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Page 3

Q1 **I am applying as Business**

Are You a Business or Organization?

Q2 **Yes**

Does Your Project Take Place in the City of Hudson?

Q3
Business or Organization Contact Information

Name of Business or Organization	Lil Deb's Oasis
Address 1	747 Columbia St.
Address 2	n/a
City	Hudson
Zipcode	12534
Website	www.lildebsoasis.com

Q4
Your Contact Information

First Name	Ale
Last Name	Campos
Relationship to Business or Organization	Event Organizer
Email	celestes.wrld@gmail.com
Confirm Email	celestes.wrld@gmail.com
Primary Phone Number	8184555989

Q5 **We are applying for a long-term project (up to \$15,000) that requires more time for planning and execution.**

Which type of project are you applying with?

Q6

Yes

Does your project adhere to physical distancing and public health recommendations?

Q7

Amount of Funding Requested?

15800

Q8

Please check which types of ownerships apply to your business. Check as many as apply.

Owned by members of a marginalized community (such as African American, Latinx, Asian, Indigenous, etc.

**,
Woman Owned,
LGBTQ+ Owned**

Q9

What year was your business or organization founded in?

2016

Q10

No

Has your business or organization been open or operating since NY PAUSE and physical distancing went into effect?

Q11

Yes

Are you committed to saving all your project receipts and providing a written account of expenditures, what the project involved, whether it was a success, and who it reached?

Q12

Please describe your proposed project in detail. Include the project's goal, description, location, timeline and scope. If the project you're proposing has been successfully completed elsewhere, please provide details and examples.

The proposal for this long-term grant, is meant to bring "A Queer Night of Performance", to the streets of Hudson. Historically, QNOP (abbreviated) is a monthly happening/event that takes place within the restaurant space of Lil Deb's Oasis, a queer-run restaurant in Hudson, NY. Since its inception in 2018, QNOP has existed as a platform for showcasing and highlighting queer talent and expressions of wide varieties, particularly those existing and thriving in our upstate community. These nights include drag, live music, readings, comedy, dance, and visual art. Artists and performers of all kinds are encouraged to take on a theme or prompt and use the opportunity to showcase, workshop, and experiment. These evenings have proven to be incredibly nurturing to the local queer community and its allies.

My desire moving forward with the project is to bring queer performance out of the Lil Deb's space and move it throughout the city and bring it out to the streets by creating a mobile stage. This push forward, symbolically reinforces the idea that we must ensure the LGBTQ+ community thrives out and proud, in the public eye. This concept also folds neatly into the present Covid regulations we must adhere to - we can no longer hold our audience within the confines of the small restaurant space in a responsible way. It is vital that during this time, we create physically, safe spaces where people can gather responsibly and walk away with a nourishing sense of community. Given a concrete and substantial budget, I believe this to be possible. The proposed timeline will be for six months starting in late August, one show a month, each about 1.5 hours long. End of summer and fall shows would be scheduled to occur outside, in safe places where people can gather. This would mean collaborating with the city of Hudson, to facilitate "pop-up" style shows by the different parks and open public spaces (ie. Oakdale, Promenade park, Waterfront, 7th St. Park, Basilica's outdoor space). These mobile, pop-up shows will require building a small secure stage on a trailer bed. This mobile stage will require complete sound and lighting equipment, power, decor that remains consistent with the Lil Deb's brand, as well as regular maintenance of the stage itself. This project will have the potential to outlast winter months, well into the following year and could be used by other community spaces as well.

It's important to note that QNOP has never had a real budget at all - this project has truly operated on DIY efforts. The artist / performers split door fees equally and collect their own tips. On average, each performer has only ever walked away with an average of \$30 dollars + \$10 in tips, on a really good night. The restaurant itself mainly exists as the space/venue for the shows. I would like to ensure that hired, queer talents and artists, get paid way more substantially for their work and efforts (sometimes travel). Every artist should walk away with a flat fee of \$100, not including tips. This increased honorarium, if you will, would also ensure the return of certain artists and allow us to secure "bigger-name" artists, who in return would attract bigger audiences. The honorarium also alleviates the fact that it would be rather difficult to charge admission for a public event - it's important for this event to remain accessible and free to the public.

