

**NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION
2015-16 CULTURAL ARTS GRANT APPLICATION**

(Applications must be typed or word-processed- you may reformat on the computer as long as it appears the same: i.e. use Times New Roman 12 point and the same pagination.)

FESTIVAL BALLETT THEATRE (FBT)

Popular Name of Organization

Same As Above

33-0283147

Legal Name (if different)

Federal Tax ID No.

9527 Garfield Avenue

Mailing Address

Fountain Valley, CA

92708-7206

City

Zip

Salwa Rizkalla, Artistic Director

(714) 962-5440

Contact Name

Telephone

(714)962-9383

srizkalla@festivalballet.org

www.festivalballet.org

FAX

e-mail

Website

Orange County (overall); Newport Beach (proposed project)

Geographical Area Served

Have you received a City of Newport Beach Cultural Arts Grant before? **YES**

If so, when? **1999-00 thru 2003-04 and 2005-06 thru 2014-15**

Year organization was founded: **March 1, 1988** Number of paid staff: **28** # of volunteers: **100**

Total amount requests: (from request line of project budget) **\$2,500**

Estimated number of people in Newport Beach that the proposed project(s) will serve: **1,000**

CULTURAL ARTS APPLICATION

1. Briefly describe below your organization's purpose, mission, and goals.

Since its founding in 1988, FBT has become one of Southern California's most vibrant and accomplished ballet companies, presenting works that epitomize the artistry of professional ballet. For 27 years, our mission has been to enrich Orange County's artistic and economic vitality, to inspire love and appreciation for dance, and to invigorate ballet through exhilarating, professional quality performances, a nurturing environment for dancers and choreographers, and stimulating educational outreach programs. We also collaborate with other organizations to reach children through the Orange County Pacific Symphony's *Family Musical Mornings*, the Orange County Performing Arts Center's (OCPAC) *ArtsTeach* Program, the *Festival of Children*, Arts Orange County's *Imagination Celebration*, and now the *Newport Beach Library*. FBT's mission is accomplished through a variety of goals and programs annually.

At FBT, we have set ourselves apart by consistently presenting professional quality productions and maintaining steady seasons at affordable prices ranging from \$25 to \$45, serving an audience of 14,161 in the 2014-15 season with four productions: *Alice in Wonderland*, *the Nutcracker*, *Swan Lake* and *Gala of the Stars*. Other productions have included *Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, *Don Quixote*, *Coppelia*, *Firebird*, *Le Corsaire* and more. We arrange collaborative opportunities among artists by sponsoring famous international guest artists for each production, showcasing local talent, and hosting four to six newly choreographed pieces every year.

We are proud of our arts education outreach programs reaching 8,894 primarily children and adults last season. Our "**Ballet to Schools Program**" brings abridged, narrated versions of classical fairy-tale ballets to individual elementary and middle schools throughout Orange County. Our "**Children's Invitation to Ballet Program**" gives children the opportunity to experience abridged versions of full-length classical ballets in a theatre. The "**Community Outreach Program**" is designed to reach all segments of the community. Last season, Festival Ballet Theatre participated in the **Pacific Symphony Orchestra's Family Musical Mornings Concert Series**, the Arts Orange County's **Imagination Celebration**, South Coast Plaza's **Festival of Children**, the **Newport Beach Library Holiday Nutcracker**.

2. Identify and describe why there is a need **in the Newport Beach Community** for your proposed project/program. Include a quantitative description of the need and on what you based your findings (i.e. "Based on a study done by the PTA, there are one hundred children in the 4th-6th grades at Newport Elementary who have had no training with musical instruments.") Describe how you have determined that your organization is the *best* organization for the proposed project/program.

Due to limited public education funding, arts education in elementary and middle schools is virtually non-existent throughout Orange County, including Newport Beach, especially after the recent economic recession. During our school visits, faculty and administrative officials state that no performing arts programs are permanently in place. At school assemblies, FBT typically finds that most students have never experienced a ballet performance before. Children exposed to arts programs outperform their peers in standard academics and test scores. The arts promote creativity, problem solving and abstract thinking, thus contributing to the overall success of the children. A robust cultural life, with strong arts organizations and the cultivation of the creativity of our area's artists and residents is integral to Orange County's future. As stated by Richard Florida, Carnegie Mellon Economics Professor and author of *Rise of the Creative Class*, "A region's overall standing in the creative economy is a barometer of a region's longer run economic potential. Specifically, cities which attract and retain the creative class prosper, while those that do not stagnate."

