

Final Report – 2007-2008 Project Grants for Organizations

1. Grant identification number: 08-0238
2. Grantee name: Loudoun Community Band, Inc.
Address: P.O. Box 1884, Leesburg, VA 20177
Contact Person: Maggie Malick
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3. Title of project: Summer Concert Series
4. Dates of activity: August 11, 2007 – May 21, 2008
5. Description of project: This project was for the Loudoun Symphonic Winds (LSW) to provide three summer concerts to Loudoun County retirement communities. We have discovered how deeply appreciative the seniors are of our concerts, and as many of them often have difficulty getting out and traveling to concerts performed elsewhere, this project enabled us to bring the music to them. This was originally intended to be a summer concert series, but by the time we were notified of our grant award in late June, all but one of the retirement homes had summer activities planned on the dates we were available. So we shifted it into a year-long project; performing in senior communities following our regular season concerts, as well as putting on a Christmas concert at Falcons Landing, in Sterling, VA.

Our original budget estimate included hiring eight professional musicians from the premier military bands, as many of our members are away on summer vacations. Shifting the bulk of the concerts to later in the year allowed us to hire fewer professionals, so we were able to perform five concerts instead of the proposed three. One of the additional concerts was performed by the Loudoun Jazz Ensemble (LJE). LSW and LJE are the two largest ensembles under the umbrella of the Loudoun Community Band, Inc.

The seniors have been an enthusiastic and appreciative audience, with many of them approaching the musicians afterward to express their gratitude for the performance, as well as their hopes that we come back again.

6. Total project cash income: See attached financial report.
7. Total project cash expenses: See attached financial report.
8. Total number of artists participating in this project: 65 total (breakdown below):

Professional artists hired (including the conductor):	5.8 (average for five concerts)
Regular volunteer members of LSW:	39
Regular volunteer members of LJE:	11

9. Total Number of Individuals Participating, Including Attendance:
430 total attendees at five performances, plus over 200 who viewed one concert via closed-circuit television*, in addition to average of 40 artists at each of the five performances.

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* Falcons Landing broadcast the concert via closed circuit TV to residents who would have difficulty attending in person. They broadcast it simultaneously with the concert and then rebroadcast the concert again closer to the holidays. They estimate that 100 people saw the first broadcast, and over 200 watched the second one. There was probably some overlap on the second broadcast of people who already saw or attended the concert, but there is no way to estimate how much.

10. Of the total number attending, how many were under 18? Two. Two members of the Loudoun Symphonic Winds are actually high school students who play in our ensemble in addition to their own band program.
11. Total number of arts events associated with the project: 5 concerts were presented at retirement facilities.
12. Number of arts events associated with the project that took place outside of school but which are specifically aimed at people under age 18: None
13. How did this project improve your capabilities in relation to artistic quality, community service, or management of your organization? As this was a project oriented toward the seniors in our performing area, we believe its greatest impact was in community service. The residents have been so delighted with the performances, that the staff at each location has asked us to return for future concerts. The residents approach the musicians afterward to express their appreciation and to talk about the program they just heard. Many of them were involved with music, either as performers or concert-goers in their younger years, and this provides an opportunity for them to reminisce and share fond memories with our musicians.

These performances also contain an educational element, which enlightens the audience, and enhances the artistic quality of the ensemble. Each concert maintains an overall theme, which serves three purposes: 1) To educate the ensemble musically by gaining experience with a range of genres, composers and styles of music; 2) to challenge the ensemble, both technically and musically, culminating in a rewarding performance experience for both the audience and the musicians; and 3) to expose our audiences to a range of musical genres and styles. All concerts are also recorded and evaluated for areas of further improvement.

This grant allowed us to hire professional musicians to perform with the ensemble. This serves to fill in any instrumental gaps and ensure a quality musical performance for the audience. But inviting musicians of this caliber also provides an example of excellence to lead the members of the band to new levels of musicianship.

14. I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, all information in this final report is complete and accurate.

Maggie Malick
Board of Directors
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