Q13

Additional Materials

[Queer Night of Performance.pdf \(1.5MB\)](#)

Q14

Respondent skipped this question

Additional Materials

Q15

Please list the names and titles of principal contributors to your project and any contractors to be involved.

Queer Night of Performance is organized and hosted by myself, Ále Campos. Artists/performers involved in each show range from all over the Hudson Valley and NYC and vary show to show. Photographers/documentarians Tomm Roeschlein and Leor Miller are contracted to photograph each monthly pop-up event. Carpenter, Brett Miller, will be hired to build out the mobile stage.

Q16

When is the launch date for your proposal or event and how long will it last? Are the dates flexible?

The launch date for the project will be for the month of August. This event is scheduled to happen once a month, for 6 months. Exact months will be flexible, given that winter months will demand that QNOP move to a virtual, streaming platform, if Covid regulations remain in place. Outdoor shows can re-commence the following spring. After the granted budget runs its course, it will be important to secure future funding to make sure talent/artists continue to get compensated adequately.

Q17

Yes

Are you collaborating with any other local organization(s), community group(s), or business(es) on this project?

Q18

If you answered "Yes" to question 17, please please list the collaborating organization(s), community group(s) or business(es) here.

Organizations to collaborate with include OutHudson, City of Hudson, Oakdale, Enkyu-Likeminded Objects, Basilica, Kittys, Planned Parenthood, Kite's Nest, CCSM, Hudson Area Library.

Q19

What economic, creative, or community benefit will your project have on the City of Hudson. Do not be brief!

Each show will be scheduled to pop-up in different locations of the city, encouraging Hudson locals and tourists that make up the audience to really move through Hudson, perhaps through pockets of the city that aren't frequently used or traveled to. I do hope that this project will inspire other creatives in Hudson to reimagine their own art practices. Perhaps artists see the way QNOP has evolved and it encourages them to adapt to the regulations we live in right now. In addition, this project ensures the livelihood of queer artists and performers in the area.

In order to ensure that this project serves the community in more permanent ways, we will collaborate with local organizations that uphold and already serve the marginalized people of Hudson. Our stage will be a shared stage, a literal and metaphorical platform for other organizations. We will invite Planned Parenthood to speak at events in order to promote the health and mental health services that are available for the queer community of Hudson. We will collaborate with Kite's Nest and The Hudson Area Library to create kid-led segments within our shows. For example, I will work with a set of kids from the community to guide them through programming their very own segment of a show; it's important that the youth understand what "queering" existing structures means and that they then define what queerness means and looks like to them. These segments can be seamlessly built into the program of each show that occurs. Conceptually, everything always revolves around the idea that drag and queer performance are potent ingredients for strengthening community and leveling inequality.

Q20

What communities are you trying to reach with this project? Does your project center or focus on a marginalized, veteran, women, LGBTQ+ and/or differently-abled community? Is the project child-centered? Senior citizen centered?

While Queer Night of Performance is made by queers for queers, this project is not exclusive to the Queer, LGBTQ+ community of Hudson. All are welcome as an audience; no one will be turned away.. Our door fees have always been sliding scale, in order to accommodate people of all economic backgrounds/situations. Moving forward, this new phase of the project will further ensure that more of Hudson can participate. The idea at the center of this project, is that queer performance/drag, is an accessible tool for expression, art making and community solidarity. Children are welcome, as well as senior citizens. Outdoor, pop-up shows will most likely occur earlier on in the day, depending on city regulations/permits, in order to attract a more diverse age demographic.

Q21

Does your project contribute to making the city more walkable? See definitions here.

