



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

Name of the Tribal Community: Ak-Chin Indian Community

Due date of the application to the Tribal community: July 15, 2025

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

Email address: cook@oraclepianosociety.org

Address: Physical: 700 E. Kingston St. Oracle, AZ 85623
Mail: P.O. Box 24627
Tempe, AZ 85285

Project name: Oracle Piano Society Music Education Initiatives

Amount being requested: \$88,550

Project summary: A program providing high-quality music education services through a youth Conservatory, a Chamber Music Festival, and a Concert Series.

Beneficiaries: Low-income youth in Oracle, San Manuel, and Mammoth, Collegiate students from around the county, and local community members.

Supervisor 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

2025 Ak-Chin Indian Community Grant Application Cover Sheet

Name of Applicant: Oracle Piano Society	Applicant is a: ☐ City/Town/County (circle) X Other
Contact Person and Title: Dr. Stephen Cook	
Applicant Address (administrative office): 700 E. Kingston St.	
City: Oracle	Zip Code: 85281
Applicant Mailing Address (if different): P.O. Box 24627	
City: Tempe	Zip Code: 85285
Phone Number: 623-295-9677	Fax Number:
E-mail Address: cook@oraclepianosociety.org	
Fiscal Agent for any Applicant that is not a City, Town, or County (<i>Special Taxing Districts/Fire Districts must have a Fiscal Agent</i>)	
Contact Person: Heather Patel, Grants Administrator	
City/Town/County Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1348	
City: Florence	Zip Code: 85132
Phone Number: 520-866-6422	Fax Number:
E-mail Address: heather.patel@pinal.gov	

Program or Project Name:	
Priority Area (Check all that apply) ☒ education ☐ public safety ☐ health ☐ environment ☐ promotion of commerce ☐ economic and community development	
Purpose of Grant (brief statement):	
Oracle Piano Society seeks funding to support its music education initiatives.	
Target Audience/Beneficiaries: Low-income, rural youth and members of the communities of Oracle, Mammoth, and San Manuel in Pinal County	
Beginning and Ending Date of Program or Project: Ongoing and annual	
Amount Requested: \$88,550	Total Cost: \$194,600
Geographic Area Served: Rural Oracle, Mammoth, and San Manuel in Pinal County	

By the execution of this Grant Application the undersigned agrees that the information contained in this Application is true, to the best of the Applicant's knowledge. The Applicant shall notify the Community if any information in this Application changes.

Signature:

For the Applicant:

Date: 6/5/2025

Typed/Printed Name and Title: Dr. Stephen Cook, Artistic Director

For the Fiscal Agent: _____ Date: _____

(If applicable)

Typed/Printed Name and Title: _____

Ak-Chin Indian Community

2025 Prop 202 – 12% Contribution Grant Application

Outline for Narrative

Purpose of Grant

The Oracle Piano Society seeks funding from the Ak-Chin Indian Community to support its Conservatory of Music, a tuition-free educational initiative. This program expands access to high-quality music instruction in rural Arizona, aligning with the Community's requirement **not to use grant funding for salaries or wages**.

The Conservatory addresses the critical lack of formal music education in communities like Oracle, Mammoth, and San Manuel. Research shows music education supports cognitive development, academic achievement, and personal growth. By offering this training at no cost, the program ensures equitable access regardless of income. Additionally, it provides access to high-level cultural programs open to the general public, including performances, master classes, and workshops.

Program Elements

- **Weekly private music lessons**
- **After-school band program** at Mammoth-San Manuel PK–12 School
- **Tuition-free annual Chamber Music Festival** (January 2–7)
- **Month-long summer program**
- **Signature Series concert program** featuring public performances, master classes, and school assemblies

Students also develop leadership, communication, and planning skills by helping with event logistics, gaining experience in nonprofit arts administration.

Faculty and Advisory Committee

- **Dr. Stephen Cook**, Artistic Director (DMA, Arizona State University)
- **R. Carlos Nakai** – Navajo flutist
- **Ursula Oppens** – Piano Professor, Mannes College & CUNY
- **Robert Hamilton** – Retired Piano Professor, ASU
- **Eteri Andjaparidze** – Piano Professor, NYU
- **Dr. James DeMars** – Retired Composition Professor, ASU
- **Paul Harvey Jr.** – Pianist & Radio Hall of Fame Inductee
- **Alexander Korsantia** – Piano Professor, New England Conservatory
- **Dr. John Milbauer** – Dean, DePaul University School of Music

Program Timeline

- **Academic Year Instruction:** September–April
- **Chamber Music Festival:** January 2–7
- **Summer Intensive:** One-month program in June

Ak-Chin Indian Community

2025 Prop 202 – 12% Contribution Grant Application

Outline for Narrative

Target Population

The Oracle Piano Society serves low-income, rural youth, particularly where family income falls below 150% of the federal poverty level. The Conservatory currently reaches:

- **500+ students** through school assemblies
- **41 Conservatory students** currently enrolled tuition-free
- **34 festival participants** in 2025 (including low-income and Native students)
- Students and collaborators from BYU, ASU, U of A, UNLV, Concordia, and community colleges (Mesa and Scottsdale)
- **250+ audience members** attending public concerts, master classes, and workshops

Goals and Objectives

Goals

- Increase access to high-quality music instruction for underserved youth.
- Foster student growth in musicianship, creativity, and confidence.
- Promote community cultural enrichment through concerts and school outreach.

