

March 1, 2016



Ms. Hunzie Danee  
Wyoming Arts Council  
2301 Central Ave.  
Barrett Building, Second Floor  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Danee,

The Grand Teton Music Festival began in 1962 to increase the arts in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The mission of the Grand Teton Music Festival is simple, "To provide music to residents and visitors of the Jackson Hole Wyoming area." This mission is fulfilled during the summer season concerts and through programs designed for Community Outreach and off-season connection. One of these programs, and the subject of this grant proposal, is the music education program Tune-Up.

Tune-Up is a collaborative project between the Grand Teton Music Festival and the Teton County School District which provides extra musical instruction during school hours by professional musicians. It exists to further student engagement with and love for the classical music genre in an area which would otherwise offer limited exposure to world-class music. The program operates under the premise that music education increases school attendance, involvement, and performance and it is a vital part of our public education system.

With a decade of proven success, staff at the Grand Teton Music Festival hope to continue our program to involve students in the magic of music, and to improve the program as well. This year we would like to hire two additional instructors to further the specialization our program provides. We also plan to start an annual fund campaign to make the program sustainable. Therefore, please accept this grant proposal requesting \$20,250 which will support the hire of two additional instructors, will provide funds for marketing and curriculum materials, and will also pay for salaries of existing instructors.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your past support. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at 307-733-3050.

Sincerely,

*Andrew P. Todd*

Andrew Palmer Todd  
Executive Director

## **Proposal Narrative**

Tune-Up has been in operation for the past decade. Last year, 7 professional musicians and educators were hired to interact with the over 400 students in the Teton County School District on a weekly basis. This 2016 application seeks to expand the impact of these musicians by hiring two additional instructors in the areas of double reeds and low string instruction. In years prior, the Tune-Up program provided hired a woodwind specialist this instructor for flute and clarinet, and hire a specialist to teach bassoon and oboe. We would like to add to our string teaching team by hiring a cello/bass teacher as well since experience proves specializations within these categories to be important. In total, our teachers will be specialists in violin, viola, cello/bass, percussion, double reed, a flute/clarinet, saxophone, high brass, and a low brass. At present, the new hires have not been identified as their inclusion is dependent on the outcome of this grant proposal.

These nine instructors will work hand-in-hand with local school music teachers to develop a curriculum which enhances public school learning objectives for the year. This planning will take place during two meeting sessions with the teachers, one in August, and the other in December, to plan for the following semester and set appropriate goals. At least monthly, the instructors are required to meet with school teachers for curriculum planning.

The instruction portion of the program will begin in the Teton County School District Schools the week of September 5 and will occur weekly when school is in session until the end of the school year. Tune-up teachers will perform a variety of tasks including presenting masterclasses, holding sectionals, giving private lessons, and sitting side-by-side with students during some rehearsals. Also integrated into the program are mock auditions, two recitals, and written music theory/history lesson and quizzes. Each student should have access to a portion of the program at least once a week during the school year. The salary budget allows for each program teacher to work 8 hours a week total. These hours will be divided up as 5 hours in the high school and 3 hours in the junior high. During recital weeks which are required attendance for the teachers, the 8 hours will be used to prepare for and attend the recitals rather than spent teaching.

Tune-up has been proven to effectively improve musicianship among students and leaves a lasting impression on students, families, and their teachers. Teton County School District Band Director Pete Closson who said, "We are very fortunate to have local musicians such as our Tune-Up instructors, who are not only highly qualified, but who have also made the commitment to what we're all trying to achieve for our students. I've taught in five school districts in three states, and without question, the Tune-Up program is the most beneficial instructional asset I've had. And importantly, it benefits all of the students in our band program."

Tune-Up has already shown impact on the school district. In fact, in 2014 the Teton County High School Band program received the highest ratings in the district band fest. This festival rates all high school band programs in Western Wyoming and Teton County students really

excelled! Also many students in the program are selected each year for All-State Band. It is the belief of the Grand Teton Music Festival staff and the Teton County School District band teachers that the Tune-Up program can continue success and improve this year with the addition of the two new teachers and the new capital fund campaign initiative to make it self-sustainable.

## **Community**

The community of Jackson, Wyoming is less than 10,000 people. The average age of residents is 31.9, a majority of people are caucasian and the median income is \$28,692. Jackson Hole is a tourist area which is one of the reasons the Grand Teton Music Festival has been successful throughout the summer as it is supported by tourists as well as locals of the area. In contrast, the Tune-Up program is truly designed only for this community. It exists to work with and improve love for music in the community throughout the year even though the festival takes place during summer.

