

July 3, 2020

Pima County Board of Supervisors
% Supervisor Betty Villegas
130 W. Congress Street
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Supervisor Villegas and Members of the Board,

I am writing to you today to request consideration of the Tucson International Mariachi Conference (TIMC) for the Outside Agency Funding Recommendation in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Since our first conference in 1983, the TIMC has had at its core mission "to promote awareness and foster traditional values of Mariachi music and Baile Folklórico through educational activities that increase knowledge, artistic and technical experience, cultural identity, and pride in our youth and community." Our conference has been doing exactly that for the past 38 years through its' mariachi workshops for youth not only from our community, but from across the world. Our students are provided the opportunity to learn from expert educators in the discipline of mariachi music, while fostering a love of the music, culture and dance. The TIMC also offers scholarships for students who cannot afford to participate in the conference without help.

As a board member of TIMC since I retired in 2005, I have seen the importance of our conference in terms of the economic impact it has had for our community. People come from all over the world, many who have been coming for years, to attend the TIMC. Now, as a grandparent to a mariachi, I have seen how it has helped my granddaughter grow and be inspired to learn more about the music she loves and develop pride in her culture, while participating in a group with other young people who work as a team to be the best musicians they can be. Participating in the conference has had a huge impact on her and all our students that will continue to do so for all of their lives. Several of our current board members have grown up attending and participating in the conference and are a true testament to the longevity of the impact the TIMC has made on them, and as a result, on our community.

The TIMC is a non-profit organization that also depends on the contributions from the community and funding from others who share our mission. I am requesting that you please consider the TIMC for funding to help us continue to provide our conference to the community and these wonderful opportunities to our youth.

Sincerely,

Ramona F. Grijalva
Board Member
Tucson International Mariachi Conference

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(Signature)

June 29, 2020

Pima County Board of Supervisors
C/O Supervisor Betty Villegas
130 W. Congress St.
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Supervisor Villegas,

My name is Justin Enríquez and I am a board member of the Tucson International Mariachi Conference (TIMC). I am writing to you today to offer you my first-hand experience of this important artistic and cultural event in hope that you will consider offering financial support to keep this conference alive and vibrant for our youth, especially those of Mexican-American heritage.

For 38 years, the TIMC has made it its mission to increase knowledge, artistic, and technical experience in and for our youth to promote prideful awareness of their cultural identity and community. I can personally testify to the effectiveness of this conference in accomplishing its mission year after year since its inception in 1982.

As a 6-year-old, I remember watching the Espectacular Concert and being inspired to learn more about my Mexican culture, its music, and its folklore. As a teen, the excitement of participating in the Student Workshops was something I could look forward to every year knowing without a doubt, that I would be receiving quality instruction from some of the best and most respected mariachi educators in the field.

After graduating from high school, I was given the unique opportunity of becoming an instructor for the TIMC. This was one of the most pivotal moments in my life as it eventually lead to my pursuit of a degree in Mexican-American Studies with an emphasis in ethnomusicology from the University of Arizona. Had it not been for the TIMC, I would not have found my passion for teaching so early on in my professional life and I know many mariachi-educator colleagues my age have had similar experiences.

Now, as a Board member of the TIMC, I have been able to see first-hand how vital this event is to our community. Through its Mariachi Workshops, the Conference has introduced opportunities for our youth to connect with others from around the world who have developed a passion for mariachi music as a venue to pursue higher education. It has also given students of varying backgrounds access to high-quality instruction, regardless of their socio-economic status, by offering several scholarships for those who need assistance with registration fees. The TIMC offers several enrichment events such as the Student Showcase, the "Espectacular Concert", and "Fiesta Garibaldi" where community members of all ages can experience the warmth and hospitality that makes

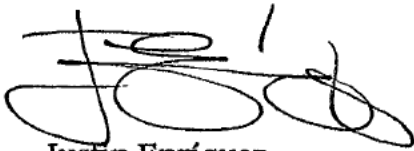
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Tucson and its surrounding areas so unique and the economic impact of this 4-day long conference is substantial.

