

# Latino Network

**Website:**

[www.latnet.org](http://www.latnet.org)

**Working Title of Project or Event:**

Voz Alta: Amor en los tiempos de guerra/Love in the time of War

**Proposed Start Date:**

January 1, 2017

**Proposed End Date:**

November 18, 2017

**What is your projected attendance/number of participants?:**

250

**What is your proposed project location(s)?:**

Milagro Theatre and Latino Network Rockwood Center

**What are the location zip code(s)?:**

97214, 97233

**PROJECT NARRATIVES:**

**1. Please briefly summarize your project. :**

Latino Network with JoaquinLopezMusic and PDXLatinxPride (formerly Portland Latino Gay Pride) present Voz Alta: Amor en los tiempos de guerra/Love in the Time of War, an evening of poetic narratives that feature the beauty and resilience of love through times of personal and community turmoil. A dramatic staged reading with live music, Voz Alta presents August 24-25 at Milagro and November 18 at Latino Network Rockwood Center. Narratives feature the lives of Dawn Joella Jackson, an out lesbian principle at Helensview High School, and Early Childhood educator Anabertha Alvarado.

**2. How does this project support your organization's mission, history, and program goals? This description should detail the appropriateness of the project to your organization and the capacity of the organization to meet objectives.:**

Latino Network's mission is to positively transform the lives of Latino youth, families and communities. We do this through the following programming: Early Childhood Services, School and Community Based Programs, Arts & Culture, Health & Wellness, Civic Leadership & Advocacy. Founded in 1996 by community leaders who grew concerned about the lack of adequate resources to meet the needs of the growing Latino community, we have evolved to become an organization that also encompasses transformational programs aimed at educating and empowering Multnomah County Latinos. Latino Network regularly produces family events, special events and an annual

fundraiser gala. Voz Alta was founded by Joaquin Lopez--Latino Network's Arts & Culture Manager. Voz Alta is an evening of music and poetry that celebrates the Latino American experience through poetic narratives that feature the lives of Portland's Latino and Latino LGBTQ community, performed by actors and orchestrated live with Latin American folk songs. It inaugurated in 2009 to kick off PDXLatinxPride. We have Joaquin's experience and vision, the administrative infrastructure to support this event, a strong relationship with PDXLatinxPride, and we are deeply connected to Latino youth and families who Voz Alta reflects, represents and empowers.

**3. Please describe your project timeline, being as specific as possible in terms of dates. :**

Joaquin Lopez will conduct interviews in January and write the two narratives in collaboration with writer Santos Herrera. A third narrative will be written in response to the current tensions and tragedies gangs have on our East County youth and families. Narratives will be written by May. Musician Gerardo Calderon is music director. In June/ July Gerardo and Joaquin will orchestrate the narratives and hire musicians and actors. Rehearsals begin August 7. Voz Alta will kick-off PDXLatinxPride on August 25 – 26 at Milagro with an additional free holiday performance November 18 at Latino Network Rockwood Center for Latino youth and families.

**4. Please describe your target audience and outreach plan. :**

Our target audience: LGBTQ Latinos, Latino youth and family, and mainstream LGBTQ and the Ally community. We'll reach out to the greater Latino population through KBOO Spanish radio. For the mainstream community we'll create posters and flyers to post and drop off in neighborhoods and target social justice organizations who support Gay culture: Momentum Alliance, Cascade Aids Project, Causa. We'll send press releases to El Hispanic News, Willamette Week, and El Latino de Hoy. FusionArte and LAXideAL, Latino arts and culture organizations, will send e-blasts to their contacts. Latino Network, Milagro and JoaquinLopezMusic will include in their monthly newsletters.

**5. CCP Grant Goals:**

Make culture accessible and affordable to Multnomah County residents.

Support organizations and activities that emphasize cultural diversity.

Encourage new cultural activities.

Enhance arts education and cultural awareness among youth.

Foster partnerships and collaborations which support the above.

**How does your proposal foster access and/or affordability to a cultural project in Multnomah County?:**

Voz Alta: Amor en los tiempos de guerra fosters access to a theatrical experience that shares personal narratives that are culturally specific to our local Latino community in Multnomah County. Narratives are performed mostly in English with songs mostly in Spanish. English speakers will enjoy the performance as will English learners who will understand the relate to the songs. The performance on August 24 at Milagro is Friends and Family Night and it is free to the public, as is the performance on November 18 at

Latino Network Rockwood Center. General admission on August 25 is only \$10.

