

AS Management Council

Supplemental Funding Proposal

1. Program Overview

a. Title of program

i. THE NAKED TRUTH ON STEREOTYPES:

The TransformEducational Community Praxis Project

b. Possible dates of program

i. An evening performance Saturday, May 31st and a matinee on Sunday, June 1st

ii. Auditions: Friday, April 18th

c. Co-sponsoring offices/organizations

i. AS Social Issues Resource Center

ii. Communication Department

iii. Possibly Mayra G., VP for Diversity

d. Funds requested

i. **\$1500**

e. Detailed description of program, type of event, performer/speaker, etc.

Naked Truth is a truth telling program similar to the Vagina Memoirs and Queer Experience, but with a focus on intersections of identities. Student participants will write original pieces to share about the intersections of identity, society, and social justice. The process will start with casting calls on April 18th, two weekend workshop intensives, and end with performances at Western on the weekend of May 31st.

"Undressing the "Other" & Modeling Social Change Since 2004"

The Naked Truth on Stereotypes, is an innovative original theater production & thriving community that bravely acts to:

1. *Expose & debunk socially constructed myths of identity & stereotypes -
2. *Deepen understanding of self and others -
3. *Grow community in both conception and connection -
4. *Practice art to expand & amplify the collective creative power of the community
5. *Inspire & incite radical action to uproot systems of domination & dehumanization
6. *Celebrate our stories: all of them.

Skilled and empowering, Naked Truth facilitators provide transformative programs for groups of all ages committed to social justice. The Naked Truth on Stereotypes facilitates arts-based experiential workshops and performances in high schools, colleges, and communities to examine, explore, and express their own identities while deconstructing stereotypes.

Rooted in a pedagogy of liberation, The Naked Truth on Stereotypes uses creative writing, theater, and visual arts exercises to expose and unpack social constructions of race, class, gender, sexuality, etc. The Naked Truth honors youth leadership to foster sustainable community-led programs.

Performances, featuring workshop participants, amplify students' voices and extend learning from the workshop to the broader community, promoting allyship across lines that have historically isolated & divided people.

Through thoughtful consultations with community partners, NTOS customize each of their transformEducational workshops and performances to suit the specific goals, ages, demographics and budget of the institutions and groups they work with.

- f. Past Program Information—have we had similar programs to this in the past? What was the attendance/reception of that?
 - i. The Naked Truth on Stereotypes is a truth telling event programmed and created by a former WWU student and AS employee, Stephany Hazelrigg, in 2004 and it is time to welcome them back home.
 - ii. The last year NTOS happened on Western's campus the audience was around 300, this year, because the performances will be two separate days, we are expecting around 600 audience members to be present.
 - iii. Cast members are selected through an application and open casting call process. In 2012, NTOS accepted (all) 14 of the people who tried out. In previous years, as many as 30 participants applied. This year, because we are working on a tighter budget, the cast will be about 8-10.

2. Program Vision

- a. Target Audience—who are we reaching out to?
 - i. This event is open for all students and community members. Students who hold multiple marginalized identities as people to be part of the cast as a healing experience. For our audience, we are reaching out to students who are already interested in social justice issues and those who are wanting to learn more about stereotypes because the cast will inspire us to think critically about the people who surround us. People who are also interested in allying themselves with these communities and learning the histories that are left out of mainstream conversations will also be drawn to this event. We will be outreaching to the Ethnic Student Center and affiliated clubs, as well as clubs that have shown an interest in social issues. We have also been in contact with professors in the American Cultural Studies, and Women's Studies, Theater, Art, English, and Communication Studies departments because the educational component of this event will complement what students are learning in these classes.
- b. Event Goals and Expected Outcomes
 - i. Why are we doing this?
 - 1. Naked Truth on Stereotypes not only gives a space for cast members to find their truth and empower themselves through their commitment to self-discovery and building a powerful and safe community through creativity, but offers educational and empowering opportunities for the campus and community members.
 - ii. What do we want people to get out of this?
 - 1. Expose & debunk socially constructed myths of identity & stereotypes
 - 2. Deepen understanding of self and others
 - 3. Grow community in both conception and connection
 - 4. Practice art to expand & amplify the collective creative power of the community
 - 5. Inspire & incite radical action to uproot systems of domination & dehumanization
 - 6. Celebrate our stories: all of them.
 - iii. What benefit will be given to the student body and how does this fit within the mission statement and goals of the Associated Students?
 - 1. The student body will get the chance to witness fellow students speak their truths and learn about critical issues of diversity, inclusivity, and identity. This could spark

transformations and critical thought for those who attend. At the same time, those who participate in the process are provided with a space to speak their truth and talk about their experience as someone with a marginalized gender identity.

