

18116

March 29, 2011

TO: The Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Mary Kate Cabaleiro, Coordinator
Westchester County Youth Bureau

RE: Authority to enter into an Agreement with Youth Theatre Interactions, Inc. to operate the Intimate Realities and After School Performing Arts program for the program period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in a total amount not to exceed \$125,000.00

Authority is hereby requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an Agreement with Youth Theatre Interactions, Inc. (the "Agency" or "YTI") pursuant to which the Agency will operate the Intimate Realities and After School Performing Arts Program for the program period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in a total amount not to exceed \$125,000.00, subject to appropriation and pursuant to an approved individual budget. The Westchester County Department of Social Services will provide Community Optional Preventive Services ("COPS") funding in the amount of \$79,625.00 as well as the local tax levy match requirement in the amount of \$45,375.00 for a total contract amount of \$125,000.00.

The COPS funding is designed to support community/neighborhood based youth services and parenting programs aimed at reducing youth risk-taking behaviors. Examples of services include family resource centers, dropout prevention programs, parent skills training, mentoring and tutoring programs, independent living skills, job training and linkage with employment, pregnancy prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention, conflict resolution and gang and youth violence prevention.

This agreement will utilize the arts to foster positive attitudes and promote success among disadvantaged youth. The program will provide 200 young people with well-supervised, culturally enriching activities as alternatives to the streets during after-school hours and all day during the summer.

The goals and objectives of this agreement are as follows:

- Of the 200 youth participating in our program, 180 will decrease their risk of involvement in negative activities that could lead to foster care placement or involvement in the juvenile justice system as measured by class enrollment/attendance and by participation in positive activities outside of the program (such as cheerleading, school sports and volunteer work in the community) during high risk after school and summer hours.
- Of the 200 youth participating in the program, 170 will improve their skills in one or more of the following:
 - ♦ Tolerance of diverse races and ethnicities
 - ♦ Development of presentation skills
 - ♦ Self-confidence

as measured by YTI class enrollments with peers of differing cultures, participation in non-required activities such as: auditions for professional productions, participation in Teen Night and by participating in performances given by YTI throughout the county.

- Of the 70 youth participating in our drama program, 65 will develop one or more of the following areas:
 - ♦ Higher self-esteem (self confidence)
 - ♦ Better reading skills
 - ♦ Improved teamwork (peer relationships)

as measured by participating in group and solo performances throughout Westchester County, reading and developing skits for YTI performances, and practicing skit line and rehearsals with peers as documented in reports and student evaluations.

- Of the 200 youth participating in our school semester, 180 will increase in the following areas:
 - ♦ Level of physical fitness
 - ♦ Level of group participation
 - ♦ Ability to focus during activities

as measured by documentation of stamina, memorization of choreographed routines and activities, and performances throughout the semester and at the end of the year recital.

This agreement is in the best interest of the County in terms of public safety because it provides a safe, enriching after school program for young people, some of whom might otherwise be on the streets or unsupervised. The program requires that youth maintain good grades to come to YTI and young people learn positive values while taking arts and theatre classes.

Each of the goals and objectives as stated above will be tracked and monitored through monthly, quarterly and annual reports and by site visits from Youth Bureau Program Monitors.

This program was funded in 2010 and achieved its stated outcomes. The outcomes are as follows:

- Of the 278 (115 more than contracted for) youth served in the program, 163 (148 more than contracted for) improved their skills in one or more of the following:
 1. Tolerance of diverse races and ethnicities, through working together with children of different cultural backgrounds in our classes;
 2. Leisure time involved in positive activities, through participation in our workshops and performances, which involved using their time wisely and productively;
 3. Development of presentation skills, through their involvement in numerous performances given throughout the year (see attached performance statistics).
- Of the 165 (132 more than contracted for) youth served in the program, 165 (135 more than contracted for) developed their skills in one or more of the following:
 1. Higher self-esteem, based on the confidence they gained while in our classes and participating in our scheduled activities, auditions and performances;
 2. Better reading skills, based on the work done in our classes, including but not limited to reading and writing of scripts, monologues and poems;
 3. Improved teamwork, based on their working together in groups that achieved a common goal that was established in our classrooms through their participation in class warm-ups and activities, and working with their peers in each class.
- Of the 165 (80 more than contracted for) youth served in the program, 165 (87 more than contracted for) increased in at least one of the following areas:
 1. Improved their level of physical fitness tremendously, by their participation in physical activities in our dance and drama classes;
 2. Were able to work together as a group while developing and putting together routines;
 3. Improved their ability to focus during activities, by participating in our dance, music & vocal classes. Although not as physically active, while participating in our music and vocal classes, students developed an understanding of the importance of playing together (music) and singing together (vocal) while reading the musical notes on the pages.

This Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to section 3(a)xviii thereof. Nevertheless, in 2008 the Youth Bureau issued an RFP to cover the program years 2009 – 2011. The Agency is one of 94 agencies that submitted a proposal in response to the RFP.

An appropriate Resolution is herewith attached for your Honorable Board's consideration.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 06/30/2011 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Coordinator of the Westchester County Youth Bureau, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an Agreement with Youth Theatre Interactions, Inc. ("YTI") pursuant to which YTI to operate the Intimate Realities and After School Performing Arts Program for the program period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in a total amount not to exceed One Hundred Twenty Five Thousand (\$125,000.00) Dollars, subject to appropriation and pursuant to an approved individual budget. The County Department of Social Services will provide Community Optional Preventive Services ("COPS") funding in the amount of Seventy Nine Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Five (\$79,625.00) Dollars as well as the local tax levy match requirement in the amount of Forty Five Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Five (\$45,375.00) Dollars for a total contract amount of \$125,000.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement is subject to County appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (the "State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of this Agreements. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State Budget and/or the adoption of a State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or adoption (s), to conduct an analysis of the impacts of any such State Budget on County finances. After such analysis, the County shall retain the right to either terminate this Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then that Contractor shall have the right to terminate their Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be, and hereby is, authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be charged/credited	Fund	Dept. code	Unit #	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
DSS	263	11	613L	4380	T613	\$125,000
Budget Funding Year(s) (must match resolution)	2011		Start Date	January 1, 2011	End Date	December 31, 2011
Funding Source	Tax Dollars <u>\$45,375</u>					
	State Aid <u>\$79,625</u>					
<u>\$ 125,000</u> (must match resolution)	Federal Aid <u>\$</u>					
	Other _____					