**Please describe the social impact to the community through this project. How does your proposal support diversity and cultural activities? :**

Voz Alta is a cultural event that reveals the diversity within our Latino community. We have a goal to feature the common experiences of two empowered women who are more than their sexualities; they are mothers, wives, friends, and hard workers. We want to show the world that we Latinos/Latinx/LGBTQ people are not the tragedies that fill our Facebook feed and national headlines. We are more. We are creating a united front rooted in cultural expression that says to our Latino/Latinx/LGBTQ community: "You are valued. We support you. Your personal story is our story."

**Please describe how your proposal encourages new cultural activities. :**

Voz Alta encourages new cultural activities by guiding the Latino community to engage in new creative outlets and expressions that reveal and reflect their experiences. We are presenting Voz Alta in a culturally specific space (Milagro), then taking Voz Alta deep into East County and presenting it to our youth and families that we serve (Latino Network Rockwood Center). By featuring two stories of women who are caregivers and in positions of leadership (a principle and an educator) we are creatively joining our youth and families with experiences of people who directly impact their education and family lives.

**Please describe how your proposal enhances arts education and cultural awareness among youth. :**

Our proposal enhances arts education by collaborating with Latino Network's after-school arts program in East County, Studio Latino. Studio Latino's photography and video students will create images of our featured narrators to be used on social media and shared. Voz Alta will also engage youth in a panel discussion after the November 18 performance fostering cultural awareness. Also, we are in discussions of presenting Voz Alta at Gresham High School or Reynolds High School to reach out to youth and families beyond Latino Network's reach.

**How does your proposal foster collaboration in the community? Please detail known partners or support members.:**

The presentation of Voz Alta: Amor en los tiempos de guerra is a concerted effort between Latino Network and JoaquinLopezMusic in collaboration with PDXLatinxPride (Latino Gay Pride). Creative producer is Joaquin Lopez with administrative support provided by Latino Network to create the kick-off event for PDXLatinxPride. Voz Alta by virtue is a multidisciplinary event that interweaves personal narrative (creative non-fiction) with Latin American folk and pop songs (music) into a dramatic staged reading (theatre). Confirmed performers include: musician Gerardo Calderon, Nurys Herrera, poet Luna Flores and writer Santos Herrera. Arts collectives Fusionarte and LaxIdeal are marketing community partners.

**BUDGET INFORMATION:**

**If awarded, specifically how will your organization use the grant funds? :**

We will use the grant funds to pay actors and musicians. Our project budget's total expense is \$20,580 (artistic \$9,790, admin \$6,935, \$3,855) with in-kind contributions equaling \$10,228 (artistic \$1,399, admin \$4,974, promotion \$3,855), creating a final balance of \$10,352 as our cash expense. Artistic fees include: 1 director (\$2,500), 1 music director (\$1,500), 2 actors (\$1,000), 2 musicians (\$1,000), 1 poet (\$500), lighting design (\$290), 1 event photographer (\$500), narrative interviewer and writer (\$2,500/\$1,399 in-kind). Admin fees include: lighting and sound rental (\$1,200), space rental (\$761), invoice/budgeting (\$625 in-kind), data/eval (\$500 in-kind), indirect costs (\$649 in-kind), and 1 producer (\$3,200 in-kind). Promotion fees include: posters (\$150 in-kind), poster distribution (\$100 in-kind), scripts (\$30 in-kind), programs (\$300 in-kind), flyers (\$200 in-kind) marketing design (\$1,200 in-kind) marketing admin (\$625 in-kind), catering from La Bonita (\$1,250 in-kind).

**What other funds will support the project?:**

Total cash confirmed \$1,000 (Latino Network \$500, PDXLatinxPride \$500). Total projected funds \$7,352 (ticket sales \$900, Voz Alta Holiday fundraiser \$500, RACC \$5,952). Total in-kind support funds \$10,228 (listed above). Total funds raised is \$18,580 (\$1,000 + \$7,352 + \$10,228 = \$18,580). Total project expense \$20,580. Deficit is \$2,000 (\$20,580 - \$18,580 = \$2,000).

