

## GRANT AWARD FORM

**Grant Award Form:** Please complete the Project Questions below and include this page in your Final Report materials submitted to the address below.

The information provided in question #1 - 5 should be the same as the information on your Urbana Arts Grant Agreement with the City.

1. **GRANTEE:** Name of Applicant or Primary Contact:

Ja Nelle Pleasure

Address:

502 W. Main St Apt 119 Urbana IL 61801

Project Title:

Cinderella-Cinderella Ballroom Dance Troupe

2. **TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDS AWARDED:** \$ 1000 .00

3. **TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED TO DATE:** \$ 500 .00

4. **GRANT PERIOD:** Feb 1, 2019 through April 1, 2020.

5. **EXPENDITURE DEADLINE:** April 1, 2020.

6. **DATE OF PROJECT COMPLETION:** Aug. 18, 2019.

## COVER LETTER WITH CERTIFICATION

**Final Report Certification:** Each Report submitted should be accompanied by a **cover letter** on grantee letterhead, signed by an authorized agent of the grantee, stating one of the following, as appropriate:

(For Tier III GRANTEES)

***“I hereby certify that I am authorized to approve this Report, that I have reviewed the attached invoices in the amount of \$~~1000.00~~ 37; that all costs claimed have been incurred for the Project in accordance with the Agreement between (name of GRANTEE) and the CITY OF URBANA; that all submitted invoices have been paid; and no costs included herein have been previously submitted.”***

(For Tier I, II, and Arts in the Schools GRANTEES):

***“I hereby certify that I am authorized to approve this Report, which serves as a Request for Reimbursement, that I have reviewed the attached invoices in the amount of \$~~2057.37~~ .37; that all costs claimed have been incurred for the Project in accordance with the Agreement between (name of GRANTEE) and the CITY OF URBANA; that all submitted invoices have been paid; and no costs included herein have been previously submitted.”***

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## THE REPORT

**The Report:** Please use the following instructions to write a Final Report on letter size plain paper, or to be emailed as a PDF. The Final Report must be word processed. Handwritten Final Reports will not be accepted. Please **do not** staple your report. Paperclip all pages together and place the entire Final Report in an envelope. Binders, folders and report covers are unnecessary and will be discarded. The Report must include the following information:

**Post-Project Evaluation:** Write one typed page describing the following information:

1. Accomplishments and how grant funds were utilized during the grant period.
2. The impact that the grant funds had on your artistic or organizational development.
3. The number of hours spent in completing the project: including planning, administration, promotion, production, and the final presentation.
4. The number of participants in events or activities related to your grant project.
5. Description of experience working with collaborating partners.
6. Any additional comments.

**Project Documentation:** Documentation is required showing the progress or completion of your grant project. **Please note that materials will not be returned.**

- Submit no fewer than three **digital** images (.jpg, .gif, or .tif) depicting the performances, workshops, and/or exhibits pertaining to the project. This can include images from the production and the final exhibit or performance of the project.
- Include examples of event announcements or flyers used to promote the event.

Special Thanks

*(Gracias Especiales)*

Lisa Sheltra (Salt & Light)  
Lisa Sullivan (Salt & Light)  
Jessy Ruddell (I.D.E.A Store)  
Jade O'Conner (Dance Assistant)  
Rachel Storm (Urbana Arts & Culture Program)  
Mark Enslin  
Anthony DeCerbo  
Giovanna Dibenedetto  
CU West Coast Swing Dance Group  
JuStarrea Curry (Programs)  
Sarah Buckman (Common Ground Co-op)  
Nika Lucks (Solid Soul Photography)  
Phil Edwards (Dj Fireproof Services)  
UPTV  
Roger Epperson (Documentary)  
Karen Medina (IMC)  
Lincoln Square Mall  
Manuel Garcia (Director)  
William (Facilities Management)



# Cinderella Cinderfella

Ballroom Dance Competition

Lincoln Square Mall

201 Lincoln Square

Urbana, IL

Sunday, August 18 2019

2:00pm

# The Report!

The Cinderella Cinderfella ballroom dance troupe was a pilot project for the children of Urbana IL. I wanted to see Ballroom dance accessible to children who came from low income families. Children who have only seen something like this on T.V. Not only that, but I wanted to bring my skills as in an instructor to the forefront. I spent well over 15 years thinking about and trying to bring into fruition this project funding was a huge factor but also I had a family of my own and running a small business all while trying to glean interest from the community made that road a little difficult to travel. I was asked to apply or the Urbana Arts grant not fully believing that anything would come of it. Once I received the award letter I knew that is was time ti hit the ground running. In a matter of a month I was able start to finish to get it up and going with the financial backing of the Urbana Arts Grant. I began, with phone calls and asking my friends and family for assistance. The grant allowed me to hire an assistant, provide healthy snacks for the children during practices , secure a building for both the practices as well as the competition itself. Do proper promotions and to get someone to capture it all. I had 6 practices with 20 children 2 hours on those days to teach and have the children learn and then execute 3 ballroom dances they have never done before. To my amazement these children not only picked up the dances but they learned some valuable lessons in partnership, conflict resolution, time management, and confidence. To say it was a privilege to work with these students would be an understatement. The bond that was created between all of them and through me as the instructor was any shy of a blessing. As a educator it is very important to me to make sure every student no matter the skill level is care for, loved in, and pushed to their highest potential. Through that I judge my abilities. Planning, promoting, and the final presentation was easily over 700 hours. (about a month) of work and it was tough to navigate but worth every single bit of sweat, and tears.

# Post-Project Evaluation

The grant given to the Cinderella/Cinderfella Project was in the amount of \$1000 and were awarded \$500 to begin the process. From the \$500 I secured a building for the practices and the event itself. For healthy snacks for the children to enjoy during the practice times. Clothing for the children to compete in. Custom awards, and the Dland judges. The entire project took about two weeks to put together. Aug. August 5th, 7th, 9th, 12th, 14th, 16th. Just 6 practices for two hours each day, the children learned three ballroom dances Waltz, Foxtrot, and Merengue.

With the competition day on Aug. 18th. I started out with 20 children 10 boys and 10 girls and as the program proceeded that number dwindled down to 18 children by the end of the program. Taking this short amount of time to get this program was important to me but to others seemed rushed. It was a tri fold process one to keep the interest so that parents and children that committed to the program were not given a chance to back out, so they felt a sense of connection to sticking with the program. To show myself that I can organize a program that not only bring the community together, Also to enhance the confidence of the children involved in the program through team building, communication, problem solving and good old fashioned fun. While learning something new and that was out of their comfort zone.

## Post-Project Evaluation Cont'd

The man hours spent on the project alone were more than the hours teaching the children i have been planning this project or the past 10 years and to see it come to fruition has been a great blessing. Had it not been the countless hours of speaking with community members about the dream I had in place and working with them to collaborate on the project by way of Teaching assistant, DJ services, Clothing, Judges, Practice space, Competition Space, Photographers, Flyers, Social Media Blurbs, and both local and central News Media attention it was great to have these children feel like the superstars they were. It was truly amazing to see each student work through difficult steps, communicate effectively with one another to execute the steps correctly and in time with the music. To enjoy the camaraderie with one another outside of the program itself when seeing each other at school. And with the members of the community. It was great to work with all of the businesses and community members to pull off one of the biggest dreams I had.