The importance of the Tune-Up program stems from the remote location of the Teton County School District and the primary area of service for the Grand Teton Music Festival. The closest professional orchestra to Jackson Hole is the Utah Symphony in Salt Lake City which is a four hour drive. Without the Grand Teton Music Festival, Jackson Hole would be devoid of the classical music genre. The festival brings these professionals to the festival in the summer, and the Tune-Up program provides direct interaction of young music students with professional musicians throughout the school season.

## **Mission/Goals**

Grand Teton Music Festival was founded in 1962 by Jackson Hole Fine Arts Festival to foster classical music experiences for performers and audiences and to improve and enrich the cultural awareness and opportunities for people in Wyoming and the adjacent area. The Tune-Up program is directly aligned with this organizational mission because it brings classical music experiences to children within the Teton County School District. This interaction increases education opportunities and enhances cultural awareness for the students and their relatives. In addition to education, the nature of the Tune-Up program provides an unofficial mentorship program between students and artists. Through the relationships the students build with the artists, they are able to find common ground and often look-up to their artist-mentors.

## Goals and Objectives

1. Provide supplemental music instruction for every student in the Teton County School District's Middle and High School band and orchestra programs.
  - A. Hire two more instrumental instructors to increase individualized instruction capability to 9 teachers
  - B. Collaborate with school faculty to reinforce overarching education concepts, while incorporating school-defined learning priorities in monthly curriculum planning meetings
  - C. Provide individualized instruction on techniques and skills which are unique to each instrument
  - D. Supplement ensemble rehearsals by playing in rehearsals as time allows
2. Develop student appreciation for classical music and reenforce the idea of lifetime learning/enjoyment of music.
  - A. Expose students to classical repertoire, teach about composers and history through the music exposure
  - B. Teach theory and about the compositional process, encourage and require compositions from the students
3. Increase other aspects of students' lives and schooling through the dedication they learn from music. This includes increasing standardized test scores, increasing school attendance, and decreasing dropout rates.
  - A. Develop mentorship relationships with their students
  - B. Encourage active student participation in schools
4. The knowledge of classical music and interaction with artists will increase Grand Teton Music Festival participation, attendance, and donations by students and families.
  - A. Encourage students and parents to volunteer and donate during interactions when appropriate. Initiate an annual capital campaign fund with a goal of \$10,000 raised this year to be used for next year's Tune-Up program. Tickets to recitals will be free, with a suggested donation of \$10 to go towards this fund.
  - B. Offer discounted student ticket rates for members of this program.

## Goal Evaluation

A reiteration of the above-mentioned goals with how the goals will be evaluated (in italics) is listed below.

1. Provide supplemental music instruction for every student in the Teton County School District's Middle and High School band and orchestra programs.

*This will be evaluated through weekly attendance rosters and during planning time the Tune-Up instructor will ensure students have been allowed equal amount of instructional time*

2. Develop student appreciation for classical music and the reenforce the idea of lifetime learning/enjoyment of music

*This will be evaluated through preliminary and final tests and auditions. Quizzes will be administered throughout the semester to help the instructor plan for curriculum so that students will make progress. Video recordings will be administered during the auditions in order to show tangible progress. These videos will be provided to the students and family for self-evaluation as well.*

3. Increase other aspects of students' lives and schooling through the dedication they learn from music. This includes increasing standardized test scores, increasing school attendance, and decreasing dropout rates.

*A comparative report of this year's statistics vs. last years statistics of items such as school attendance and dropout rates within the music students will be prepared and evaluated by the Artistic Operations Manager with information provided from the school district as allowed by law.*

4. The knowledge of classical music and interaction with artists will increase participation by students and their parents in the Grand Teton Music Festival

*Students and Parents will be given opportunities to sign up to volunteer to help the program. New volunteers are considered a success in this evaluation. Students will be given a discount at the festival when they show they are in the Teton County School District. The festival box office will track sales from student attendance.*

*A report of the above defined objectives will be put together by the Artistic Operations Manager and the Marketing Manager. It will be available online and will be submitted to the funders and donors by July 2017.*

## **Administration/Management**

The administration of this program will be led by our Artistic Operations Manager who spends 10 hours a week planning and facilitating this program throughout the year. Key players in the planning process have included the musical director of the Grand Teton Music Festival, Mr. Donald Runnicles, and the teachers in the Teton County School District to include Pete and Robin Closson, Vince Gutwein and Jens Gade. Also instrumental in the entire process are the teachers themselves, who will be liaisons between the program manager and the school administrators and teachers. This program relies on the collaboration with the Teton County School District and many resources result from this partnership such as the facility and utilities, accessories within the facility including printers, music library, electronic equipment and the access to students as well as scheduled time during the school day.