FBT is poised to continue quality performances to children through "Ballet to Schools." FBT is the only ballet company in Orange County to perform a narrated version of classical ballets accompanied by educational curriculum designed to compliment teacher curriculum. Over the years, FBT has enriched the lives of thousands of Newport Beach students. Not only will FBT introduce children to the fine art of ballet and the historic *Nutcracker* ballet, it will introduce children to Pytor Tchaikowsky's beautiful *Nutcracker* music.

3. Describe the specific project/program that will be funded by a cultural grant. Include how the proposed project/program will be implemented and outline a schedule or project timeline, with planned dates and locations. Identify individuals and groups involved, particularly artists and performers, and describe their roles and responsibilities. Describe the background and qualifications of your organization and key personnel to be involved in the program. *Remember: the City funds only projects and programs— not operating expenses. These projects and programs must promote community involvement and awareness of the arts in Newport Beach.*

Is this a new or existing project/program?

FBT proposes bringing its “Ballet to Schools” program to two Newport Beach Elementary schools in December 2015. Eight FBT company dancers will perform a **narrated, abbreviated** version of the Nutcracker, tailored for children ranging in age from five to fourteen years old. A Program Coordinator, with the assistance of the performers, will guide the students through an interactive lesson on how pantomime, music, and costumes tell a story and express emotions without words. Students will be taught appropriate ways to express appreciation for a theatrical performance. After the performance, students will converse with the professionals through a question-and-answer session. Students will view beautiful, professional quality costumes, pointe shoes, and props up close. Teacher’s Curriculum will be provided to encourage the educators to further interact with classes beyond the presentation. Evaluation Sheets will be distributed to educators and administrators to ascertain the educational and entertainment benefits of the show. Surveys received in the past were very positive. Brief biographies of FBT’s company dancers are attached.

Artistic Director, Salwa Rizkalla, is the creative force behind FBT’s “Ballet to Schools” program. Her artistic vision and community involvement led to the creation of FBT in 1988. Her artistic history includes intense study of the Vaganova method, professional performing career in numerous roles working under the direction of world renowned choreographers such as Leonid Lavrovsky and Sege Lifar, a BA degree in Ballet Pedagogy, and a California Teaching Credential. Youth America Grand Prix awarded Ms. Rizkalla in 2002, 2004, 2005, 2009 thru 2014 Outstanding Teacher and in 2003, 2006 thru 2008 Outstanding School. In 2003, Ms. Rizkalla was awarded the Orange County Arts Educator of the Year Award for Secondary Dance from the Orange County Music and Arts Administrators and Orange County Performing Arts Center. Most recently, in 2014, she was awarded the prestigious Helena Modjeska Cultural Legacy Award, lifetime achievement award for artistic visionary, by Arts Orange County.

Ms. Rizkalla and her experienced staff will implement the project. Through years of successful work, FBT has prepared outreach experiences with the same professionalism that is expected of full public performances. FBT will communicate with the individual Newport Beach schools regarding scheduling, performers’ needs, technical requirements, and other necessary details. FBT adheres to a specific schedule each year. Rehearsals for the *Nutcracker* begin in September with performances slated for November/December in theatres and at school assemblies. Post-performance self-evaluations are planned for January, 2016. All key personnel and artists are compensated through salary or as individual contractors.

FBT is the leading regional ballet company in Orange County to produce full-length ballet classics each year, ever raising its standards in performances and sets. Since 1989, in addition to its annual *Nutcracker*, FBT has presented *Firebird*, *Don Quixote*, *Giselle*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, *Coppelia*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *the Secret Garden* and more. FBT has earned recognition from reputable artistic institutions for its accomplishments. ARTS Orange County recognized Festival Ballet Theatre as the “Outstanding Arts Organization of the Year” for 2001. FBT was invited to perform in the Pacific Symphony Orchestra’s *In The Park* and *Pop Concert Series* and *Family Musical Morning Concerts*. The company was the recipient of a 2002 Disneyland Resort Community Service Award. FBT dancers and apprentices have won numerous prestigious awards. This recognition validates and supports FBT efforts to serve the County.

