



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Semesterly Report

Thank you for your commitment to green initiatives at the University of Illinois. One of the ongoing requirements listed in the terms of the funding agreement for your project is the submission of semesterly reports with key information about your project. In addition to this form, please provide additional financial documentation and/or progress photos if available.

Please be as accurate as possible in describing the project (including possible setbacks or challenges in meeting the initial goals of the project). Not fully meeting your project's goals will not disqualify you from making future funding requests as long as your reports are as complete and accurate as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Micah Kenfield, Program Advisor for the Student Sustainability Committee, at kenfield@illinois.edu.

Project Name: Social Justice as Environmental Justice

Date of Report Submission: 12/15/2018

Project Purpose:

- To make a substantial impact on students understanding of and engagement with Environmental Justice issues through both engagement opportunities and educational programming utilizing theatre as the core of arts-based civic engagement.
- To engage a substantial portion of the campus community directly through performances at the Armory Free Theatre, classrooms, and other campus/community venues.
- To address and bring awareness to Environmental Justice issues as they impact society generally and often underrepresented populations specifically and to explicitly invite engagement by underrepresented student populations in the project as actors, animatuers, panelists and tech crew.
- To have an ongoing impact through continuing programming made possible by the National Call for Scripts, and to continue the National Call for Scripts in the future.
- Encourage a national discourse among playwrights on Environmental Justice issues.

Detailed Accounting of Expenditures to Date:

Please detail your expenses to date. Feel free to attach an additional spreadsheet as needed.

Project Progress to Date:

We are right on target with our proposed time line.

To date we have :

PHASE #1 Theatre Production

- We completed phase one of our project between August and October of 2017, having done research and successfully developed and brought to full production an original theatre piece that addresses Environmental Justice issues. The production is called “Far from Utopia, and We’re Running out of Breath”. It premiered at the Armory Free Theatre and then toured to other locations in the campus community, including Channing Murray Foundation, Independent Media Center, and Ikenberry Centers / SDRP.
- We also performed excerpts at multiple events, including National Diversity Conference, Fresh Check at Illini Union, Community Psychology Class (Psyc 239).
- Research materials used in the development of the show have been culled into a concise bibliography of pedagogical materials for future use.

PHASE #2 National Call for Script 2018

- We started planning for the National Call for Script beginning in the August of 2017. Supporting materials for the National Call include the administrative documents, guidelines, publicity materials, and contact lists.
- All of the materials have been approved by Karen Higgins, a university lawyer.
- The publicity of this call to more than 240 universities and more than 10 platforms across the country went out in January. It reached thousands of people.
- Two panels were formed in February respectively for ten-minute plays and forty-minute plays, consisting six people, including two faculties, two graduate students, and two undergraduate students from different backgrounds.
- The deadline of the call was extended from the end of February to May 15th. 132 entries were received by the deadline and 108 were qualified entries.
- The selection process have three stages: one, blind-reading and ranking; two, panel meeting and open discussion; three, independent re-ranking based on the first two stages.
- The results were announced on May 23rd.
- We also participated in the ISEE Sustainability Celebration earlier this year, as a way to increase our presence, develop connection in the environmental sustainability community at the university level.

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PHASE #3 Preiered works from the National Call for Script 2018

- We rehearsed and preimeiered three pieces this fall from the National Call for Scripts.
- We’ve attached publicity from those shows with this report.

Student Involvement and Outreach to Date:

Phase #1

- Core ensemble members: about 20.
- Audience Involvement through live performance: 500 – 600
- Social Media Presence: 500-700

Phase #2

- More than 240 schools, thousands of students
- More than 10 platforms, thousands of non-students
- More than 15 students and faculties for forming panels.
- Specifically for U of I, Theatre Department, Music Department, English Department, Engineering Department, SSC, ISEE, SSF, ACES, CPSC, FP, UI Pollinatarium, The Beview Café, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Science, UI Arboretum, Native American & Indigenous Student Organization, American Indian & Indigenous Studies Graduate Student Association, etc. were reached.

Phase #3

- INNER VOICES Social Issues Theatre ensemble students involved in the productions of:

STOP THAT

8 actors
7 Animateurs
5 tech and direction

The Good Fight

4 actors
7 Animateurs
5 tech and direction

Caroline Carolina

4 actors
7 Animateurs
5 tech and direction

- Several students from the Student Sustainably Committee were at shows providing information
- Several students served as hosts in their residence halls for performances of the shows
- Audience Involvement through live performance: 500 – 600
- Social Media Presence: 500-700

Marketing and Promotion Efforts to Date:

- Continued Social media presence
- Distribution of physical posters, postcards and flyers for Call for Scripts

- Presence at resource fairs, including Quad Day, RA Fair, Fresh Start, conferences and classrooms.
- Email blasts
- Presentations at conferences that highlight the work of INNER VOICES Social Issues Theatre with the Student Sustainability Committee: These include *The Annual Dennis May Diversity Conference*, *Student Advisory Boards for the Counseling Center*, and *The Annual Faculty Retreat*.
- Distribution of physical posters, postcards and flyers for premiers of *STOP THAT*, *The Good Fight* and *Carolina Caroline*.

Additional Comments:

We have had tremendous reception to this project. This includes from members of the larger CU area. Most notably was a request from the Urbana Park District, who came to one of the residence halls, to do an encore performance. We are also tracking qualitative feedback as well as evaluating each of our performances.

Submitted 12.113.2018

INNER VOICES Social Issues Theatre Presents

CarolineCarolina

a play in one act

written by Kassia Lisinski

**addressing environmental justice
selected from our
2018 National Call for Scripts**

ARMORY FREE THEATRE

(Room 160 Armory)

FRIDAY OCTOBER 19th @ 11:59 PM

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20th @ 3:00 PM

free and open to the public

**a discussion follows
each performance**

**the Armory Free Theatre
is wheelchair accessible**

**INNER VOICES Social Issues Theatre
is sponsored by the
Counseling Center
and the
Department of Theatre
at the University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign**



I ILLINOIS
Counseling Center

**These performances are
sponsored in part by the
Student Sustainability Committee**



facebook.com/innervoicessocialissuestheatre



INNER VOICES Social Issues Theatre presents

STOP THAT

and other useful ideas

addressing environmental justice

featuring two new pieces selected from our

2018 National Call for Scripts

STOP THAT

in 13 scenes

by Susan Parenti

The Good Fight

a short play

by J. Joseph Cox

ARMORY FREE THEATRE

(Room 160 Armory)

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 17th @ 8:00 PM

THURSDAY OCTOBER 18th @ 8:00 PM

FRIDAY OCTOBER 19th @ 8:00 PM

American Sign Language interpreted performance

INDEPENDENT MEDIA CENTER

202 S Broadway Ave, Urbana

TUESDAY OCTOBER 23rd 8:00 PM

LINCOLN AVENUE RESIDENCE HALL

THURSDAY OCTOBER 25th 8:00 PM

free and open to the public

a discussion follows each performance

performance locations are wheelchair accessible

INNER VOICES Social Issues Theatre is

sponsored by the Counseling Center

and the Department of Theatre at the

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

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Counseling Center

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