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, the TIMC depends heavily on the contributions of community members and other organizations who share in our desire to enrich the lives of our youth using music, art, and dance. I am respectfully requesting that you consider the TIMC for the "Outside Agency Funding Recommendation" in the amount of \$15,000.00 so that we can continue to provide these opportunities for students while innovating educational practices to stay ahead in our ever-changing technological world. This investment in our youth will prove to be beneficial, not only for the participating students, but for the entire community as it has done faithfully for the past 38 years.

Thank you very much for your consideration in this matter. I am readily available should you need to contact me. I may be reached by telephone at [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED]. Thank you very much and have a great day!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Enríquez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Justin Enríquez
Board Member
Tucson International Mariachi Conference

June 23, 2020

Pima County Board of Supervisors
C/O Supervisor Betty Villegas
130 W. Congress St.
Tucson, AZ

Dear Supervisor Villegas:

As a Board Member of over (8) years and on behalf of the Tucson International Mariachi Conference (TIMC), a non-profit 501c(3) organization, I am respectfully requesting for the Pima County to consider adding our event to the list of awardees for the "Outside Agency Funding Recommendation," which is on the June 29th agenda. As a board member of the (TIMC) always looked for the opportunity to look for Sponsorships and how different Sponsors could benefit to be a part of the event.

The TIMC was not aware of this funding opportunity for "Tourist and Attractions" until very recently. I believe that based on the history of the events history, cultural significance to this region, and the economic impact we have brought to Pima County for the past 38 years, the TIMC would have been a successful applicant. The funding that we would like to request the Pima County is \$15,000.00

The TIMC was on schedule to celebrate our 38th Anniversary in April 2020, and we were excited to return to the Downtown area after have executed the event for eight years at the Pascua Yaqui Anselmo Valencia Amphitheatre.

Unfortunately, as with many other events in 2020, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we had no choice but to cancel the event. Although, it was disappointing, our Board of Directors agreed we would take this additional time and work on fundraising and look for grant applications to replace revenue lost in 2020 and look forward to return to the Downtown area a more robust and special "homecoming" event in 2021.

This funding will greatly help support the educational component of Mariachi Music, Baile Folklorico workshops, Student Showcase Performance and Fiesta Garibaldi. For four days each year, hundreds of students from all over the World learn music and dance from experienced Mariachi and Baile Folklorico instructors, followed by several public events featuring the most prestigious professional mariachis and dancers within our programming.

Tucson International Mariachi Conference History

The TIMC is the premier mariachi music festival in the world showcased since 1982. It has been the leading force in supporting the development of Mariachi and Baile Folkloric instruction in schools across the United States. Our goal is to increase pride and awareness of Mexican

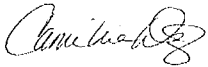
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American heritage and history to all while promoting a sense of cultural identity, achievement, success, craftsmanship, and a pathway to higher education to the students.

In 2011, UNESCO declared Mariachi music be "Recognized and Inscribed on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity." One of the five inscriptions noted reads **"Mariachi music is transmitted from generation to generation and continuously recreated during festive, religious and civil events, Mariachi music strengthens the sense of identify and continuity of its communities, within Mexico and abroad."** This nomination was a historic declaration, and TIMC is committed to ensuring its past, present, and future existence. We ask you to join in supporting us as we continue this wonderful and historic Tucson and Pima County tradition.

I am very grateful and do appreciate you time and we look forward to a favorable consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,



Camillia Diaz
Board of Directors,
Tucson International Mariachi Conference

"Designated in Top 10 Tucson Events, by International Festival & Events Association "World Festivals & Event City Award" IFEA-2017

504 W 29th Street
Tucson, AZ 85713-3353
Office: 520-838-5600 Fax 520-792-0654
www.lafronteraaz.org

June 24, 2020

Pima County Board of Supervisors
c/o Supervisor Betty Villegas
130 W Congress
Tucson, Az

Dear Supervisor Villegas:

This letter is in support of the request for consideration of a \$15,000 grant from the County submitted by the Tucson International Mariachi Conference under the Tourist and Attraction category.

Your support would assist us in continuing our 38 year old tradition of promoting awareness and fostering pride of the traditional values of Mariachi culture. It is our goal to provide high quality education at the lowest possible cost to the students and to achieve this goal significant financial resources and volunteers are required. The Conference in turn contributes to economic health of community and has received many awards recognizing its success.

