

Dear City of Urbana Public Arts Commission,

I hereby certify that I am authorized to approve this Report, which serves as a Request for Reimbursement, that I have reviewed the attached invoices in the amount of \$3,203.50, that all costs claimed have been incurred for the Project in accordance with the Agreement between Raymond Morales and the CITY OF URBANA; that all submitted invoices have been paid; and no costs included herein have been previously submitted.

Sincerely,

Raymond Morales
Host/Executive Producer of The Show
Here and Now Grant Recipient

1. Accomplishments and how grant funds were utilized during the grant period.

The funds from this grant were utilized to produce a spoken word project entitled *ILL POETS SOCIETY vol II: The Aaron Ammons Project* that encompassed an audio album CD (59 minutes) and a live album release event. Funds were utilized to pay the artists, travel to and from performances, audio-visual equipment, editing and production of the final CD, flyers for the events and animated videos to showcase select spoken word pieces on the CD.

2. The impact that the grant funds had on your artistic or organizational development.

This grant is a springboard for me to produce my first solo album. I am in the process of producing 30-60 minutes of spoken word solely focused on my life and experiences. I am considering writing a book and having an extra feature of a spoken word album attached to it. After completing that project, I will look to produce more independent spoken word albums and events.

3. The number of hours spent in completing the project, including planning, administration, promotion, production, and the final presentation.

I spent over 158 hours working on this project over the course of the year. I spent 13.3 % of my time on planning, 5.1 % of my time on administration, 15.2 % of my time on promotion and 66.5% of my time on production. The final presentation represented only about 1.3% of the total allotted time.

4. The number of participants in events or activities related to your grant project.

There were hundreds of people touched by this project. There were 15 individuals that contributed directly to the creation of the project from the artists, editors, animators and musical production. We held three events from last summer to the final release. There were 2 events – one on the quad on June 29, 2013 and one at the Krannert Art Museum on February 6, 2014. At the Quad, there were at least 50

people in the audience for at least a portion of the programming. At the final release event, there were well over 100 individuals present.

There have hundreds of listens and/or downloads of audio pieces of the audio version of the album since October 2013. The audio has been aired on UPTV Cable Channel 6 and UITV Cable Channel 6. Prior to the event, we were featured in two separate articles in *The Buzz* and *Smile Politely*. Both media outlets feature a large readership. A copy of the album is available for free checkout at all cultural centers on the University of Illinois campus and libraries. Multiple copies of the album are available for free check out at Champaign Public Library (main branch and Douglass branch) and Urbana Free Library. There has been a lot of positive feedback to the entire project along the way.

5. Description of experience working with collaborating partners.

Having completed the first album under my belt, I saw this album as an opportunity to create a more perfect piece of art. We were able to produce a high quality CD album unlike any other. I was able to get more press coverage

6. Any additional comments.

None.