



PINAL COUNTY

WIDE OPEN OPPORTUNITY

Proposition 202 Tribal Gaming Application Sponsorship/Support Form Requesting Pinal County serve as the Fiscal Agent/Pass Through Entity

Name of the Tribal Community: Gila River Indian Community

Due date of the application to the Tribal community: April 1, 2024

The following information will be used by Pinal County to 1) send the resolution and grant documents for the applicant to submit to the Tribal community, 2) send the funds, if awarded.

Name of the Non-profit: Oracle Piano Society

Contact person/title: Dr. Stephen Cook, Artistic Director

Email address: cook@oraclepianosociety.org

Address: P.O. Box 24627 Tempe, AZ 85285

Project name: Oracle Conservatory of Music

Amount being requested: \$79,600

Project summary: Oracle Piano Society seeks funding to support its Conservatory of Music which provides tuition-free music instruction for low-income youth in rural and Tribal areas of Arizona.

Beneficiaries: Low-income youth students in the communities of Oracle, Mammoth, San Manuel, Ak-Chin Indian Community, & the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Supervisor District: District 1

The undersigns hereby certifies they have read and comply with the responsibilities set forth in the PINAL COUNTY TRIBAL GAMING GRANT PROGRAM
Request for fiscal agent/pass through support documentation.



Director name and signature

Dr. Stephen Cook, Artistic Director



Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024

Cover Sheet

Click field or use up/down arrow keys to move among fields

Municipality Information	
1. Date of Application: Feb 27-2024	
2. Name of City, Town or County: Oracle, Arizona	
3. Mayor (City or Town) or Board of Supervisor's Chairman (County): Mike Goodman	
4. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1348	
5. City: Florence	State: Arizona
Zip Code: 85132	
6. Acknowledgement of Submission by Authorized Municipality Representative: Typed Name/Title: Heather Patel, Grants Administrator Email Address: heather.patel@pinal.gov Signature:	
Applicant Information	
7. Department/Organization Name: Oracle Piano Society	
8. Select Organization Type: Education Nonprofit If Non-profit please attach IRS Determination Letter	
9. Application Contact Person: Dr. Stephen Cook Title: Artistic Director	
10. Phone Number: 773-454-2509	
11. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 24627	
12. City: Tempe	State: Arizona
Zip Code: 85285	
13. Email Address: cook@oraclepianosociety.org	Website Address: www.oraclepianosociety.org
Project Information	
14. Project Name: Oracle Conservatory	
15. Purpose of Grant: Fund tuition-free music education programs for low-income rural and Tribal Communities.	
16. Priority Funding Area	Education
17. Annual amount requested	\$79,600
18. Number of years that funding is requested	1
19. Total amount requested (annual amount x number of years)	\$79,600
20. Has your organization received past funding from GRIC? If yes, list each year and amount	No
21. Geographic area served	Arizona Communities: Ak-Chin Indian Community, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Oracle, Mammoth, San Manuel.

For Office Use Only:		
Data Entry	Receipt	Evaluation
<input type="checkbox"/> Approval – Amount/Term		<input type="checkbox"/> Denial



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Narrative

Please structure your proposal to provide the following information in the order indicated. Provide the narrative in paragraph form in the text field provided. Please be thorough but strive for brevity.

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

The Oracle Piano Society has served Oracle and its surrounding rural communities for eleven years as a performing arts/education nonprofit that owns and operates the Oracle Center for the Arts in rural Oracle, Arizona. We are passionate about providing barrier-free music education for low-income youth in rural and Tribal Communities and dedicate a significant portion of our budget to that cause.

2. To determine eligibility for this grant, if the applying organization is non-municipal or non-profit, please describe your relationship with the supporting municipality, how this project will benefit the municipality, and the municipality's role in this project, if applicable. If the applying organization is a municipality or a municipal sub-division please enter the text "Not applicable" and go to item 3.

We received a \$5,000 grant in 2023 from Pinal County to help us build an ADA accessible ramp for our stage. This project directly benefits the municipality as Pinal County is woefully lacking in music education resources. Our programs directly benefit the students in the rural communities of Oracle, Mammoth, and San Manuel.

3. Describe the proposed project, objectives, and your plan to implement.

Our Conservatory of Music provides tuition-free music education for low-income youth in rural and Tribal Communities with limited access to music education resources. We currently provide weekly private music lessons, operate an after-school band program at the Mammoth-San Manuel PK-12 school, and a strings program at the Ak-Chin Indian Community. We have also established a partnership with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and plan to launch an after-school general music program for their community soon.

Additionally, as an arm of our Conservatory, we operate an annual tuition-free Chamber Music Festival. Students enrolled in our Conservatory attend this intensive festival which offers daily lessons, performances, master classes, and symposiums. Our Conservatory students collaborate with other students from across the state and country. This year, 34 students enrolled.



