



Richfield Symphonic Band

Flexible Support FY22 Sample Grant Application

Group's Purpose

1. The Richfield Symphonic Band is requesting funding that will enable a summer concert series in 2022. The Richfield Symphonic Band got its start in 1979 with the support of the Richfield American Legion Post. The early membership of about 40 WWII and Korean war vets included professional musicians along with working and retired music educators.

Since 1997 the Richfield Symphonic Band has been a freestanding self-supporting nonprofit organization. We currently have a roster of 44 musicians (classic concert band: woodwinds, brass, percussion) plus a director.

The objectives of the band as expressed in our bylaws are to:

- a. Provide a forum for members to rehearse, enhance their musicianship, and enjoy the fellowship of like-minded persons.
- b. Provide music programs for senior citizens, adults, and children
- c. Encourage participation in performing arts activities in the community.

2. Along with a couple of the original members still playing with us today the Richfield Symphonic Band has retained two key characteristics of the original American Legion band: a strong emphasis on musicianship and a performance schedule that reflects the band's patriotic heritage. We perform classical concert band repertoire well and proudly.

Grant Number & Project Name

FS22-1-139 Richfield Symphonic Band 2022 summer concert series

Project/Program Description

Funding for a 4 concert series performed at the Richfield band shell in summer 2022 by the Richfield Symphonic Band

Project or Program

1. We are requesting this grant to fund the costs of a four-concert summer program in Richfield's new band shell. It challenges us with the need for additional programming and music. In addition to our usual practice of presenting similar concerts at multiple venues (primarily senior residences) we will need fresh programming for multiple performances at a single venue, tailoring some of the selections for the demographics of Richfield.

We envision four concerts to be scheduled at least 2 weeks apart in June and July 2022, possibly extending into August depending on bandshell availability and need for rain dates. Each of the four concerts will have target audience programming, including one concert for seniors and one for the Richfield Latinx community. Each concert will be 60 – 75 minutes long. The full band will perform most numbers, augmented with breaks for smaller groups to perform. Guest artists may also be engaged.

2. This project will be doubly rewarding. Our director and the band will be challenged with more demanding programming, a big reward for musicians. We also hope to reward the community with entertaining musical programs that will bring community members together at the new bandshell venue.

3. We will be successful if our musicians develop an expanded repertoire and stretch their capabilities. Our community will be successful if our programming develops audiences for performances at the bandshell, providing entertainment for summer evenings at a great price – free!

4. Project timeline:

January 2022	plan programming, purchase new music
February – March	identify guest artists
February – May	rehearsals, at least 12 to be funded by this grant
April	schedule concerts
May - July	publicize concerts with local posters and media
June – August	perform 4 concerts, conduct selective audience surveys
June – August	rehearse during non-concert weeks, potentially 4 funded
September	survey musicians, board evaluation of survey results
October	band board recommendation for 2023 concert plans

Community

1. This summer concert program has two beneficiaries, the performers and the audience. The Richfield Symphonic Band, our musical community, includes members from across the Twin Cities metro area and beyond – one musician commutes from Waseca to play with us. We perform throughout the metro area, including sharing musicianship with other bands at band festivals in Landmark Center (St. Paul), Owatonna and Hopkins before the pandemic shutdown. Our largest concert audience is for our performance at the Memorial Day observance at the Minnesota State Veteran's Cemetery at Camp Ripley. We also support our home town of Richfield with local

performances at Penn Fest and a smaller ensemble in the 4th of July parade. The planned 2022 summer concert series is our opportunity to build stronger ties to our home community of Richfield.

2. Currently we have been on the receiving end of community support and we welcome this opportunity to give back to Richfield. The Richfield High School provides rehearsal space and a storage area for our music library. The Richfield Historical Society provides rehearsal space for our smaller ensembles and parking space for our trailer. The Richfield United Methodist Church provides a concert venue.

The programming for the Richfield band shell summer concert series will include concerts targeted for Richfield's largest minority, Latinx, 18.3% of the population in the 2010 census and growing, up from 6.3% in the 2000 census. Another concert will be designed for Richfield's seniors (over 15%) (source: Minnesota Compass). Over a quarter of the Richfield households include children, another factor we will consider in our programming. The new band shell is a much more accessible concert venue than the park we used for previous Richfield concerts. The bandshell is fully ADA compliant, complete with ramps instead of stairs for the musicians. The band shell is adjacent to extensive parking and the Richfield Ice Arena with concession and restroom facilities.

3. Our band membership is open to any musician. There are NO membership dues or fees so there are no financial barriers to joining the band. Our band has extensive age diversity, spanning 7 decades with the inclusion of nonagenarian original band members.

The Richfield Symphonic Band is committed to sharing our musicianship with the next generation of musicians. We perform an annual joint concert with the Richfield High School band. The high school band members we perform with reflect the diversity of the school: 39% Latino, 29% white, 19% black, 6% Asian. We hope to and have succeeded recruiting them after graduation. The percussion section will be invited to play with us for one concert this summer.

The expanded concert season will be a fiscal challenge for our group and an MRAC grant will really help with this summer season project. We appreciate this opportunity to expand our musical chops. Our goal is to make music!

Proposal Budget

Project Budget Expenses

Project expenses:

Conductor	\$4000	program planning, 16 rehearsals, 4 concerts
Guest artist 1	\$300	
Guest artist 2	\$600	
New music	\$720	
Programs/posters	\$600	
Rehearsal space rental	\$630	
Trailer transport	\$80	
TOTAL expenses	\$6930	

Total Project Cash Expenses

\$6,930.00

Amount Requested

\$6,930.00

Project Budget Income

\$6930 MRAC Flexible Support grant.

0 Income from project (free concerts, no income)

Total Project Cash Income

\$6,930.00

***(Important!)* Additional Fields Required**

Please note that in the full application there are additional fields that will need to be completed and are not shown to panelists.