**Total Project Budget:**

20580

**Total Other Project Funds:**

18580

**MCCC Grant Request:**

2000

## MediaRites

**Website:**

<http://mediarites.org>

**Working Title of Project or Event:**

Refugee Dreams Revisited

**Proposed Start Date:**

01/02/2017

**Proposed End Date:**

12/01/2017

**What is your projected attendance/number of participants?:**

300

**What is your proposed project location(s)?:**

Multnomah County Library branches and (IRCO) Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization

**What are the location zip code(s)?:**

97215, 97205, 97223, 97217

**PROJECT NARRATIVES:**

**1. Please briefly summarize your project. :**

Refugee Dreams Revisited is a staged reading performance by 6 youth and directed by two Laotian-Americans. It is an original work created from the oral histories of 10 Southeast Asian refugees who arrived in Portland in the 80s and 90s as youth and are now community leaders in Portland. They represent Cambodian, Vietnamese, Laotian, Mien and Hmong communities. The project is a collaboration between the Multnomah County Library and IRCO's Asian Family Center. Free performances will be performed by youth with a talkback panel of elder former refugees at three Multnomah County libraries and a final show/talk at IRCO.

**2. How does this project support your organization's mission, history, and program goals? This description should detail the appropriateness of the project to your organization and the capacity of the organization to meet objectives.:**

MediaRites, a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization dedicated to telling the stories of diverse cultures and giving voice to the unheard. We have brought arts outreach and theatre to Portland. MediaRites also creates innovative documentary programs such as the Peabody-Award-winning 8 hour-documentary radio series, Crossing East radio series which aired on 230 NPR stations. Refugee Dreams Revisited is based on the original recordings from that radio series. Our arts outreach projects have included workshops

and performances such as The Breast Cancer Monologues and Restorative Justice Through Art, the Legacies Intergenerational Project, the Grief Project which consisted of community workshops and two theater productions. Our current projects are Theatre Diaspora, Portland's first Asian American theatre featuring staged readings a year of AAPI plays and the Refugee Dreams Revisited Youth/Elder performance project. We have successfully managed project budgets from \$20,000-\$300,00 since 1991. Our last MCCC-funded project drew 215 people in June 2016 for two staged readings and a masterclass of a play about Japanese Americans and African Americans who shared a boarding house in post-WWII San Francisco. Play and talkback themes included Japanese Internment, displacement of people of color and gentrification.

**3. Please describe your project timeline, being as specific as possible in terms of dates. :**

We will start rehearsing 6 young people at area high schools, the Asian Family Center and Multnomah County libraries in January through February. We plan to perform several shows during March at library branches. We will have a larger celebration show and talkback in IRCO's special events space in April. We are currently scheduling exact dates but the locations and general timeline is confirmed and set.

**4. Please describe your target audience and outreach plan. :**

The free performances and talkbacks will bring Southeast Asian and other AAPI families and general public together. We will be cross-promoting through MediaRites' e-list of 1800 and websites as well AS e-newsletters of IRCO's Asian Family Center and the Multnomah County Library. We will also send press releases and listings to all local media including the Oregonian, Asian Reporter, ArtsWatch, Travel Portland, Willamette Week, Mercury, Artslandia, OPB and KBOO's Stage & Studio program. We will print flyers and distribute them at IRCO (Immigrant and Refugee Community of Oregon), Asian Family Center and the library branches.

**5. CCP Grant Goals:**

Make culture accessible and affordable to Multnomah County residents.

Support organizations and activities that emphasize cultural diversity.

Encourage new cultural activities.

Enhance arts education and cultural awareness among youth.

Foster partnerships and collaborations which support the above.

**How does your proposal foster access and/or affordability to a cultural project in Multnomah County?:**

All shows will be free and available to the public. By performing the shows and talkbacks in Multnomah County library branches of Central, North Portland and Midland, we will reach a diverse demographic cross-section of people. By performing at library branches, we will be performing in locations accessible to everyone including people with disabilities. These locations are also easily accessible by mass transit and we will be putting bus line information in our publicity and marketing materials.

**Please describe the social impact to the community through this project. How does your proposal support diversity and cultural activities? :**

This project sheds light on Southeast Asian refugee history through a unique, relevant arts education opportunity for Southeast Asian youth through a series of theatre workshops and public performances. It also highlights the Crossing East oral history recordings and transcripts as an educational archive and resource for educators and the community. Through empowering creative processes of play creation and performance, the youth will gain a new understanding of refugee experiences and their contributions. With current anti-refugee sentiment, this project gives voice to the contributions refugees have made in Portland.

**Please describe how your proposal encourages new cultural activities. :**

Many AAPIs have not attended theater events. This will encourage a love for live performance that is relevant to their communities. Part arts education, part public performance, part historical archive, "Refugee Dreams Revisited" will have deep and lasting impact on local Southeast Asian community members, bridging generations and cultures through this multi-modal project. The project can also be a model for breathing new educational life into oral history projects and for creating stories across disciplines. The documentary theatre approach combined with elder talkback panels makes this a unique experience for AAPI communities to learn and be moved artistically.