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Another arm of our Conservatory is our Signature Series. This concert series brings world renowned performers to Oracle throughout the academic year. Those artists perform at our Oracle Center for the Arts venue, teach master classes, and present assemblies at the Mammoth-San Manuel PK-12 School and at the Oracle Mountain Vista School. Tickets to our guest artists' performances are always free for students.

Our Conservatory students receive tuition-free private lessons, participate in our annual chamber music festival, and attend our Signature Series concerts where they meet face-to-face with the celebrated guest artists and work directly with them in master classes. Additionally, those students gain valuable insight into nonprofit leadership by serving as apprentices to the Artistic Director. This means that students give back to their community by helping with the festival and concert logistics. Not only does this help our students to develop a sense of responsibility and ownership, but it also enables further immersion in the world of music.

The quality of our education programs is exceptionally high due to our reliance on highly qualified instructors and performers who are selected by our Artistic Director, Stephen Cook who holds a doctorate in music performance. Our Artist Advisory Committee Members who advise the Artistic Director include Native Flutist R. Carlos Nakai; Ursula Oppens, Professor of Piano at Mannes College, and Distinguished Professor of Music at Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate Center in New York City; Robert Hamilton, Retired Professor of Piano at ASU; Eteri Andjaparidze, Professor of Piano, NYU; Dr. James DeMars, Retired Professor of Composition, ASU; Paul Harvey, Jr., Pianist, Author, Radio Hall of Fame; Alexander Korsantia, Professor of Piano New England Conservatory; Dr. John Milbauer, Dean of DePaul University School of Music, Chicago.

4. Describe how the proposed project satisfies one or more of the priority funding areas identified by the Gila River Indian Community.

The primary GRIC priority funding area that our program aligns with is **education**. We provide individualized instruction, hands on learning, free tuition, classes, assemblies, and performance opportunities for youth and collegiate level students. In addition to music instruction, students have the opportunity to learn about nonprofit leadership.

5. Identify the needs/problems to be addressed, target population and number of people to be served by the project.

Our programs are making a big impact in rural communities where family income falls below 150% of the federal poverty level as well as throughout Arizona. Our assemblies at the Title 1 Mammoth-San Manuel



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PK-12 School and the Oracle Mountain Vista School, reach over 500 students. There are 41 low-income students enrolled in our various Conservatory programs and this year's Chamber Music Festival served 34 students from around the country. Our local Conservatory students collaborated with collegiate students from BYU, Concordia College, UNLV, ASU, and U of A. We also invite students from local universities and community colleges from around the state to participate in master classes taught by our guest artists. So far this season, we have brought 25 students from ASU, U of A, Scottsdale Community College, and Mesa Community College to study with our world class visiting performers.

6. Define the project as a new or continuing program. Has GRIC previously funded this project?

We have not yet been funded by GRIC so this is a new GRIC program but we have operated the Conservatory since 2020. Last year, we were able to expand our tuition-free education programs to serve the Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and the Oracle and Mammoth San-Manuel Schools.

7. Provide a brief timeline including start and finish dates. Indicate if the timeline is flexible.

Our Conservatory operates annually from September through May each academic year.

8. Identify other organizations, partners or funders participating in the project and their roles.

We received a grant from the Ak-Chin Indian Community last year which enabled us to expand our reach. We also receive Creative Capacity Grant funding from the Arizona Commission on the Arts and rely on the generosity of our local supporters.

9. Would you be able to implement the proposed plan if your organization received partial funding for this project?

Yes. We will make adjustments to our plan according to the amount of funding we receive. Decreasing the funding amount will impact the number of students we are able to serve.

10. Describe your plan for project financial sustainability beyond the grant period. If this is a program/project previously funded by the Gila River Indian Community describe efforts made towards the previously described sustainability plan.



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Because our students receive free tuition, we must raise funds for our education programs from donations, grants, and through our concert programs. We are fortunate to have a large community of generous and enthusiastic supporters. They donate and attend our Signature Series Concerts which helps to bring in revenue throughout the season. We have applied for the Arizona Tax Credit Program as a QCO which should increase our funding support. Every year, we apply for funding from the Arizona Commission on the Arts, the Pinal County Board of Supervisors, the Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Gila River Indian Community, and Community Foundation for Southern Arizona's CORE Grant. This year, we have partnered with Cuba Rhythm and Views which helps us to raise additional education funds and will help us to establish a Cuba exchange program for students.

11. Describe your plan to document progress and results.

Our progress is measured by the size of our impact in the community, the number of students enrolled, and by the quality of the programs we are providing. Our education programs are led by experienced instructors who ensure that quality is high. We assess our students through recital performances and evaluations. We also send surveys to our enrolled students to find areas of improvement.

12. Indicate any application to and/or awards made by a tribe other than the Gila River Indian Community for state shared revenues for this and any other project for the past five (5) years. If this information is included in a separate attachment, please indicate that here.

