# *Thank you for your commitment to green initiatives at the University of Illinois. One of the ongoing requirements listed in the terms of the funding agreement for your project is the submission of semesterly reports with key information about your project. In addition to this form, please provide additional financial documentation and/or progress photos if available.*

# *Please be as accurate as possible in describing the project (including possible setbacks or challenges in meeting the initial goals of the project). Not fully meeting your project's goals will not disqualify you from making future funding requests as long as your reports are as complete and accurate as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee, at* *sustainability-committee@illinois.edu**.*

**Project Name:** Social Justice as Environmental Justice

**Date of Report Submission:** 7/15/2018

**Project Purpose:**

* To make a substantial impact on students understanding of and engagement with Environmental Justice issues through both engagement opportunities and educational programming utilizing theatre as the core of arts-based civic engagement.
* To engage a substantial portion of the campus community directly through performances at the Armory Free Theatre, classrooms, and other campus/ community venues.
* To address and bring awareness to Environmental Justice issues as they impact society generally and often underrepresented populations specifically and to explicitly invite engagement by underrepresented student populations in the project as actors, animatuers, panelists and tech crew.
* To have an ongoing impact through continuing programming made possible by the National Call for Scripts, and to continue the National Call for Scripts in the future.
* Encourage a national discourse among playwrights on Environmental Justice issues.

**Project Summary:**

PHASE #1 Theatre Production

* We completed phase one of our project between August and October, having done research and successfully developed and brought to full production an original theatre piece that addresses Environmental Justice issues. The production is called “Far from Utopia, and We’re Running out of Breath”. It premiered at the Armory Free Theatre and then toured to other locations in the campus community, including Channing Murray Foundation, Independent Media Center, and Ikenberry Centers / SDRP.
* We also performed excerpts at multiple events, including National Diversity Conference, Fresh Check at Illini Union, Community Psychology Class (Psyc 239).
* Research materials used in the development of the show have been culled into a concise bibliography of pedagogical materials for future use.
* We also participated in the ISEE Sustainability Celebration earlier this year, as a way to increase our presence, develop connection in the environmental sustainability community at the university level.

PHASE #2 National Call for Script 2018

* We started planning for the National Call for Script beginning in the August of 2017. Supporting materials for the National Call include the administrative documents, guidelines, publicity materials, and contact lists.
* All of the materials have been approved by Karen Higgins, in university legal services.
* The publicity of this call to more than 240 universities and more than 10 platforms across the country went out in January. It reached thousands of people.
* Two panels were formed in February respectively for ten-minute plays and forty-minute plays, consisting six people, including two faculties, two graduate students, and two undergraduate students from different backgrounds.
* The deadline of the call was extended from the end of February to May 15th. 132 entries were received by the deadline and 108 were qualified entries.
* The selection process have three stages: one, blind-reading and ranking; two, panel meeting and open discussion; three, independent re-ranking based on the first two stages.
* The results were announced on May 23rd.
* The following are the scripts selected:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 10min | DON'T DRINK THE JET FUEL | Jonathan Joy |
| THE COST OF WATER AND TEA  | Beverly Aarons |
| THE GAS MAN COMETH | Patrick Williams |
| THE GOOD FIGHT | J Joseph Cox |
| THE PIT | Isaac Rathbone |
| THE VALLEY | Mark Sherstinsky |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 40min | CAROLINE CAROLINA | Kassia Lisinski |
| OASIS | True Emeka |
| STOP THAT | Susan Parenti |

**Summary of Project Expenditures:**

**Phase #1**

Production Expenditure: $36.50 + $ 187.65 = 224.15

GA Salaries (from June of 2017 to date): $ 3480.75 [9hrs / week, $15.75/hr]

**Phase #2 SPRING/SUMMER 2018**

**GA Hours** (Dec – May 2018): [9hrs / week, $15.75/hr] $2,853.72

**Printing for Panelists =$ 800.00**

**Printing for Productions for Fall: $700.**

**Honoraria for Scripts:**

**3 40-minute plays selected at $1500 each = $4,500**

**6 10-minute plays selected at $700 each = $4,200.**

**Problems/Challenges Encountered**

**Though challenging, we have kept with our timeline.**

* + 1. Environmental Justice Performance (on time)

2018.01 Publicity out to universities and platforms

2018.03.15 Submission Deadline

2018.04.21 Panel Selection Stage 1 deadline

2018.04.27 Panel Meeting

2018.05.01 Final Results came out

2018.05.23 Final results announcement

**Problems/Challenges Encountered**

N/A

**Student Involvement and Outreach to Date:**

Phase #1

* Core ensemble members: about 20.
* Audience Involvement through live performance: 500 – 600
* Social Media Presence: 500-700

Phase #2

* More than 240 schools, thousands of students
* More than 10 platforms, thousands of non-students
* More than 15 students and faculties for forming panels.
* Specifically for U of I, Theatre Department, Music Department, English Department, Engineering Department, SSC, ISEE, SSF, ACES, CPSC, FP, UI Pollinatarium, The Beview Café, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Science, UI Arboretum, Native American & Indigenous Student Organization, American Indian & Indigenous Studies Graduate Student Association, etc. were reached.

**Marketing and Promotion Efforts to Date:**

* Social media presence
* Distribution of physical posters, postcards and flyers
* Presence at resource fairs, including Quad Day, RA Fair, Fresh Start, conferences and classrooms.
* Email Blasts

**Additional Comments:**

We especially want to thank Karen Higgins from Student Legal Service for overseeing our document, Gina Arnold from Counseling Center for supporting the program in many aspects and to our panelists who spent countless hours reading and ranking the scripts.

**Student Involvement and Outreach to Date:**

* Core ensemble members: about 20.
* Audience Involvement through live performance: 500 – 600
* Social Media Presence: 500-700
* Graduate student: 1
* Grad and Undergrad Panelists: 4

**Marketing and Promotion Efforts to Date:**

* Social media presence
* Distribution of physical posters, postcards and flyers
* Presence at resource fairs, including Quad Day, RA Fair, Fresh Start, conferences and classrooms.

**Additional Comments:**

None at this time