**Please describe how your proposal enhances arts education and cultural awareness among youth. :**

What makes this project exciting and unique is connecting local youth to their own contemporary immigrant history of Southeast Asians who were not much older than they are. This project also highlights the relevance of educating young people about ethnic history, which youth are increasingly demanding across the country. The youth will also shape the oral histories from transcripts into an original performance work of monologues, giving their individual perspective to the elder stories. And connecting youth with elders enhances the relationship of these two generations.

**How does your proposal foster collaboration in the community? Please detail known partners or support members.:**

We're working with longtime partner Sophorn Cheang, interim executive director of IRCO's Asian Family Center and with Coi Vu, Youth and Family Systemwide Program Coordinator, Multnomah County Library. Both women are Portlanders who have strong connections to the Southeast Asian communities. They will be offering venue, marketing and outreach support to draw audiences and to locate youth to perform in the project. Former Portland ESL teacher Anne Morrin who taught many of the elders we will work with when they were young. She also recorded their original oral histories for the Crossing East radio series. She will moderate the panel.

**BUDGET INFORMATION:**

**If awarded, specifically how will your organization use the grant funds? :**

We will use these funds to pay artists fees for six youth at \$350 each as a stipend for their rehearsal and performance times. This totals \$2100. MediaRites will make up the \$100 difference with matching funds which will pay stipends to the two co-directors, panels, moderator, design and printing promotional materials, outreach, admin, websites/social media marketing, photo/video documentation.

**What other funds will support the project?:**

The other funds will support stipends for two co-directors and project manager. The elder panelists and panel moderator will receive honorariums. We also have rehearsal and event space costs, promotional and educational outreach materials, graphic design, transcription, audio editing, video and photography documentation. The matching funding comes from the PGE Foundation of \$5000 and \$1200 from the Multnomah County Library. With MCCC support we can complete our budget to make this a successful youth arts project.

**Total Project Budget:**

8200

**Total Other Project Funds:**

6200

**MCCC Grant Request:**

2000

# **Newspace Center for Photography**

**Website:**

[www.newspacephoto.org](http://www.newspacephoto.org)

**Working Title of Project or Event:**

Torrent Tea: Queer Space and Photographic Futures

**Proposed Start Date:**

January 1, 2017

**Proposed End Date:**

February 26, 2017

**What is your projected attendance/number of participants?:**

1200

**What is your proposed project location(s)?:**

Newspace; Q Center

**What are the location zip code(s)?:**

97214

**PROJECT NARRATIVES:**

**1. Please briefly summarize your project. :**

The age of social media has simultaneously elevated and oppressed globally recognized images of blackness and queerness in America. Torrent Tea is a group exhibition and public programs series in which artists of color use digital space for self-representation and expanded notions of queerness. The images, all of which have a strong presence on the web, make hay of the significance of black joy, excellence, and sexuality by catalyzing the democratic digital arena. They stand in stark contrast to those in the media that linger traumatically from news reports, fictionalized caricatures, and images expressly formatted for commodification.

**2. How does this project support your organization's mission, history, and program goals? This description should detail the appropriateness of the project to your organization and the capacity of the organization to meet objectives.:**

In 2014, Newspace successfully fundraised for a position to hire its first Curator, Yaelle Amir, to grow its exhibitions and public programs. Amir was hired for her specific experience in linking art and social justice, and her broad view of photography and how it can be utilized to reach diverse audiences. Accordingly, she has developed a rigorous and cohesive program that has grown overall attendance rates by 60%. Further programming will continue to shape Newspace as a leader in examining what images can do, how they function in current times, and the ways in which they can activate new

forms of knowledge and provoke action.

Torrent Tea: Queer Space and Photographic Futures will engage Portland's queer community, as well as organizations that support LGBTQ communities of color, art audiences, and the general public, thus expanding Newspace's mission to provide an accessible place to create, learn, and engage in the evolution of the image. This exhibition and public programs series will help bridge service gaps to historically underrepresented and underserved populations, and further Newspace's capacity to expressly highlight the image's unique position to reflect, communicate, teach, propose, and challenge the state of our culture and surroundings.

**3. Please describe your project timeline, being as specific as possible in terms of dates. :**

Torrent Tea opens January 13, 2017, and closes on February 25, 2017.

