

I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

One page only. This page will be shared electronically with Grant Panel Members & Fund Advisors.

Note: If Philanthropy Network's Common Grant Application is used, CCCF's Summary Sheet MUST accompany application.

To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit www.chescocf.org

Date

Contact Information

Organization Name: Kennett Amateur Theatrical Society
Address: P.O. Box 673, Kennett Square, PA 19348
Phone: 610-329-2832
Website: Callkats.org
Year Incorporated: 2001
FEIN: 20-3094617

ED/CEO Name:
ED/CEO E-mail:
Board Chair Name: Peter Giangliulio
Board Chair Approval (check here):
Primary Contact Name: Peter Giangliulio
Primary Contact E-mail: crffarm@aol.com

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

Arts, Culture & Humanities Environment/Animal Welfare Education
 Health Human Services Religion

Mission: (See Mission Statement)

Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served): Chester County, Southeastern PA and northern Delaware

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: We bring a bit of British culture to over a thousand Chester County residents and others each year.

Annual Budget \$30,000 0 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
 85 % of budget for program expenses 7 # of Board Volunteers
 5 % of budget for administrative expenses # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
 10 % of budget for fundraising expenses # of Volunteer Hours
100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources: Donations from the local community, receipts from the annual KATS gala, ticket receipts

Is this grant proposal for: Capacity Building or General Operating ?

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

Mission, Vision & Strategy Governance & Leadership Partnerships & Collaborations
 Fundraising, Development & Marketing Technology Other: _____

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$7,500

Proposal Summary: See Need For Funding and Anticipated Outcome

KATS: NEED FOR FUNDING and ANTICIPATED OUTCOME

KATS principle purpose is to expose the residents of Chester County, PA and Delaware to British Pantomime. KATS is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 corporation, which derives all of its needed finances from ticket sales, donations and grants. Because our members do almost all of the work required in designing and making costumes, building sets, etc., our budget is not large. Even so, ticket sales are not enough to cover the costs required to stage the productions. Therefore donations and grants are critical to our continued existence. A grant from the Chester County Community Foundation is necessary at this time because, due to the limitations created by Covid 19, we were unable to present a live show in 2020, This resulted in a significant depletion of our operating funds. The grant would be used to purchase materials for both costumes and sets, microphone rentals, advertising and promotion of our pantomime and other necessary capital expenditures.

Our first pantomime was staged in January of 2002, just a few months after the 9/11 attacks on our country. The attendance was astounding, with more than 1,400 seeing our show. The comments were that it was just what we needed after the aftermath of the devastation. Much like that year, the lockdown necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic has affected all of our population, and our show will be a bright light in this dark time. We expect it to be very well attended.

COVID – 19 EFFECTS ON KATS OPERATIONS

Each year, for the past 20 years, the Kennett Amateur Theatrical Society (KATS) puts on a number of events in and near Kennett Square, PA that are intended to introduce our community to the British cultural phenomenon known as “Pantomime”. On the first Friday of August we perform a Murder Mystery in downtown Kennett Square. We have up to 300 attendees. In December we host our fund raising Gala with 150 fans and supporters. And, of course, in January we stage our annual Pantomime in the British Style at the Kennett High School. The total income from these events garners about \$20,000 of our \$30,000 annual budget.

Due to COVID-19, none of these events occurred last year. Instead, we put on a drive through Murder Mystery with 65 cars and 150 attendees. This earned us about \$3,500. Additionally, we produced a u-tube virtual pantomime for all to see. While we will have expenses for this production, it raised very little money for our budget. As you can see by the attached balance sheet for the last three years, the impact of COVID-19 on our ability to function normally has been profound.

Our long term plan is to resume regular operations in 2021, but to be able to afford the startup costs for next year’s show as well as other ongoing expenses such as rental payments to our storage facility, insurances, etc. will require additional funding. Money from this grant would go a long way towards these necessary expenditures.

For all of these, KATS is seeking a grant from the Chester County Community Foundation of \$7,500. If you consider the value of our contribution to the culture of our county and its citizens, I believe that this grant is well worth its price.

KENNETT AMATEUR THEATRICAL SOCIETY, INC.' S MISSION STATEMENT

The primary mission of KATS is to introduce the Chester County area to the British style of musical comedy known as Pantomime. For the past 20 years, the organization has presented three performances of its annual show each January.

KATS provides an opportunity for local amateur actors, musicians and stage crew to participate in every step of the production, from auditions to post performance. Our members come from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds and span ages from 6 to 76, with varying abilities. It is our policy that everyone who auditions will appear on stage. In addition, audience participation, especially in the songs, is a traditional part of the pantomime experience.

The Pantomime attracts more than 1,000 attendees from a large geographic area. However, more than 80% of the audience is from Chester County, Pennsylvania. The rest are primarily from Delaware, New Jersey, and Maryland, but we also get a few each year from as far away as England.

All 100 of the administrators, cast, crew and musicians are volunteers. They get no monetary compensation for their time and hard work. Their reward is in taking part in an endeavor that brings joy to so many. All who do so experience cultural and personal growth that carries forward into the rest of their lives. For many of our younger members, it is an introduction to theater arts that helps shape their college majors and beyond.