4. Define or describe the segment of the population in Newport Beach that you intent to serve by your project/program. Include such things as age, location, numbers served, etc.

The “Ballet to Schools” program will be performed for children of ages ranging from five to fourteen years old at two elementary or junior high school levels, serving 1,000 students. FBT’s Program Coordinator will coordinate with school administrators to determine a convenient date and time when the largest number of students will be able to attend. The FBT Program Coordinator will provide the school designee educational curriculum for teachers to incorporate into their teachings to complement the ballet presentation.

5. Complete the project budget form. Address *only the budget for the specific project*, not your annual operating budget. For multi-project proposals, please duplicate and fill out a budget for each project. Please annotate the budget at the bottom if there are details (such as a breakdown of personnel or a marketing budget) critical to the proposal.

PROJECT BUDGET

**Funding from the
City of Newport Beach**

**Funding from
Other Sources**

EXPENSES-Personnel

Artistic	2,350	1,250
Administrative		
Technical Production		

EXPENSES-Operating

Facility Expense/Space Rental		
Marketing		
Production/Exhibition Expense		1,500
Touring/Presentation Expense		
Educational Materials	20	
Transportation	130	
Equipment		
Other (if greater than 10% annotate below)		
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,750

6. Describe the expected **quantifiable** outcomes of your project/program and how you will evaluate the results. Be very specific in addressing the ways that you will determine that your project/program met the needs that you identified and accomplishes the goals you set out to achieve (i.e. you provide 50 hours of musical instruction and instruments to the 100 children at Newport Elementary school as measured by music store rental receipts and logs of instructors.)

FBT's "Ballet to Schools" program is partially evaluated through an informal "show of hands" to specific questions asked of the children. The audience will answer such questions as: "How many of you have ever seen a ballet performance?" "How many of you enjoyed the performance?" "How many of you would like to see other ballets?" Organizers agree that children are eager to take part in the verbal survey. In a more concrete method, teachers and administrators will be asked to complete Outreach Evaluation Forms. Information will be gathered by rating sections of the presentation on a 1-5 scale, through a question-and-answer section, and by individual suggestions. The outcome of the surveys will be reviewed by Artistic Director, Salwa Rizkalla, Rehearsal Assistants and administrative staff. All feedback will be considered for Ballet to Schools" improvements.

A favorite OC Register article published December 22, 2011, "Up-close ballet inspires, amazes schoolkids," captures the magic of the "Ballet to School" experience for children. FBT has consistently provided this Program to children for over 20 years.

7. Attachments Requested

Please do not send material in excess of what is requested; it will not be seen by the Arts Commission.

- A list of Board Members and their affiliations
- A recent list of individuals, corporations and foundations that provide organizational support – not to exceed one page.
- If you are a 501(c) (3) organization attach a copy of your IRS determination letter (or your fiscal agent's) indicating tax exempt status.
- **One** brochure and/or **one** press clipping. Do not send photos, videos, CDs or any other extraneous material. It will not be presented to the Arts Commission.

8. Please complete this operating budget from for 2014/15 and 2015/16 This is not the project/program budget for which you are applying, but your overall organization budget. You may annotate at the bottom if there are details critical to the proposal.

OPERATING BUDGET

	2014/15 Budget (current)	2015/16 Budget (projected)
I. Income (cash only)		
Contributed	168,445	170,200
Earned	488,078	441,625
Total Income	\$ 656,523	\$ 611,825

II. Expenses		
Program *	516,428	494,985
General and Administrative	32,037	33,089
Marketing and Development	72,803	83,751
Total Expenses	\$ 621,268	\$ 611,825

III. Operating Surplus/Deficit (Income minus Expenses)	\$ 35,255	\$ 0
IV. Fund Balance at Beginning of Year	\$ 87,268	\$ 87,268
V. Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) (Add lines III and IV)	\$ 122,523	\$ 87,268
Net Adjustment: (Allocated for future emergencies)	\$	\$ 0
Balance at year-end	\$ 122,523	\$ 87,268

VI. In-Kind Contributions (attach schedule if greater than 10% of total income) **	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
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FBT is strongly volunteer supported and is dedicating additional resources to developing its marketing strategies and expertise to increase its audience base.

