

Background:

Mission: The Very Little Theatre is a diverse, community based, volunteer organization that entertains, educates, and inspires through theatre.

Needs addressed: Cultural Enrichment, Economic Benefits, Access to the Arts, Creative Outlet and Skill Development.

Population Served: Very Little Theatre holds auditions open to everyone and offers community members opportunities to participate in a variety of backstage activities, with more experienced members passing along their expertise to newbies. VLT keeps its tickets low to encourage a broad range of attendees. VLT invites groups of high school students to free dress rehearsals. VLT, established in 1929 is one of the oldest community theaters in the country. Although its center of operations is the Eugene Springfield area we have participants and audience members coming from as far away as Salem, Cottage Grove, and Pleasant Hill.

Current Programs and Budget: We produce 7 major shows each year, 5 on our main stage and 2 in our smaller venue. Our improv group, *No Script Society*, produces a number of events each year in our smaller theater and our outreach program *Minority Voices* produces or sponsors events serving minority and underserved communities. Recently *Minority Voices* produced our first play entirely in Spanish. VLT also makes its facilities available to a variety of other community and performing groups. Our current years budget is \$343,500.

Project Description:

Primary Purpose: Save money on our electricity usage expenses, reduce our carbon footprint and add back to the grid when we are dark.

Population served: Same as above.

Strategy for implementation: Hire Advanced Energy Systems for installation of a 10.03 KW Solar Electric System.

Project Evaluation

Criteria for success: Installation and reduction of electricity expenses.

Results: Estimated production of 13,370 kWh with a savings of \$1,128.

Method of measurement: Dollars saved.

Budget and Timeline

Budget: Installation based on Advanced Energy Systems quote is \$50,000. See source funding in attachment.

Timeline: As soon as possible.

Attachments

Proof of Non Profit: See attached IRS Letter.

Resumes of key staff:

Amount and source: We have been working on updating our building for the past 6 years. We defined a 3 phase project, phase 1 was to Improve our auditorium and main stage and we raised \$1.7 M (no government funds) for this phase and finished it in July of 2022. We have just finished phase 2, this was a \$435,000 enhancement to our wood working shop with basement storage, we received a \$350,000 grant from the State for this phase and raised the rest from our patrons. We have already started raising funds for phase 3 (approx. \$150,000) this is an estimated \$1M project. It will add additional storage, office space, non binary dressing rooms and restrooms, and rehearsal space. During all of this time we have been working on our green initiative. This included becoming Bring Certified. And this is the part of the phased project that is driving the support for adding the solar energy.

Most of our funds have come from over 400 members of the community with a few foundations helping, Murdock Family Trust, and Chambers Foundation being two of the largest.

Proof of ownership and authority to install equipment: See attached VLT Property Deed, and VLT Board Meeting 03.15.2025