

# **Phoenix Foundation Morning Glow Teacher Impact Grant Sample Applications**

## **Dance Program Sample Application**

### **Describe your classroom demographics.**

The dance program serves approximately 80 students in grades 3–5 representing a wide range of cultural, linguistic, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Many students qualify for free or reduced-price meals, and a significant number participate in ESE and ESOL services. For many of our students, school is the only place they have access to formal dance instruction. Families often do not have the financial resources to enroll students in private dance programs, making this school-based opportunity critically important.

Students are selected based on academic effort, attendance, and positive behavior. As a result, participation becomes an incentive that encourages students to stay engaged in school while developing confidence, creativity, and teamwork skills.

### **Describe instructional space and available resources, and how these impact your program.**

Dance practices currently take place in a combination of classroom spaces, cafeterias, and multipurpose rooms that were not designed for movement instruction. Furniture often must be moved before and after rehearsals, reducing valuable instructional time. The program lacks mirrors, barres, dedicated storage, and a reliable sound system.

Without appropriate equipment, it can be difficult for students to monitor technique, maintain proper alignment, and rehearse efficiently. While students remain enthusiastic, the lack of dedicated resources limits the overall quality of instruction and performance preparation.

### **Define the challenges you're currently facing in regards to your request.**

The primary challenge is providing a high-quality dance experience while working in temporary instructional spaces with limited equipment. Students are eager to learn, but the program lacks the non-consumable resources necessary to create a safe, effective, and professional learning environment.

Another challenge is ensuring equitable access. Many families cannot contribute financially toward costumes, private lessons, or outside programs. As a result, the school program serves as the main source of arts enrichment for many participants.

### **How are you currently addressing these challenges?**

To address these challenges, rehearsals are scheduled before school, during enrichment periods, and after school to maximize participation opportunities. Existing equipment is carefully maintained and reused whenever possible. Staff members frequently volunteer additional time to support rehearsals and performances.

We also seek community partnerships, donations, and grant opportunities whenever available. While these efforts have helped sustain the program, they are not sufficient to meet the growing demand and long-term needs of students.

**Describe in layman's terms, what you're asking for, and why you chose that item.**

We are requesting portable dance mirrors, ballet barres, a professional-grade sound system, and secure storage cabinets. These items are durable, reusable, and will directly improve student learning and performance preparation.

Mirrors will allow students to monitor technique and alignment. Ballet barres will support proper warm-ups and skill development. A sound system will improve instruction and rehearsals, while storage cabinets will protect equipment and keep the learning environment organized.

**How will this grant impact your program?**

This grant will transform the quality of instruction available to students. Participants will receive a more authentic dance education experience while developing technical skills, self-confidence, discipline, and collaboration.

The requested equipment will allow teachers to spend more time focusing on instruction and less time managing logistical barriers. Students will be better prepared for performances and will take greater pride in their accomplishments.

**How will this grant impact the greater community?**

Dance performances consistently bring families, community members, and school staff together. By strengthening the program, this grant will increase opportunities for performances, showcases, and community events that celebrate student achievement.

These events help strengthen school culture, encourage family engagement, and create positive connections between students and the broader community.

**Is there anything else you want us to know?**

Dance provides students with an outlet for creativity, self-expression, and personal growth. Many students discover talents and leadership abilities through participation that may not emerge in traditional academic settings.

This investment will have a lasting impact because the requested equipment will benefit students for many years and will continue supporting future generations of performers.

## **Music Program Sample Application**

### **Describe your classroom demographics.**

Our music program serves approximately 120 students across multiple grade levels, including general education students, English Language Learners, and students receiving ESE services. Students represent diverse cultural backgrounds, which enriches classroom discussions and musical exploration.

Many students have never owned or played an instrument before participating in the program. For these students, school is their primary opportunity to develop music literacy, performance skills, and creative expression.

### **Describe instructional space and available resources, and how these impact your program.**

Music instruction currently takes place in a multipurpose room that serves several functions throughout the school day. While we have a small collection of instruments, access is limited due to the number of students participating. Storage space is inadequate, making it difficult to organize and protect equipment.