** The rehearsal facility space is donated.

9. I verify that the information submitted in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Name: Teri Schmidt

Title: Grants Chair

Signature _____ Date _____



2015-16 SEASON

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Salwa Rizkalla – Owner/Southland Ballet Academy; Artistic Director/Festival Ballet Theatre

Vice President: Lisa Yamashita – Business Owner/Entrepreneur

Treasurer: Willa Bouwens-Killen – Planning Engineer, City of Costs Mesa

Secretary: Cathleen Hunter – Board Member and Secretary of Huntington Beach Educational Foundation; Teacher for over 27 years for the Huntington Beach City School district.

GUILD CHAIRS

(Coordinate Fundraising and Volunteers)

President: Christine DeNicola – Pacific Life Insurance Company, Real Estate Division

Volunteer Chair: Alisa Ziebarth – Homemaker

Grant Writer Chair: Teri Schmidt – Public Administrator, City of Los Angeles

Guild Leaders: Carol Chen, Wendy Harrigan, Carole Herzfeld, Marrietta Merito, Rosi Minns, Jessica Neumann, Kalee Rustvold, Sydney Simpler, Abril Turner, and Annie Werle

ADVISORY BOARD

Katherine Ahn, DDS – Image Center

Michael Lemburg – Coast Compliance

Tom Lydon – Global Trends Investments

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF (PART-TIME)

Administrative Staff: Elizabeth Farmen

Marketing and Communications/Administrative Staff: Tracy Sellers

Internal Revenue Service
District Director

Department of the Treasury

P O BOX 2350 ROOM 5127 ATTN: E.O.
LOS ANGELES, CA 900532350

Date: JAN. 22, 1990

FESTIVAL BALLET THEATRE
9527 GARFIELD AVE
FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA 92708

Employer Identification Number:
33-0283147
Case Number:
959307021
Contact Person:
PHELAN, JULIE R
Contact Telephone Number:
(213) 725-6619

Accounting Period Ending:
December 31,
Form 990 Required:
YES
Addendum Applies:
YES

Dear Applicant:

Based on information supplied, and assuming your operations will be as stated in your application for recognition of exemption, we have determined you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3).

We have further determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code, because you are an organization described in section 509(a)(2).

If your sources of support, or your purposes, character, or method of operation change, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on your exempt status and foundation status. In the case of an amendment to your organizational document or bylaws, please send us a copy of the amended document or bylaws. Also, you should inform us of all changes in your name or address.

As of January 1, 1984, you are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of \$100 or more you pay to each of your employees during a calendar year. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Since you are not a private foundation, you are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, you are not automatically exempt from other Federal excise taxes. If you have any questions about excise, employment, or other Federal taxes, please let us know.

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(2) status, the grantor or contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that

Letter 947(CG)

FESTIVAL BALLET THEATRE

you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(2).

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for Federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of Code sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

Contribution deductions are allowable to donors only to the extent that their contributions are gifts, with no consideration received. Ticket purchases and similar payments in conjunction with fundraising events may not necessarily qualify as deductible contributions, depending on the circumstances. See Revenue Ruling 67-246, published in Cumulative Bulletin 1967-2, on page 104, which sets forth guidelines regarding the deductibility, as charitable contributions, of payments made by taxpayers for admission to or other participation in fundraising activities for charity.

In the heading of this letter we have indicated whether you must file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax. If Yes is indicated, you are required to file Form 990 only if your gross receipts each year are normally more than \$25,000. However, if you receive a Form 990 package in the mail, please file the return even if you do not exceed the gross receipts test. If you are not required to file, simply attach the label provided, check the box in the heading to indicate that your annual gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less, and sign the return.

If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your annual accounting period. A penalty of \$10 a day is charged when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. However, the maximum penalty charged cannot exceed \$5,000 or 5 percent of your gross receipts for the year, whichever is less. This penalty may also be charged if a return is not complete, so please be sure your return is complete before you file it.