2. This event upholds all five Associated Students core value of **Student Representation** (especially those students whose identities have been silenced and ignored), **Collaboration** (with AS offices as well as WWU departments), **Student Learning and Learning and Development** (taking form as co-curricular learning and personal growth through truth telling and sharing), **Inclusion** (the event will be accessible to all Western WWU students and will showcase varying perspectives while providing a safe space to learn), and **Community and Social Engagement** (as NToS aims to foster affirming spaces in which students are able to connect with peers around common interests).
3. Naked Truth on Stereotypes also upholds the ESC's ABCs of Affirming Identity, Building Community and Cultivating Leadership, as well as the SIRC's mission to "raise awareness about social issues, including those issues not commonly represented in mainstream media." This event brings to the surface those perspectives and experiences that are often forgotten when discussing identities and marginality on a predominantly white campus.

iv. Logistical goals (ex: expected attendance, logistical preparations)

1. We are looking into renting the Old Main Theater as well as the MPR for the Saturday night performance and the Sunday afternoon matinee. Expected attendance is 600.

c. Current budget and co-sponsorship financial details—why can't your current budget handle this?

The ESC is giving \$1,500 to this event and the SIRC will be putting forward \$2,000. This is 30% and 40% of our total speaker's budget for the school year. Our offices are expected to program 3-4 events a quarter, because we like to bring a minimum of 1 speaker or performer a quarter and speakers fees are usually above \$1,000 dedicating more money to this program would restrict our ability to meet this goal.

We are approaching other ROP offices about co-sponsorships but unfortunately they all have much smaller budgets than us and as much programming to do. We have also approached ASP Special Events about this multiple times because we know that they have a much higher budget and audience reach but they don't believe this event is entertaining enough to cosponsor.

We are reaching out to different academic departments within WWU and as of right now, the Communication Studies department has offered \$50 in support of this event. Furthermore, the Diversity in Higher Education program has expressed support for the event, also stating this event is important for our campus, however, they do not hold a budget and are unable to monetarily co-sponsor.

The Vice President for Diversity has also been approached in hopes of financial support. Currently, the VP for Diversity has \$300 left in her budget and has already agreed to support the AS ROP Veteran's Outreach Center with one of their possible future events. The VP for Diversity has mentioned that if the VOC is not still in need of the \$300, she would be more than happy to help fund the Naked Truth on Stereotypes.

d. Publicity and promotion plan

Casting Call - We will be making our own 8x10 photocopied flyers for the casting call as well as doing class raps, e-mailing departments, e-mailing list serves, creating a Facebook event and talking to club leadership (e.g., ESC Presidents' Council and ESC Steering meetings) about spreading the word.

Performance - We will be utilizing the Publicity Center to advertise for the performance via posters and a banner. The AS Communication Office, along with the AS Review will also be informed of more information so they can promote through their means of media outreach. We also hope to utilize the resources within KUGS for PSAs leading up to the event. Class raps, e-mailing departments, e-mailing list serves, creating a Facebook event and talking to club leadership (e.g., ESC Presidents' Council and ESC Steering meetings) about spreading the word will be other means of promotion and publicity. Finally, we will also ask for our event to be included in the "This Week @ WWU" email in order to outreach to freshmen.

e. **Assessment**—how will we evaluate the success of this program?

The ESC and SIRC will work together to create a thorough event evaluation addressing the programmatic aspects of the event as well as the impact on the audience members. The cast members will be debriefed and an assessment of the workshops will occur with the help of the NToS facilitator. In addition, there will be multiple meetings discussing the event following.

3. Detailed itemized budget, including projected expenses, revenues, and any other sources of funding.

See Naked Truth on Stereotypes Budget Sheet for details