We were fortunate to be awarded \$50,000 from the Ak-Chin Indian Community last year. This award enabled us to significantly expand our offerings including to the Tribal Communities of Ak-Chin and Salt River Pima-Maricopa.



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Project Budget

Budget Period: 2024-2025

For each budget item listed here please provide a narrative description on the following Project Budget Detail page.

Proposed Budget Expense (list each budget item)	Amount requested from GRIC	Amount requested or secured from other sources	In Kind contributions	Total Budget
Instruction fees for Conservatory Faculty Members	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$50,000
Chamber Music Festival honoraria for festival instructors and performers	\$9,600	9,600	\$0	19,200
Signature Series honoraria for visiting guest artists and master class clinicians	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0	\$24,000
Meals and Lodging for Chamber Music Festival & Visiting performers	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$2,000	\$20,000
Instrument Rental (Chamber Music Festival and Conservatory)	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$11,000
Piano Tuning Fees For the Year	\$0	\$1,500	\$500	\$2,000
T Shirts	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Print & Misc	\$0	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$5,000
Rehearsal, teaching, and practice Spaces	\$0	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$4,000
Administrative Costs	\$20,000	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$80,000
Total Budget	\$79,600	\$121,100	\$15,500	\$216,200



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Project Budget Detail

Please provide a narrative description for each of the project budget items listed on the previous page. Include the dollar figure and how it was derived.

1. Instruction fees for Conservatory Faculty Members: \$50,000. Compensation for faculty members is the core of our project as it enables us to provide tuition-free music instruction for low in-come students. We pay the instructors of our Mammoth-San Manuel, Salt River Pima-Maricopa, and Ak-Chin classroom instructors \$15,080 for the academic year, and our private lesson instructors are paid at a rate of \$1,632 per academic year per student with a target enrollment of 21 private students for the 2024-2025 academic year.
2. Chamber Music Festival honoraria for festival instructors and performers: \$20,000. Every January, we bring 12 faculty members from around the country to teach a five-day intensive Chamber Music Festival. We pay our faculty a \$1,600 honorarium.
3. Signature Series honoraria for visiting guest artists and master class clinicians: \$24,000. Throughout the academic year, we bring 10 performers from around the world to play concerts and teach master classes/host assemblies at rural schools. The honoraria we pay our guest performer/educators is negotiated but ranges between \$1,500 and \$3,000.
4. Meals and Lodging for Chamber Music Festival & Visiting performers. \$20,000: We cover meals and lodging expenses for our students and faculty attending our Chamber Music Festival and for visiting Signature Series Performers. Five nights of lodging for the 32 students and 12 faculty members enrolled in the Chamber Festival is approximately \$13,000 and meals is an additional \$5,000. We provide up to two nights of lodging for each of our visiting Signature Series artists at an approx. rate of \$100 per night.
5. Instrument Rental (Chamber Music Festival and Conservatory). \$11,000: We rent pianos for our Chamber Festival at an approx rate of \$2,700. We also rent instruments for our Ak-Chin strings program at an approx rate of \$1,600 per year. We also plan to loan keyboards as needed for those who do not have access to an instrument at home. An economical option for 88 key weighted keyboards generally costs about \$500. We anticipate provide about 13 instruments
6. Piano Tuning Fees For the Year. \$2,000: We pay \$100 per tuning for our two pianos at Oracle Center for the Arts. These instruments are used for performance and teaching and are tuned before every concert and event. We have 10 concerts and a chamber music festival throughout the season.
7. T Shirts. \$1,000: 70 shirts for students and faculty at a rate of \$14.00 per shirt.
8. Print & Misc. \$5,000: Misc. program printing, flyers, posters, teaching materials, etc.



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9. Rehearsal, teaching, and practice Spaces: \$4,000: Rental and facility fees for the teaching spaces we utilize throughout the academic year.

10. Administrative Costs. \$80,000: Approx. annual cost to operate the Oracle Center for the Arts (mortgage, utilities, maintenance) and the various services utilized by Oracle Piano Society including promotional services, ticketing services, outreach services, plus annual compensation for full-time Artistic Director and part-time Administrative Assistant who are responsible for overseeing and implementing the Conservatory, Chamber Festival, and Signature Series Programs.

To ensure a complete application and proper submission please refer to the Grant Application Instructions.



INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JUN 29 2013

ORACLE PIANO SOCIETY
C/O STEPHEN COOK
1413 E HALL ST
TEMPE, AZ 85281

Employer Identification Number:
45-5577678
DLN:
17053227321022
Contact Person: JERRY FIERRO ID# 31119
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
509(a)(2)
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
June 26, 2012
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

Please see enclosed Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Letter 947 (DO/CG)

ORACLE PIANO SOCIETY

We have sent a copy of this letter to your representative as indicated in your power of attorney.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Corbin
Acting Director, Exempt Organizations

Enclosure: Publication 4221-PC

Letter 947 (DO/CG)