You are not required to file Federal income tax returns unless you are subject to the tax on unrelated business income under section 511 of the Code. If you are subject to this tax, you must file an income tax return on Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return. In this letter we are not determining whether any of your present or proposed activities are unrelated trade or business as defined in section 513 of the Code.

You need an employer identification number even if you have no employees. If an employer identification number was not entered on your application, a number will be assigned to you and you will be advised of it. Please use that number on all returns you file and in all correspondence with the Internal Revenue Service.

If we have indicated in the heading of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your exempt

FESTIVAL BALLET THEATRE

status and foundation status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

If you have any questions, please contact the person whose name and telephone number are shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael J. Quinn".

Michael J. Quinn
District Director

This is to advise you that income from advertising may constitute unrelated business taxable income as defined in section 512 of the Internal Revenue Code. According to section 511 of the Code, any domestic or foreign organization exempt under section 501(a) of the Code must file Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return, by the fifteenth day of the fifth month after the end of the organization's tax year, if it has gross income from an unrelated trade or business of \$1,000 or more.

<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/students-332762-ballet-dancers.html>

OC Register

Published: Dec. 22, 2011 Updated: Dec. 23, 2011 11:55 a.m.

Up-close ballet inspires, amazes schoolkids

By **TERYL ZARNOW** COLUMNIST / FOR THE REGISTER

On the last day of school before winter break, while visions of sugarplums dance in students' heads, extraordinary things sometimes happen.

A godfather could have magical powers. A toy nutcracker could come to life and battle a monster mouse, and a girl's imagination could transport her to the Land of the Sweets.



Children crowd in to touch the Mouse King as they take turns trying on the mouse mask. Children at Kaiser Elementary in Costa Mesa were treated to a special performance of "The Nutcracker" by the Festival Ballet Theatre and were allowed to examine props afterward.

And all of this could happen in the school multipurpose room where dancers sit dangling their legs off the side of the stage afterward and answer your questions.

You could do the splits on the floor with Clara, and if you're lucky you might get to try the giant mouse mask on your head.

It happened to students at [Kaiser Elementary School in Costa Mesa](#).

They were given a magical experience: A gift from their Parent Faculty Organization, courtesy of the [Festival Ballet Theatre](#) and the [Arts Teach program at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts](#).

The experience earned high praise from a tough audience.

"Well, I thought it was going to be OK, but it was pretty good," admits third-grader Trevor Muir. "It made you really listen and not just fool around."

This performance of "The Nutcracker" was an appetizer compared to the full-course event.

Instead of 70 dancers, the cast included seven company dancers and one student. The stage floor was too slick for point shoes and too narrow for extended leaps. The scenery was modest and the dressing room was the back stairway.

It definitely wasn't the [Irvine Barclay](#) where the Festival Ballet Theatre performed this holiday season. But before it even started, this kid-sized version fully satisfied.

"A ballet is a story without words," explained [dancer Elizabeth Chasteler](#). She and [Chuck Johnston](#) (Clara's godfather Herr Drosselmeyer) prefaced the performance by offering clues to help students understand the story:

Notice the music and costumes. Watch the faces and the movements of the dancers to understand their feelings. Students silently practiced being surprised and afraid themselves.

"Is it OK to clap during the dance?" Chasteler asked them.

Students shook their heads "no."

"Yes!" she corrected them. That is how dancers know that you like their dancing.

After that, the audience gave them rock star treatment.

They clapped furiously when the giant nutcracker fought off the mouse. They "oohed" when ballerinas twirled through the air and they loved the Arabian coffee dance.

They sat on the floor -- motionless in positions that would cripple adults -- for nearly an hour. Just about when the squirming began, it was over.

But this gift just kept on giving.

Kids had lots of questions for the dancers.

"How do you move like that?" (Years of practice.)

"Doesn't it make you dizzy when you turn and turn?" (Dancers use spotting, a reference point for focus.)

"How do you get to be so flexible?" (A little at a time.)

"Where do you get the costumes?" (The price for a professional dancer's tutu starts at \$1,000.)

Then the wrapping really came off.

Students were invited on stage where dancer Nathan McGinnis retrieved his mouse mask. Clara came off-stage to join students in the room.

For students, it was artistry, up close and personal. For dancers, it was an unusually intimate experience.