Objectives

- Serve **50+ Conservatory students** in 2025–2026.
- Engage **500+ youth** in outreach performances and assemblies.
- Host **1 annual Chamber Music Festival** and **11 public Signature Series concerts**.

Implementation Plan

- **October - May:** Present eleven public Signature Series Concerts.
- **October - May:** Present eleven Conservatory classes for students taught by Signature Series guest artists.
- **September–April:** Weekly private lessons.
- **September–April:** Band Program at Mammoth-San Manuel Pk-12 School.
- **January 2–7:** Chamber Music Festival.
- **June:** Summer intensive program.

Resources

Current Funding Sources

- **Ak-Chin Indian Community:** Major past funder in 2023 (\$50,000); hope for renewal in 2025.
- **Arizona Commission on the Arts Creative Capacity Grant:** (\$6,500 – 2024, long-term potential)
- **Pinal County:** (\$10,000 – recurring support)
- **Cuba Rhythm and Views partnership:** (\$9,000 raised in 2024 – one-time)
- **Lynne Cooper Harvey Foundation:** (\$25,000, recurring support)

Ak-Chin Indian Community

2025 Prop 202 – 12% Contribution Grant Application

Outline for Narrative

- **David Katzin:** (\$10,000, recurring support)
- **Tax Credit Donations:** (\$495 single/head of household; \$987 married filing joint)
- Numerous small donations from the local community.
- Ticket revenue from Signature Series Concerts.

Partner Organizations (non-funding)

- **Schools:** Mammoth-San Manuel PK–12, Oracle Mountain Vista
- **Universities:** ASU, U of A, UNLV, BYU, Concordia, Mesa CC, Scottsdale CC
- **Local Businesses:** DeMarco’s Pizzeria, Patio Café, Hachenberg Pianos, Oracle Historical Society, El Rancho Robles Guest Ranch, Oracle Community Center, Riot Grill, Oracle Patio Cafe, Casa Rivera Mexican Restaurant, Triangle L Art Ranch, Biosphere 2, The Century Room Jazz Club, Way of Bean Coffee Club.

Project Type: Continuing project designed for ongoing growth and community service.

Sustainability Plan

Following grant expiration, the program will continue through a combination of:

- Arizona Charitable Tax Credit donations
- Annual donor campaigns
- Ticket sales from Signature Series performances
- Continued pursuit of public and private grants

Budget Summary (2025–2026)

Requested Amount from Ak-Chin Indian Community: \$88,550

No funds will be used for salaries, wages, or employment compensation.

Expense Item				Ak-Chin Request	Other Sources	In-Kind	Total Budget
Guest Artist Participation Support	(Festival)			\$9,000	\$9,000	\$0	\$18,000
Guest Artist Participation Support	(Signature Series)			\$7,000	\$7,000	\$1,000	\$15,000

Ak-Chin Indian Community
2025 Prop 202 – 12% Contribution Grant Application
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Instructional Supplies, Sheet Music, Materials	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$20,000
Lodging & Meals for Guest Artists	\$11,500	\$11,500	\$2,000	\$25,000
Instrument Rental	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$4,000
Piano Tuning Fees	\$750	\$750	\$500	\$2,000
T-Shirts & Student Materials	\$300	\$300	\$0	\$600
Printing & Event Expenses	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$5,000
Space Rentals (Rehearsal/Concert)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$4,000
Administrative & Operational Support (non-salary)	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$10,000	\$100,000
Total	\$88,550	\$89,550	\$16,500	\$194,600

Other Funding Requests

Oracle Piano Society has submitted pending applications to:

- Arizona Commission on the Arts (Creative Capacity Grant)
- Pinal County Board of Supervisors (Education & Arts Funding)
- Tohono O’odham Nation 12% Grant

Ak-Chin Indian Community 2025 Prop 202 – 12% Contribution Grant Application Outline for Narrative

Previous Tribal Funding

Ak-Chin Indian Community: \$50,000 (2023) – Supported expansion of Conservatory instruction and outreach.

Reporting

The Oracle Piano Society will use QuickBooks and donor management systems to track all expenditures. A final report, including receipts, student demographics, program milestones, and evaluation summaries, will be submitted.

Impact will be measured via:

- Number of students served.
- Instructional outcomes and teacher evaluations.
- Event attendance and survey feedback.
- Partnerships and outreach milestones.

Additional Information

The Oracle Piano Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and a Qualifying Charitable Organization based in Oracle, Arizona, serving the surrounding rural region within Pinal County. It has successfully provided innovative, high-level music education and performance programs since 2012 and owns and operates the Oracle Center for the Arts Performing Arts Center.

Contact Information

Dr. Stephen Cook, Artistic/Executive Director cook@oraclepianosociety.org | (773) 454-2509

Rachel Opinsky, Chairperson opinsky@oraclepianosociety.org | (623) 523-9989

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

Compliance Note: No Ak-Chin funds will be used for wages, salaries, or employee compensation of any kind.

**Ak-Chin Indian Community
2025 Prop 202 – 12% Contribution Grant Application
Outline for Narrative**



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,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kenneth C. Corbin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kenneth Corbin
Acting Director, Exempt Organizations

Enclosure: Publication 4221-PC