



Arizona Women's Partnership 2023 Grant Report

January 2024

Dear Paula,

Please accept this letter as our report for the 2023 Women's Partnership award.

Ballet Folklórico Quetzalli-AZ, a dynamic 501c3 celebrating the colorful tradition of Mexican folkloric dance in the Valley of the Sun since 2008. BFQ-AZ is proudly run by an all female team, Executive Director and Advisory Board volunteers.

We received \$1500 from your foundation to help us thrive during the financial hardship caused by the aftermath of Covid-19 as we haven't been able to return to pre-pandemic roster numbers (100 students). The full amount was utilized to compensate our Executive Director and Instructor, Vanessa Ramirez, who leads this organization wearing multiple hats (administrative and artistic).

Some of BFQ-AZ's accomplishments in 2023 that you supported by funding part of our Director's salary to keep this organization running include, teaching a unique arts and culture curriculum to 74 students (majority of them female and BIPOC youth and adults) and directing a special performance at the Chandler Center for the Arts in June 2023 to celebrate diversity in our community and 15th years of BFQ-AZ offering a safe and healthy space where anyone who wishes to experience the performing arts, is welcomed. BFQ-AZ also completed other numerous performances in 2023, for example, the Festival of the Arts at the Herberger Theater, El Puente at the Tempe Center for the Arts, the Annual Chandler Mariachi and Folklórico Festival, the Dia de los Muertos Festival at the Desert Botanical Gardens and St. Mary's Basilica in Phoenix, and the Mikistli (a Dia de los Muertos annual event hosted by the Cultural Coalition). Most recently, after a competitive application process, BFQ-AZ was also invited to perform at Disneyland in May 2024!

If you are interested, we invite you to schedule a visit to any of our dance classes to learn about our cultural education program. Classes take place Monday-Thursday evening in the City of Mesa. If you are interested in any of these, please email liz@bfq-az.org.

Thank you again for your support and the important role you play in our community.

Sincerely,

Liz Alonso
Grants Coordinator
Ballet Folklórico Quetzalli-AZ

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