Chasteler noted that without bright stage lights in her eyes, she could clearly see the reactions of the audience.

"This response is just amazing!" said Megan Yamashita, who danced Clara.

Johnston, or Drosselmeyer, has a fifth-grade grandson at Kaiser.

"The kids just make it worthwhile."

The gift came from Kaiser's PFO, which spends more than \$6,000 a year to bring about six assemblies with multiple performances to students.

Increasingly, PFOs have become the fairy godmothers of schools, paying for extras the districts cannot. Kaiser's PFO supports the school's music and arts programs, along with meat-and-potatoes efforts like replacing old computers.

To grant wishes, members raise money the old fashioned way: one roll of wrapping paper, one tub of cookie dough, and one jog-a-thon at a time.

Some students might never have seen a ballet, explains PFO President Dolores Gastineau. By enriching the basic curriculum, the PFO hopes to ignite a spark of creativity.

This gift was also made possible through the Festival Ballet Theatre (FBT) based in Fountain Valley, which charges only a nominal fee for its outreach programs designed for children.

FTB artistic director Salwa Rizkalla explains these programs introduce ballet to new audiences.

"They get a very different idea about ballet. They see how much work it takes, how much discipline. They have more respect for it."

The Arts Teach program helps connect the school with the ballet and provides study guides to teachers.

Third-grade teacher Bonnie Brigman used the guide and read her students the nutcracker story. After vacation, students will write about what would happen if one of their toys came to life.

Nearly half her class had never seen a ballet before. Eagerly, they reviewed the performance:

Casey Keeler expected it "to be cool," just like it was. She enjoyed the dances in Candy Land and the costumes "all fancy."

Owen Eckweiler liked the fantasy. Jacqueline Nowak said that without much scenery, the story came from the characters.

"You really had to pay attention."

Kaitin Degen loved the dancing, although it looked hard. Isabel Glassen marveled at how dancers spin and spin.

Aaron Miner still prefers Legos to ballet, but he was eager to try on the masks for the nutcracker and mouse.

They were, he noted, a little hard to breathe inside.

Juliet Alexander's favorite was the Coffee Dance. The story, she says, was "like a bright light inspiration."

And that's what everyone is hoping.

Great gifts aren't always under the tree.

Contact the writer: terylzarnow@gmail.com.

**NEWPORT BEACH ARTS COMMISSION
CULTURAL ARTS GRANT PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT**

**(Please type report)
August 21, 2015**

FESTIVAL BALLET THEATRE

Name of Organization

9527 Garfield Avenue, Fountain Valley, CA 92708-7206

Mailing Address

(714)962-5440

Telephone

(714)962-9383

FAX

Teri Schmidt

Person preparing report

(213)978-0256 days (714)968-0530

Phone

“Ballet to Schools Program”

Grant Project(s) Funded

July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

Effective Dates of Grant

Originally July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015 – Proposed for December 5, 2015 and March 19, 2016

Period covered in this Report

This \$1,500 grant was awarded to FBT to provide an abbreviated “Nutcracker” through its Ballet to Schools Program to an elementary school in Newport Beach in December 2014. For the first time in the many years that FBT has provided this service for the Newport Beach Cultural Arts Commission at schools, due to an expectant key staff member’s leave of absence and other factors, the scheduling did not occur in time to implement the program at a school. Meanwhile, for the first time, the Director of the Newport Beach Library formed a new relationship with FBT and arranged for the Program to be presented at the Newport Beach Library on November 20, 2014. It was successful and the Director and FBT are interested in future collaboration to contribute to the City’s goals of making the new Newport Beach Civic Center a cultural, community center. To remedy FBT’s Ballet to Schools’ 2014-15 grant obligation, FBT and the Director of the Newport Beach Library have proposed a solution to Newport Beach Cultural Arts Commissioner, Arleen Grier, to have FBT use the 2014-15 grant funding to provide the “Ballet to Schools” Program (Mini-Nutcracker) at the Newport Beach Library on December 5, 2015 at 2:30 and 4:00 p.m. and also (a Mini-Sleeping Beauty) on March 19, 2016. Meanwhile, FBT would like to continue its Ballet to Schools Program at Newport Beach Schools in December 2015 through the submission of a grant proposal for the FY 2015-16 season. With this plan in place, the following responses are provided in this completion report as anticipated results.