At the start of January, Newspace will assist participating artists E. Jane, King Texas, Devin N Morris, and Rafia Santana with the production of their never-before shown photographs and video, as well as one experimental textile. In early January, Newspace will also do targeted outreach to local queer communities and the general public. In late January, Dr. Kemi Adeyemi of University of Washington's Gender Studies department, and local writer Bart Fitzgerald, will present a public lecture and a readings about the contemporary Queer Black experience.

**4. Please describe your target audience and outreach plan. :**

Newspace will do targeted outreach to organizations and groups in the greater Portland-metro area who service and support local queer communities and specifically LGBTQ communities of color, to engage in a rare and specified conversation regarding their unique triumphs and challenges. We will also execute targeted outreach to art audiences and the general public to attend the exhibition and related programs. We aim to partner with the Q Center and the recently established Black affiliate of Portland PFLAG as co-sponsors of Torrent Tea's public programming.

**5. CCP Grant Goals:**

Make culture accessible and affordable to Multnomah County residents.

Support organizations and activities that emphasize cultural diversity.

Encourage new cultural activities.

Enhance arts education and cultural awareness among youth.

Foster partnerships and collaborations which support the above.

**How does your proposal foster access and/or affordability to a cultural project in Multnomah County?:**

Artists of color struggle for access and recognition in Multnomah County's primarily white demographic of artists and arts administrators. Similarly, while the queer community generally finds acceptance, its artists struggle to generate opportunity outside specially engineered spaces. Torrent Tea provides access to space and

conversation for these groups individually and collectively. Newspace is ADA accessible and offers all exhibition programming at no cost to the public. In addition, several TriMet MAX stops and stations are within 0.010 miles of Newspace for convenient public transportation and accessibility.

**Please describe the social impact to the community through this project. How does your proposal support diversity and cultural activities? :**

Portland takes pride in its progressive attitudes toward social and artistic activities, yet struggles in fostering diversity among a limited racial atmosphere. The exhibition and accompanying public programming of Torrent Tea will present a unique and vital opportunity to bring together the specialized demographic of queer people of color whom are frequently underserved and undervalued in art institutions and beyond. It will not only provide a space for these communities to hold discussions, but it will also allow for the general public to listen and engage in important current issues.

**Please describe how your proposal encourages new cultural activities. :**

Torrent Tea will provide effective cultural exchange within a predominately white metropolitan area, enhancing communal awareness and competence around the topics and needs of individuals and groups within local queer communities and LGBTQ communities of color. The images by Torrent Tea's artists have never before been publicly displayed. Through this exhibition's community driven methodology, artists' practices have taken back the medium of photography from a canon that has historically neglected participation by queer communities and LGBTQ communities of color. The artists use digital space to circulate new portraits of blackness and queerness as diverse, empowered, and unconcerned with injurious gazes.

**Please describe how your proposal enhances arts education and cultural awareness among youth. :**

Newspace offers free, guided gallery tours to schools and community groups. Students will have a chance to learn about exhibitors' work and technique, to ask questions, and to discuss the work critically. Tours are designed to increase accessibility to photographic education and arts and culture concepts. Targeted outreach to Multnomah County schools will also encourage exhibition exposure and participation to cultivate positive recognition of queer people of color as individuals to be celebrated for their stances on gender, sexuality, and contributions to popular culture, while also recognizing counter images that serve as undignified portrayals of abuse and mocking.

**How does your proposal foster collaboration in the community? Please detail known partners or support members.:**

Proposed partners for collaboration on exhibition production and public programming include the Q Center (LGBTQ Community Center), Black PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), and the Department of Gender Studies at the University of Washington.

**BUDGET INFORMATION:**

**If awarded, specifically how will your organization use the grant funds? :**

Newspace will apply funds to cover travel and honoraria for two public programs: a talk by Dr. Kemi Adeyemi of the Gender Studies department at University of Washington on the methods black queer women have for creating space in contemporary society; and a reading by local writer, Bart Fitzgerald, on the culture of black Portlanders. Funds will also produce previously unexhibited works by four national queer artists of color, specifically 20 photographs and one textile, and will provide honorariums for the guest curator, Ashley Stull Meyers, and participating artists: E. Jane, King Texas, Devin N Morris, and Rafia Santana.

**What other funds will support the project?:**

Additional funding to secure Torrent Tea's production, programming, shipping, honoraria, and materials costs comes from the generous support of The Kinsman Foundation, as well as from in-kind donations from Newspace's dedicated volunteers. Committed volunteers will print the artists' images, hang the artworks, staff public programs, and loan iPads and projectors for the exhibition.

**Total Project Budget:**

3836

**Total Other Project Funds:**

1836

**MCCC Grant Request:**

2000