By definition this project contributes to making the city more walkable. Pop-up shows will only ever occur in outdoor spaces that are safe to travel to by foot within city limits. Each show will be promoted with a map of its exact location, encouraging or suggesting paths people can take to walk to the stage.

Q22

Does your project contribute to climate resiliency? See expanded definition here.

This project contributes to climate resilience in the fact that it is completely self-sufficient and mobile. We are able to pop-up and then fade away without taking any resources from the area. We can also adapt to the evolving climate as needed by being mostly on foot and mobile.

Q23

How does your project impact the City of Hudson's infrastructure and/or city planning? Does it utilize principles of tactical urbanism? (i.e. DIY, low-cost, temporary/pop-up; pretty easy to achieve; see definitions), or are you proposing a permanent change or structure? Expanded definition here.

The mobile, pop-up, trailer bed stage fits the definitions of tactical urbanism. This project does not require the construction of any permanent structures or changes to the infrastructure of the city geography. Once the mobile stage is built, it will require a minimal amount of costs to maintain it. I simply will need to work with the City of Hudson or private institutions like Kittys or Basilica to ensure that these pop-up shows manifest in law abiding ways throughout the city (ie. permits)

Q24

If your project involves the construction or assembling of a physical structure or series of structures, do you commit to maintaining it? For how long? What guarantee can you offer of its maintenance? If your project is impermanent, who will disassemble it and when? If maintenance requires further funding, how will you secure that funding and from where?

This project doesn't involve the construction of any permanent or series of structures. The project only requires building a single, self contained, mobile structure that perhaps has collapsable or portable components. I will work with experienced carpenter, Brett Miller, to ensure that the structure will be made of the most cost effective yet durable materials. I will make sure that the stage structure is stored safely from the elements and the weather between each show at our home garage.

Once the mobile stage is expertly built, I, along with the Lil Deb's team, will be in charge of assembling and disassembling the stage. I do not anticipate that the structure will require huge amounts of funding for regular maintenance. A generator, sound equipment and foundation will outlast wear and tear. Things that will most likely require attention from time to time are paint jobs and replacing light bulbs/light fixtures. These are insignificant expenses that are well within the existing budget of the restaurant.

Q25

How do you plan to promote, publicize and market your project?

I plan to promote this project in the same way that I've promoted the QNOP shows in the past. Promotion will occur through social media. I will post about each upcoming popup show with a graphic that I make, along with images from the previous show, so that people have an idea of what the next show will be like. Posts will primarily be made to Lil Deb's instagram, which has a substantial following, and facebook. If a given show includes a collaboration with a local org, I will make sure that they have the necessary materials to promote within their own channels as well. I will stay away from printing flyers as they are a waste of paper and often get taken down when posted around town.

Q26

Is your project employing local talent or creating jobs? If so, how many do you anticipate?

The project directly supports local talent in Hudson and the surrounding area. It is hard to project how many artists/performers exactly will be involved in the proposed scope of the project, but I do project an average of 5-7, hired performers per show. This project will help to give jobs to at least two documentarians in the area along with many artists

Q27

Is your project ADA compliant, if applicable?

This project is ADA compliant. Audience space will remain accessible. The project will not discriminate against anyone with disabilities; everyone is welcome to participate in the shows! We can create a make-shift stage at floor level, in front of the mobile stage for anyone interested in performing who may not be able to get onto the mobile stage itself.

Q28

For long-term projects only, which of Hudson's projected tourist communities does your project appeal to: overnight visitors, daytrippers, local tourists, or intra-Hudson tourists (i.e. visitors from inside Hudson itself)?

This project should and will appeal to all varieties of tourists. The Queer Nights of Performance at Lil Deb's Oasis, have regularly attracted overnighters and intra-Hudson visitors. Given that this proposed project will allow me to host shows during the day/afternoon with higher pay for artists, it will absolutely attract day-trippers and visitors from the area that may follow an artist/performer from say, Kingston or Albany. Lil Deb's Oasis has already established itself as a tourist destination for all kinds of tourists and by extension so have my shows. I have no doubts that these regularly scheduled, outdoor shows will also be well attended by tourists that happen to walk by or make their weekend plans around the show.