1. Please describe the effectiveness of your organization’s grant project(s) in terms of:
 - The size and composition of the target group reached: Approximately 700 elementary school children at two mini-Nutcracker and one mini-Sleeping Beauty shows at the Newport Beach Library, 1000 Avocado Avenue, NB, CA 92660.
 - Conformity to the planned time framework: December 5, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. (Nutcracker) and March 19, 2016 at 11 p.m. (Sleeping Beauty).

- The theme of the project: Through its “Ballet to Schools” Program, Festival Ballet Theatre (FBT) will introduce children to the fine art of ballet through abbreviated presentations of *The Nutcracker* and *The Sleeping Beauty* accompanied by an educational component.
- The allocation of funds to date: With \$1,500, FBT will present three shows at the Newport Beach Library. The funds will be spent to minimally compensate adult performers for their time, including the Program’s educational component, for transportation, and for educational materials. The lead presenter/performer has years of experience teaching children and is excellent at working with elementary school children.

It is thanks to FBT’s full production that it is able to present this very important educational outreach program at a minimal cost. The expense of artistic direction, choreography, and staging, training company dancers, and costumes and props are borne by FBT’s Theatre productions. Dancers, costumes and props are loaned to the outreach program. These artists dance throughout the year to maintain their skills, and they rehearse roles for long hours for months to perform the very precise and beautiful *Nutcracker* and *Sleeping Beauty* dances. The Sugar Plum Fairy’s costume alone costs over \$1,000. So the children, are presented with a truly professional quality ballet.

- The kinds of educational services provided by this project: One of the performers presents the Program, with the assistance of the other performers, guiding the children through an interactive lesson and question and answer period. The children are interactively involved in lessons on how pantomime, music, and costumes tell a story and express emotions without words. They are also taught appropriate ways to express appreciation for a theatrical performance. After the performance, children converse with the professionals through a question-and-answer session. Students enjoy beautiful, professional quality costumes, pointe shoes, and props up close.
- The composition of the professional staff rendering these services: Eight professional, company performers, five female and three male dancers played the key roles in the *Nutcracker* and *the Sleeping Beauty*. This Program was designed and directed by FBT’s Artistic Director, Salwa Rizkalla.

2. Please describe how the program was evaluated. Include information on measures your organization has initiated to improve the project in the future.

- The enclosed OC Register article gives an excellent description of an FBT Ballet-to-Schools assembly program at an elementary school and the children’s positive reactions and interest. This same program will be presented at the Newport Beach Library.

3. Please add any other comments you feel are appropriate.

FBT feels it is extremely important for children to be introduced to art forms, such as ballet, through elementary and middle school assemblies in order to develop art appreciation among a broad range of children. FBT looks forward to expanding these opportunities.

Most school children have never seen a ballet before. Not only do the arts inspire children to be creative, and some to become artists, the arts and artists enrich our lives and culture. Children exposed to arts programs outperform their peers in standard academics and test scores. The arts promote creativity, problem solving and abstract thinking, thus contributing to the overall success of the children.

4. Please attach relevant press clippings, brochures, photos, etc. that demonstrate how the project was completed or is in process.

- An OC Register Article on an FBT Ballet to Schools show at an elementary school.

- A program is included from our past *Nutcracker* and *Sleeping Beauty* productions, performed in a theatre setting, to provide a perspective on the quality of dance and costumes presented for this Program.
- Some brief biographies with photos are included in the Programs of the FBT dancers.

I verify that the information submitted in this report is true and correct.

