

January 19, 2020

Ally Randolph
Treasurer
Opera Theater

Dear Daniel Parsons,

Opera Theater is a national award winning student group in the Music Union. Some of our National Opera Association Honors awards include: 3rd place in 2018 for Handel's *Julius Caesar*, 3rd place in 2016 for Gilbert and Sullivan's *Gondoliers*, and 1st place in 2014 for *The Legend of Orpheus*. We are open to students of all majors that would like to be involved in opera performances and productions. Biannually we put on a full staged production of an Opera which exhausts most our funds. There are costs for costumes, set pieces, theater rent, and tech design. This year, we had an unexpected event occur that created sudden difficulties that has made the overall cost of our upcoming double bill production of *The Medium* by Gian Carlo Menotti and *Gianni Schicci* by Giacomo Puccini, on February 14th and 15th, impossible to achieve with our current financial situation.

In the past we have frequently collaborated with The Missoula's Children Theater as our performance venue. Unfortunately, due to circumstances out of our control we were not included in their show lineup for the 2019-2020 season. This unexpected change left us in desperate need of a new venue to host the Opera. We decided to move back to campus into the George and Jane Dennison Theater which was the only available space with room to house all of our production needs. We are very excited to be coming back to campus for our production this semester, but we are anxiously searching for funds to cover the numerous costs involved with putting on this production.

The most expensive element involved with the Opera is the usage of the Dennison for performances and rehearsals. After discussing the breakdown of expenses with Aaron Torgerson the total cost for using the theater will be \$7,843. This amount breaks down mainly into paying the tech crew that will help us with the technical aspects of using the space:

**Dennison Theatre
Costs**

Tech. Director	50 hours \$32/ hour:	\$1,600.00
Assistant Tech Director	42 hours \$28/ hour:	\$1,176.00
Stage Technicians	184 hours \$18/ hour:	\$3,312.00
* Custodial Costs:		\$500.00
* Lighting System Rental:		\$400.00
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* Followspot Rental:		\$350.00
* Sound System/ Clear Com Rental:		\$150.00
* Video Projection System Rental:		\$200.00
* Expendable Supplies/ Gaff/ Lamps/ Etc:		\$30.00
* SHELL SETUP FEE:		\$125.00
Total Costs:		\$7,843

It is important to note that this does not include design and construction time as we are currently working on getting an outside contractor to do that. It also does not include any additional equipment rental from the School of Theatre and Dance.

We have been actively fundraising in an attempt to cover this massive expense. At our fundraising gala this past September, we made a total of \$2,400, and

we have \$1,790 worth of ASUM allocated funds to support our production. However, these funds are mainly being used to support other elements such as: costumes, sets, publicity, makeup and lighting. Even with our fundraising efforts and our ASUM allocated funds, we do not have the financial support we need to cover the cost for the Dennison Theatre.

Opera Theater would be extremely grateful to be considered for the Dennison Theater Event Fund. We are in a very difficult financial situation, and we desperately want to execute this biannual student production.

Sincerely,

Ally Randolph

Contact Information: ally.randolph@umconnect.umt.edu

Jax.Hassler@umconnect.umt.edu



The Associated Students of the University of Montana

Date of Request: January 21, 2020

Dennison Theater Event Fund Request Form

Group Name: Opera Theater Person(s) Preparing the Request: Ally Randolph
 Contact Phone Number: 435-690-3100 E-mail: ally.randolph@umconnect.umt.edu
 ASUM Index Code: _____ Event Description: Performance
 Event Date: February 8-15 Event Location: Dennison Theater

*Please attach a cover letter explaining the details and purpose of the event, how it will benefit your group and/or the university, who is attending the event, additional costs/revenues associated with the event, and any other information that may help ASUM when considering your request.

Code	Description	Amount Requested	Board Approved	Senate Approved
	Dennison Theater Costs (Tech. Director, assistant tech director, stage technicians, custodial costs, lighting, followspot rental, sound system/boom work, etc.)	\$7,893	\$1,755.00	\$
		\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$

Code Explanations: 621-Contracted Services (guest speaker, DJs, security, etc.); 622-Supplies and Materials (training supplies, printing, books, etc.); 623-Communications (postage, advertising, phone charges, etc.); 625-Rentals (equipment, films, meeting rooms, etc.); 628-Other (dues, subscriptions, entertainment, food/beverage, etc.)

Other Sources of Funding: fundraising Music Union Revenue Funds

Total Amount Being Requested: \$ 7,893 Total Cost of the Event: \$ 7,893

Group Member Signature: [Signature] Date: 1/21/20

For ASUM Use Only:

Board on Budget and Finance:
 Total Amount Approved: \$1,755.00 Date: 2/2/20
 X: Daniel Parsons Print Name: Daniel Parsons

ASUM Senate:
 Total Amount Approved: _____ Date: _____
 X: _____ Print Name: _____