Q29

Please describe how your proposal adheres to physically distancing and requirements for public health and safety for public health and safety.

This proposal is designed to fit and adhere to physical distancing and requirements for public health. These pop-up events are made to happen outside, in spaces where people will be able to spread out and watch safely. As the host and organizer, I will make sure to promote and reinforce each event with relevant safety regulations (ie. "wear masks). We will also create small hand-washing or sanitation stations at each performance.

Q30

What is the anticipated budget for your project? Please upload a PDF of your expected budget with a detailed itemization of costs, any expected income and description of how grant funding will be used, including a breakdown of planning, execution, materials, expenses, and post-project activities, as appropriate. We have supplied a simple budget template here for guidance if helpful.

Queer Night of Performance Budget - Sheet1.pdf (47.3KB)

Q31

Are you anticipating any outside or matching funds? Is the proposal contingent on additional funding? If yes, please elaborate.

No, I do not anticipate any outside or matching funds. The project is not contingent on additional funding.

Q32

Have you managed or staged a project of this magnitude before? Please describe your experience and relevant skills in executing this program.

I have managed and staged similar projects of smaller and even bigger scales than this proposed project. I've organized, hosted and performed in Queer Night of Performance at Lil Deb's Oasis for over two years now. I've also organized, hosted and performed in the last two (2018 + 2019), closing OutHudson Pride Parties at The Halfmoon and Basilica Hudson. These events generated record breaking income for pride events. I've also organized and hosted community fundraiser events in collaboration with CCSM.

Q33

Have you factored in necessary permits, local, state and federal laws and/or permission needed to execute this project, if applicable? (For example, a permit to use a park or close a street, legal ability to stage public art or appropriate permissions for digital projects, etc.)

I have factored necessary permits for hosting these outdoor pop-up shows, whether it be at one of Hudson's parks, Warren St, Waterfront, etc. I am aware that an "Event/Mass Gathering" permit is the type of permit I will require and need to apply for promptly along with a waiver to obtain a permit for the first show that will fall after the 120 day limit.

Q34

What are the goals and metrics for this project? What does success look like?

One of the goals for this project is to ensure that we as a city, sustain and promote the vibrancy that is innately a part of queer performance. A huge part of this is making sure that queer and trans talent/artists are taken care of and paid adequately for their art and efforts. It is vital to continue providing a platform and a venue for these inspirational individuals to showcase their work. The other goal for this project is to ensure that queered expression and thinking be integrated with the fabric of this town, as tourism develops.

Success for this project goes beyond attendance - success is measured by simply being able to inject and intervene with a fully actualized event. Success for this project is specific to the individual experience. As long as even one person is able to walk away, after simply stumbling upon one of these happenings, and is left with a long-lasting impression that moves them to tell others about it, that will ensure success for this project.

Q35

In your own words, why is this project important?

This project is more important than ever during the current revolution and health crisis that we are living through. We, as a city, need to make sure that we provide people with a sense of community as well as a sense of solidarity across all kinds of demographics. Locals and tourists living in a time of crisis, need to witness something that inspires perseverance and hope. This time calls for alternative perspectives that shatter the norm and that set an example for what our future could look like. Hudson is a small city, and already we are witnessing that our city can be an example for the whole country.

Q36

What else should we know about you, your organization or business, and/or your proposal?

A last thing I want to add is that this project, as an extension of the existing Queer Night of Performance, is a complete labor of love. That aside, it is time that this labor of love, also be supported and seen by the institutions that hold power and money in this city. I am a queer, latinx individual who moved to Hudson over three years ago. As an artist, it became obvious to me that this town needed a regular, queer event to revolve around. My work as an artist goes beyond my own personal practice; community organizing is now an integral part of what I do and I want to make insure that I am provided with funding to orchestrate projects that benefit people around me.