Name: Teri Schmidt

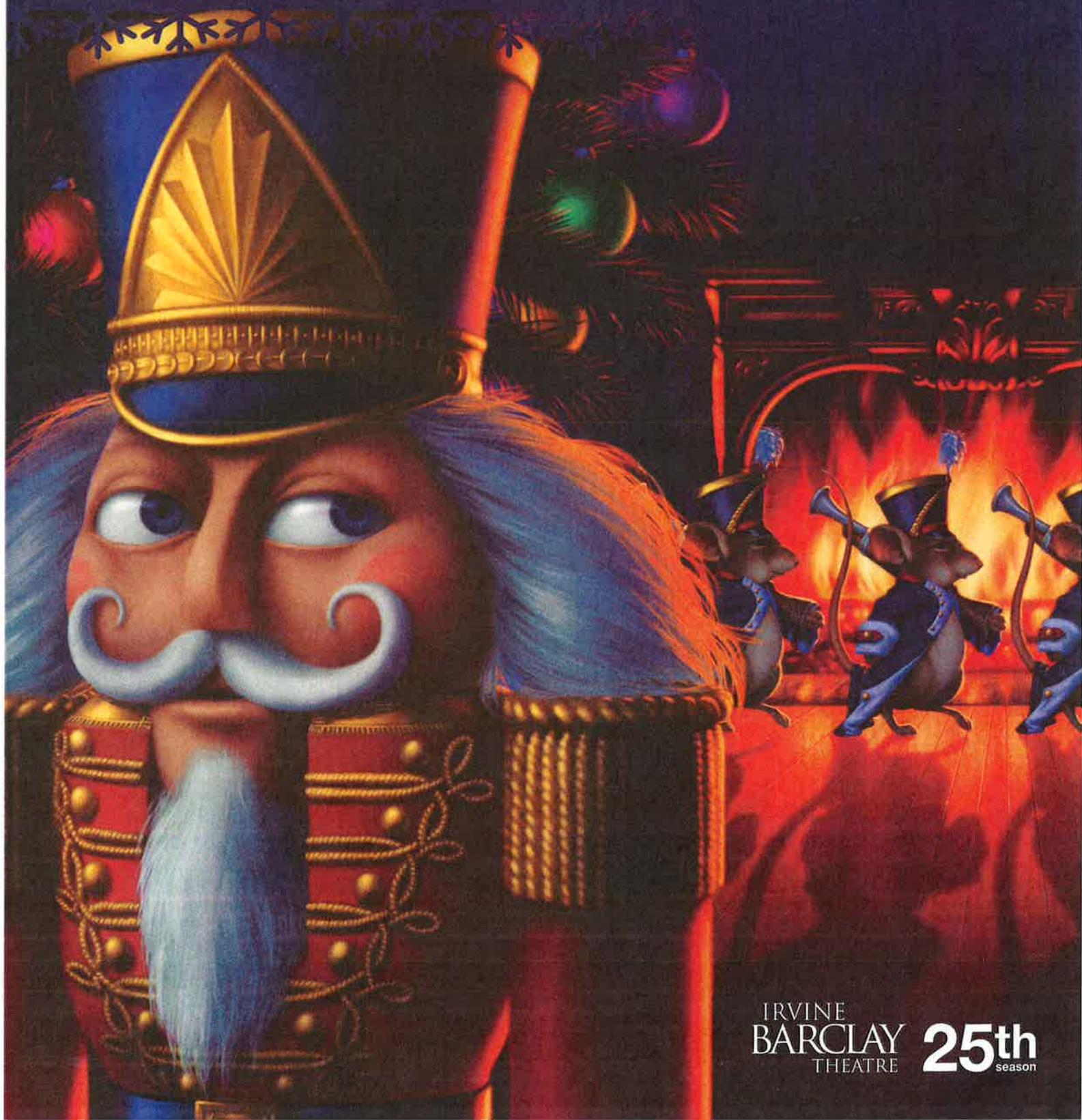
Title: Grants Chair

Signature Teri Schmidt

Date August 21, 2015

The NUTCRACKER

FBT Festival
Ballet
Theatre **25**
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IRVINE
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A Special Thanks to Our Volunteers

Festival Ballet Theatre thanks all of the parents and volunteers who are integral to the success of this presentation of *Sleeping Beauty*. We appreciate all the time and energy you have put into fundraising, costumes, donations, marketing and development. Your efforts are truly priceless in allowing Festival Ballet Theatre to provide this beloved classic.

A special thanks to the Parent Level Coordinators:

Julie Kester, Bonnie Lemburg, Heather Lerma, Sandy Neumann, Sydney Simpler, Annie Werle and Marilyn Wiederin

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For more information or to support Festival Ballet Theatre, please visit: www.festivalballet.org or call **714.962.5440**.

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