As enrollment has increased, the gap between available resources and student demand has continued to grow.

### **Define the challenges you're currently facing in regards to your request.**

The greatest challenge is ensuring that every student has meaningful access to instruments and hands-on learning opportunities. When multiple students must share limited equipment, instructional time is reduced and individual practice opportunities become more limited.

Additionally, aging equipment requires frequent maintenance, reducing the reliability of classroom resources.

### **How are you currently addressing these challenges?**

Teachers carefully rotate students through learning stations and small-group instruction. Existing instruments are maintained as long as possible, and staff members frequently adapt lessons to accommodate limited resources.

The program has also pursued donations and community partnerships when available; however, available funding remains insufficient to meet student needs.

### **Describe in layman's terms, what you're asking for, and why you chose that item.**

We are requesting keyboards, music stands, percussion instruments, and durable instrument storage solutions. These are long-term investments that will increase student access to music instruction while supporting performances and daily classroom learning.

The requested equipment was selected because it directly aligns with instructional goals and can be used by hundreds of students over multiple years.

### **How will this grant impact your program?**

This grant will significantly increase student participation and engagement. Students will spend more time actively creating music and less time waiting to access equipment.

The additional resources will support differentiated instruction, improve performance readiness, and create more opportunities for students to build confidence and musical proficiency.

**How will this grant impact the greater community?**

Concerts, community performances, and school events provide opportunities for families and community members to celebrate student accomplishments. Expanded resources will allow the program to reach more students and offer more public performances.

These experiences strengthen school pride and foster meaningful family engagement.

**Is there anything else you want us to know?**

Music education develops much more than performance skills. Students learn perseverance, teamwork, communication, creativity, and self-discipline. The requested equipment represents an investment in students' academic, social, and emotional development.

## **Theater Program Sample Application**

### **Describe your classroom demographics.**

The theater program serves approximately 100 students in grades 4–8 with interests in acting, public speaking, stage production, and technical theater. Students come from diverse backgrounds and include ESE and multilingual learners.

For many participants, theater provides a unique opportunity to build confidence, communication skills, and leadership abilities in a supportive environment.

### **Describe instructional space and available resources, and how these impact your program.**

The school auditorium serves as the primary instructional and performance space. While it provides a venue for productions, the facility lacks sufficient lighting, audio equipment, and organized storage. Students often work with outdated equipment that limits production quality and learning opportunities.

The lack of technical resources also reduces students' exposure to careers in stagecraft and production.

### **Define the challenges you're currently facing in regards to your request.**

The primary challenge is producing high-quality performances with limited technical equipment. Students are eager to learn about theater production, but the current resources do not fully support instruction in lighting, sound, and backstage operations.

Another challenge is maintaining costumes, props, and equipment without adequate storage space.

### **How are you currently addressing these challenges?**

Teachers and volunteers dedicate significant time to adapting available resources and creating solutions with existing equipment. Community support and borrowed equipment occasionally help fill gaps, but these measures are temporary and unpredictable.

Students continue to perform successfully despite these limitations, demonstrating the value and potential of the program.

### **Describe in layman's terms, what you're asking for, and why you chose that item.**

We are requesting stage lighting, wireless microphones, and secure costume and equipment storage. These reusable items will improve both instruction and production quality while serving students for many years.

The requested equipment will allow students to gain hands-on experience with industry-standard tools and create a more professional performance environment.

### **How will this grant impact your program?**

This grant will enhance every aspect of the theater program. Students will develop stronger presentation skills, technical theater knowledge, and confidence through improved production experiences.

The upgraded equipment will also allow teachers to expand learning opportunities beyond acting to include stage management, lighting, sound, and production careers.

**How will this grant impact the greater community?**

Theater productions bring together students, families, staff members, and community partners. Improved productions create shared experiences that strengthen community connections and celebrate student success.

Performances often serve as some of the most visible and engaging events in a school community.

**Is there anything else you want us to know?**

Theater has the power to transform lives by helping students find their voice and develop confidence. The requested equipment will provide long-term benefits by supporting future productions and creating opportunities for generations of students to learn, perform, and grow.