## **Accessibility**

Our program is accessible to anyone who attends public school and takes a music class and therefore is also accessible to children with disabilities. Our teachers are prepared to teach students with varying learning skills and do not turn away students. Older adults, veterans, and other people with disabilities who would like to watch recitals and school concerts are welcome and the recitals are always free, although a donation is suggested. As part of our advertising for these events, we send notices to retirement homes and other institutions in the area. Usually those institutions can provide transportation as needed.

## **Marketing/Promotion**

The partnership between the festival and school district allows Tune-Up access to target customers without the need to market directly to them. Marketing materials are produced for informational awareness for families and to help raise money for the capital campaign we are starting this year to fund in-part next year's Tune-Up program. Marketing in total will cost \$1,000. Informational flyers are sent home to parents the first week of class and banners will be displayed at each of the schools in the band rooms to advertise Tune-Up and the collaboration between the school district and the Grand Teton Music Festival. Finally, a roll-up goal sign will be used at fundraising tables to explain the program and demonstrate percentage raised vs. goal donations.

## Budget

Grand Teton Music Festival					
July 1 - June 30					
Tune-Up					
Direct expenses:					
Payroll and related				Annual	
	<u>Title</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Program Cost</u>	<u>Funding Request</u>
	Executive Director	0.05	\$135,317	\$6,766	\$0
	Marketing Director	0.1	\$59,244	\$5,924	\$0
	Artistic Operations Manager	0.2	\$65,779	\$13,156	\$0
	Subtotal salaries			\$25,846	\$0
	Fringe benefits and payroll taxes at 22%			\$5,670	\$0
	Subtotal payroll and related costs			\$31,516	\$0
Non-payroll direct costs					
	Musicians			\$45,000	\$17,250
	Curriculum materials for students			\$2,000	\$2,000
	Flyers for Families			\$400	\$400
	Fundraiser Sign			\$300	\$300
	Banners			300	\$300
	Subtotal non-payroll direct costs			\$48,000	\$20,250
Total direct costs				\$79,516	\$20,250
Indirect costs at 20%				\$15,895	\$0
Total program cost				\$95,411	<b>\$20,250</b>
Other funding sources					
	Confirmed Private Donor			\$25,000	
	GMTF Operating Fund			\$50,161	
	This Request			\$20,250.00	
Total non-LWE sources					
Total funding sources				\$95,411	

## **Arts Education Supplemental funding**

Each student in the Teton County School District grades 6-12 music program will have interaction with one of Tune-Up's professional musicians each school week is in session through a variety of instructional methods including lessons, masterclasses, sectionals, and large group rehearsals. Wyoming Fine and Performing Arts Standards are addressed and solutions are defined during the formal curriculum planning meetings between the Tune-Up teachers, the artistic outreach director, and the school music teachers and administrators. The year's curriculum is designed around these standards and monthly meetings ensure progress is being made toward them based on testing and the weekly interactions. If the standards are not being met, teachers work together to help a student remediate any issues.

Certain standards are already built into the schedule, such as band performances, recitals, and personal practice time. Other issues are addressed during band and other rehearsals where students are reminded of proper posture, how to breathe, and other technical aspects of musicianship in order to keep progressing in a healthy and productive manner. When a student is struggling, one-on-one instruction can help the teacher and student find ways to evaluate the outcomes of the program and then to find ways to improve before the end of the year. Mini-lessons on music history and theory are given throughout the year during class, concepts are repeated, and then quizzes are administered to check for retention.

At the conclusion of the school year, evaluation of outcomes will be processed in several ways. In the first weeks of the year, students are asked to play a preliminary solo which is recorded and saved. At the end of the term and the end of the year recitals, another recording is made. The difference in the beginning and ending recording is a great way to evaluate growth throughout the year. Another way is by way of the quizzes and tests throughout the year. These more standard evaluation devices show compliance with standards involving history, theory and forming and defending opinions. General observation of rehearsal etiquette and behavior, along with remediations helps enforce and evaluate learning stands as well.



**Key staff and Partners**

Maestro Donald Runnicles - Artistic Director

Andrew Palmer Todd - Executive Director

Marty Camino - Artistic Operations Manager

Brittany Laughlin - Marketing Manager

Pete Closson - Band Director, Jackson Hole High School

Robin Closson - Band Director, Jackson Hole Middle School

Vince Gutwein - Orchestra Director, Jackson Hole High School and Middle School

Jens Gade - Choir Director, Jackson Hole Middle and High School

Ed Donner - Percussion Teacher

Jason Fritts - Saxophone Teacher

Art Fuerte - Trombone Teacher

Alan Bergeron - Trumpet Teacher

Jennifer Levanduski - Woodwind Specialist

Laura Huckin - Piano/Voice Specialist

Michele Quinn - Strings Violin

\*New Hire - Double Reeds

\*New Hire - Bass/cello