For more than ten years I have been privileged to belong to the Board of Directors and to Chair the Armando Gonzales Showcase. The Showcase provides an opportunity for the participants to perform on stage showing to their family members and community at large what they have learned during the Conference. Regrettably due to the Pandemic we were not able to have a Conference and Showcase this year and have received many comments from students hoping that next year we will be able to be together again.

The Tucson International Mariachi Conference is an important event bringing Mariachi groups from New Mexico, California, Texas, Mexico and others as far as the Pacific Northwest. Instructors from Mexico and Performers from different areas have joined the almost thousand students and their family to make the Conference a time of joy for our community.

Thank you for considering our request and for your continued participation and interest in the Conference. Help us make the 2021 Conference a bigger and better than ever event.

Cordially,



Maria Elena McElroy

Board Member

Tucson International Mariachi Conference

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TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
PUEBLO MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL
3500 S. 12th Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85713-5997

June 26, 2020

Pima County Board of Supervisors
C/O Supervisor Betty Villegas
130 W Congress St
Tucson, AZ

Esteemed Pima County Board of Supervisors,

I am a mariachi educator based in Tucson, Arizona with 25 years of experience in education and over 40 years of experience in mariachi performance. Additionally, I have served as a board member for the Tucson International Mariachi Conference for the past 11 years. I am writing in support of the Tucson International Mariachi Conference (TIMC), a non-profit 501c(3) organization, to be considered on the list of awardees for the *Outside Agency Funding Recommendation*.

For the past 38 years, the TIMC has been at the forefront of preserving the arts of mariachi and ballet folklórico. Their efforts in educational programming and event coordinating have inspired numerous students, young and old alike, to cultivate this music and dance that are an integral connection to their culture.

TIMC's educational component consists of highly organized music and dance workshops with varying levels according to students' ability. Equal importance is placed upon the historical and performance aspects through workshops tailored to promote these beneficial components as well.

The performance events that TIMC organize, such as the Espectacular Concert, Student Showcase and Fiesta Garibaldi, add to the overall experience for all involved. Connecting the students to their community through music is one of the important roles that TIMC fulfills. Performing the pieces that they have learned from the educational component for various audiences helps to promote pride and accomplishment for students and young artists.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the Tucson International Mariachi Conference and the enriching programming participants and the community look forward to every year.

Thank you,

John C. Contreras
Director, Mariachi Aztlán de Pueblo Magnet High School
Tucson International Mariachi Conference Executive Board Member

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Pima County Board of Supervisors
C/O Supervisor Betty Villegas
130 W Congress St
Tucson, AZ

June 26, 2020

Dear Supervisor Villegas:

My name is Carlos Dejud, Ph. D. I am a strong believer of giving back to our community through volunteer work, especially to agencies that provide behavioral and mental health services, such as the benefactor of the Tucson International Mariachi Conference's fundraising event, La Frontera Center, Inc. I have been an active Board member to TIMC in the capacity of Volunteer Liaison for the past 3 years. Prior to moving out of state, I was a Board member from 2000-2007 and chaired the Fiesta the Garibaldi event. Lastly, from 1989-1999 was an active volunteer along with my son and extended family members.

As you know, TIMC was geared up and excited to return to the Tucson Convention Center (TCC) and downtown area after leaving for eight years. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic this year's events had to be cancelled. As such, TIMC's Board of Directors has made a proactive approach to take this additional time to work on fundraising as well as submitting grant applications.

Based on the above-mentioned information, I write to you in support of TIMC's request for Pima County Board of Supervisors to consider adding this event to the list of awardees for the "Outside Agency Funding Recommendation". It is my understanding that TIMC was unaware of this funding opportunity for "Tourist and Attractions" until very recently.

I believe that based on the cultural and the economic impact the conference has brought to the City of Tucson for the past 38 years, TIMC would be a successful non-profit applicant.

If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]. I thank you for your time and look forward to a favorable consideration of this request.

Kindly,

Carlos Dejud, Ph. D.
TIMC, Volunteer Liaison

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