

Boundary Musical Theatre Society



Box 519
Grand Forks, B.C
VoHiHo

bmatsociety@gmail.com

To The Members of the Grand Forks City Council,

On behalf of the board members of Boundary Musical & Theatre Society, I am writing this letter to request that you consider partnering with our nonprofit group to establish a permanent home for our Society. Boundary Musical & Theatre Society was established in 2006 in the city of Grand Forks and has been an active force within the community for the past twelve years. With every year and every new production we have shown growth and contributed to the enjoyment of activities within the community. We feel that we foster a growing appreciation for the art of theatre within our city while also making use of, and shining a light on, the various skills and talents of our local resident casts and crews. Our participants have ranged in age from four to eighty and also include persons of diverse abilities.

It has become an increasing burden upon our Society to have the storage of our sets and costumes, our rehearsal space and our performance space all in different locations. As you may be aware, our storage unit was broken into and robbed twice in the month of January which has also placed additional financial burden upon our recent production of "Beauty and the Beast." Therefore we are hoping to obtain a building within the city that could house all these pertinent spaces in one place. To this end we were wondering if the City might have a building or a property that they could donate or sell very cheaply to us for this purpose. Also it has been brought to our attention that the city is considering building a community center for Grand Forks. We are requesting that you consider the possibility of building a theatre space onto that facility. If the city were to partner with us in this endeavor we could apply for many grants under the mantle of the Arts and Culture to help with the costs of building such a facility. The members of Boundary Musical & theatre Society would also be willing to take on the management of this facility and rent it out to other Arts and Culture groups in order to offset the cost of upkeep on the facility.

I am including with this letter a grid prepared for the "Taking the Measure of Culture" Conference at Princeton University in 2002. This was prepared by Joshou Gruetzkow to illustrate the benefits of Arts and Culture upon a community. If after reading this request and the accompanying information, you decide to consider our request to partner with us, or have information that could assist us in this endeavor, please contact either Debbie Battrick at 250-442-9713, or Morgan Strohmman at 250-444-4443.

Thank you for your Time and Consideration,
Debbie F Battrick, Secretary
Boundary Musical & Theatre Society



FILE CODE
WB3
Boundary Musical
& Theatre Society
request for Permanent Home

Table 1: Mechanisms of Arts Impact*

	Individual			Community		
	Material/ Health	Cognitive / Psych.	Interpersonal	Economic	Cultural	Social
Direct Involvement	<p>Builds inter-personal ties and promotes volunteering, which improves health</p> <p>Increases opportunities for self-expression and enjoyment</p> <p>Reduces delinquency in high-risk youth</p>	<p>Increases sense of individual efficacy and self-esteem</p> <p>Improves individuals' sense of belonging or attachment to a community</p> <p>Improves human capital: skills and creative abilities</p>	<p>Builds individual social networks</p> <p>Enhances ability to work with others and communicate ideas</p>	<p>Wages to paid employees</p>	<p>Increases sense of collective identity and efficacy</p>	<p>Builds social capital by getting people involved, by connecting organizations to each other and by giving participants experience in organizing and working with local government and nonprofits.</p>
Audience Participation	<p>Increases opportunities for enjoyment</p> <p>Relieves Stress</p>	<p>Increases cultural capital</p> <p>Enhances visuo-spatial reasoning (Mozart effect)</p> <p>Improves school performance</p>	<p>Increases tolerance of others</p>	<p>People (esp. tourists/visitors) spend money on attending the arts and on local businesses. Further, local spending by these arts venues and patronized businesses has indirect multiplier effects</p>	<p>Builds community identity and pride</p> <p>Leads to positive community norms, such as diversity, tolerance and free expression.</p>	<p>People come together who might not otherwise come into contact with each other</p>
Presence of Artists and Arts Organization & Institutions	<p>Increases individual opportunity and propensity to be involved in the arts</p>			<p>Increases propensity of comm.-unity members to participate in the arts</p> <p>Increases attractiveness of area to tourists, businesses, people (esp. high-skill workers) and investments</p> <p>Fosters a "creative milieu" that spurs economic growth in creative industries.</p> <p>Greater likelihood of revitalization</p>	<p>Improves community image and status</p>	<p>Promotes neighborhood cultural diversity</p> <p>Reduces neighborhood crime and delinquency</p>

* This grid further develops a typology proposed by Kevin McCarthy (2002).