is to delve into the concept that people can encounter the same event and yet have completely different experiences depending on their personal values, past experiences, and individual perspectives. To aid in conceptual development and enhance the physicality of the contemporary choreography piece, I will use textile design and physical elements, including bleachers, mirrors, walls, and curtains, which I have not had the opportunity to explore in depth while at ECU during the pandemic. As the dancers move through the visual environment, the space will serve as an active influencer on the dancers’ experiences of the depicted event. The hard, stone walls will represent feelings of anxiety and insecurity; the soft, flowing curtain will be used to show curiosity and observation, and the mirrors will illustrate confidence and ambition. Additionally, as an enterprising costume designer and seamstress, I will design and construct all elements of the textile set design and costuming. I want to experiment with a piece of fabric that spans across the entire stage; starting attached to a dancer like a skirt, this massive mesh fabric will detach from the dancer and then be used by the cast to aid in lifts, partnering, and movement invention. Additionally, the skirt will be made to attach to other dancers’ costumes to demonstrate a shift in perspective within the narrative of the work. To further demonstrate variations in perspective, a phrase of choreography will be presented in various ways to demonstrate contrasting experiences of a singular event. The piece will present a collaboration of multiple elements that together strengthen the overall meaning of the work. I plan to make the contemporary piece into a dance film as well as holding an in-person showing in the Archie Burnette Studio Theater on campus.

Budget Requested: Assistantship $750 and Other Expenses $750; Total of $1500

Other Expenses Description:
$622 -- This would be used to purchase spandex and mesh fabric for the costumes. I hope to have 12-15 dancers depending on the specific costume design I commit to and how much financial support I need per costume. This would give me $41-51 per costume. I will order fabric from Blue Moon Fabric.
--$10 for elastic for costumes
--$14 for 4 thread spools to match the costumes
--$335 for spandex for costumes
--$263 for mesh for costumes

$128 -- This would be used for the fabric for the expansive skirt that would also be used as a prop. I will need at least 9 yards of fabric at $14 a yard.
Title: "Regrowing Pains" The story of the unwishing star.

Project Description:
This play takes place during the start of spring break on the college campus of University of Georgia. The following friend group consisting of Erin, Candice, Lincoln (Link), Daniella, go through big problems when Erin explodes at them and turns them away. Erin unknowingly makes a wish on a shooting star for her friends to grow up. She awakens the next day to notice her friends are acting strange and very childish. She eventually realizes what she has done and has to find a way to bring her friends back to their regular selves in order to stop them from turning back into babies and in time to save them from not existing anymore. She is forced to team up with her biggest competition Nina, an equally smart and dedicated student. In the end Erin learns the lesson of appreciating what she has before it is too late in the race to save what she has called.

This story brings the attention of compromise within friendships, it brings together very different individuals to show the true light of friends within our world. My goal is to bring together the idea of the love within a friendship and the stakes and boundaries we take in our friendships. I hope to bring to the light some serious topics to my audience ask questions within their friend groups and what makes someone a true caring friend.

Budget Requested: Assistantship $500 and Other Expenses $370; Total of $870

Other Expenses Description:
Programs for the show (about 50 programs)
$40-$50
Staples website

Science kit for biology project
$30
Amazon

Lights
$40
Amazon

Banners for Frat party
$100
Stables website/Amazon

Props
$150
Amazon

Total requested for supplies and props
$370
Title: Understanding the Impacts of a Pandemic through the eyes of Students

Project Description:
In March of 2020, COVID-19 reached the United States and had unprecedented social, economic, and environmental impacts across the country. In order to understand the impacts of COVID-19 on the community of Eastern North Carolina using photovoice (Wang & Burris, 1997), we are going to analyze 120 photos and narratives collected from students in SOCW 3402 Applied Research and Statistics in Social Work in Spring 2021 and more data that will be collected from the same course in Spring 2022 (PIs: Drs. Jennie Ann Cole and Mi Hwa Lee). Specifically, we want to understand how social work students have experienced the pandemic and viewed its impacts on their community. The photo and narratives will be analyzed using thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006) to identify common themes. We also are going to apply system theory (Ludwig von Bertalanffy, 1940) while analyzing the data. Systems theory allows us to analyze how all the different factors at different levels of society work together to affect an individual's wellbeing. This theory will help us to see impacted society on a myriad of levels (i.e., individual level, community level, and society at large). We can see how the flaws in our systems interact with the strengths in other systems in order to be better prepared for future crises. While we are aware of our personal impacts of the pandemic, it is imperative that we look beyond ourselves and explore how others in our community were affected personally and as a community in order to discover the full magnitude of the pandemic. This project is important and timely because as we look towards future policies regarding public health crises it is important to reflect on what the shortcomings were and what effect they had in order to be better prepared for the future. One of the final products will be selected photos and narratives to be exhibited at several locations including on the ECU campus and venues in Pitt and Beaufort Counties. These exhibits will allow the greater community to challenge their views on the pandemic and create empathy for underserved groups that need greater protection in future crises. The Puffin Foundation, which grants money to expand artistic expression, has provided funding for these exhibits. We will also assist with the implementation of these exhibits. ECU’s IRB board determined on 11/19/2021 that this project does not meet the requirements for human subjects research.

Budget Requested: Assistantship $1000 each for each of two investigators; Total of $2000.

Other Expenses Description: NA