



FROM THE TOP

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Margaret Stewart Lindsay
Arts Leadership Grant Awards

Today, I am a member of Boston Crew, a From the Top outreach program, connecting me with young students in inner city schools around Massachusetts. As proud as I am for the many performance opportunities I have encountered in prestigious venues, not even the emotions of playing at Carnegie Hall can compare with the feelings after receiving the hugs from the children at the schools I visit. I am sure that many of them already have in their heart the seed that tomorrow will benefit the arts.

Karen Cueva, 17, violin, May 2009

At the heart of From the Top's (FTT) mission is the belief that young people can make a difference in the world by sharing who they are and what they love to do. FTT's Arts Leadership program engages young musicians as role models and empowers them to give back to their communities. The Margaret Stewart Lindsay Foundation is making it possible for FTT to extend these efforts by providing funds to cultivate the disposition in young people toward civic engagement – a commitment they will hopefully maintain, no matter what field they choose to pursue.

RATIONALE

From the Top is requesting proposals that focus on community-based projects beginning in January 2011. This is an opportunity to use your talent and creativity to give back to your social networks and communities. We are asking you to draft a plan that describes how music might make a difference in people's lives – help them to see the world differently in some small or large way. FTT is offering grants ranging in value from \$250–\$1000 to support you in implementing your project, or to donate to the organization with whom you choose to work.

TIMELINE

Application deadline	January 28, 2010
Award notification	February 4, 2011
Awardee orientation	February, 2011, date TBA
Project implementation	February 2011 – August 2011
Project exhibition/celebration	September 2011

Those selected to receive a Margaret Stewart Lindsay award will be recognized at FTT's January 2011 show and on the FTT website.

NARRATIVE

Purpose

Describe the significance of the project and reason for doing it. The following are some questions to guide your thinking.

- What, or who, inspired you to want to do this project?
- Why is it important to do this project?
- Who do you think will benefit from being part of this project?
- What are the ways in which music is an essential ingredient for this project?

Project Site

Describe the venue within which the project will be implemented (i.e. hospital, school, community center, religious institution, etc...)

- Why did you choose this site?
- Who is your contact person at the site?
- What do you know about the history of the site?
- Describe the population with whom you will be working?

Program Components

Please provide a brief (1-2 paragraph) summary of the project design.

Complete the attached Project Action Plan, designed to help you think through who is doing what, when, and where.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Describe the ways in which you hope your project will make a difference.

- How will you know that the project made a difference?
- What kinds of evidence might you look for that lets you know you are making a difference?

DOCUMENTATION

Upon completing your project, you will be asked to submit a 2-page description of your experience along with video journal or photo journal footage.

BUDGET

Use the attached budget sheet to detail the budget request for your project.