



WISE FOOL NEW MEXICO

1131-B Siler Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507

(505) 992-2588

www.wisefoolnewmexico.org

Request for Proposals (RFP) for ReUnite Show Director

Wise Fool New Mexico (WFNM) is a nationally recognized social circus organization established in 2000 by a collective of queer women exploring puppetry and circus arts as a vehicle to promote social justice and healthy communities. Our mission is to ignite the imagination, build community, and promote social justice through performances and hands-on experiences in the arts of circus, puppetry, and theatre. Over the years, Wise Fool has reached thousands of youth, adults, and families with circus classes and camps, creating more than 30 original productions such as Circus Luminous, CircAspire, Ignite, BUST!, and countless youth circus shows.

WFNM is planning a new public production titled ReUnite to address crucial racial justice issues we encounter in New Mexico. The production will be entertaining, filled with Wise Fool's circus acts and powerful visual performances supported by impressive puppets and costumes. The theme and the narrative of the production will be thought-provoking and will trigger a long-overdue dialogue between all local cultures. Throughout, the audience will be encouraged to take an active role in the performance, become an actor, and partake in discussion. Ultimately the audience enjoying the ReUnite performances will become part of the process of cultural reconciliation.

WFNM is seeking a director for our new production, ReUnite. This person would be in charge of creating the show with input from Wise Fool Staff. The ideal candidate would be able to demonstrate their commitment to Indigenous communities, have an awareness of the cultural significance of New Mexico's history of colonization and its cultures, experience with circus arts and/or directing a production.

Duties of the ReUnite Director (*this list can be shared or split in any number of ways between director and assistant director, director and stage manager, production and visual director, co-directors and more - as determined by the Show Director*)

- Consultations with Wise Fool Executive Directors in the four months leading up to the show's presentation
- Works closely with the Wise Fool Productions Director
- Creation of concept, script, and flow of production
- Designing artist experience from audition process thru performances
- Working with WF staff to create and adhere to Budget
- Hiring and Contracting Performers, Composer, Musicians and Visual Artists
- Planning a Cross Cultural Dialogue for all cast of show prior to start of rehearsals
- Upholding a culture of respect and community support among cast and crew
- Disseminating all pertinent information to Artists/potential artists throughout the process
- Scheduling auditions, rehearsals and tech times at Wise Fool and venue of choice
- Overseeing all rehearsals, technical rehearsals, load in etc
- Working with staff of Wise Fool on promotional materials, interviews etcFacilitating post production evaluation by performers/artists/staff and compiling info

- Working with Staff to Hire videographer and photographer
- Facilitating Video production post show. Ensure there is a promo video and video of the show available to Wise Fool after the performances.

Expected Deliverables and Timeline

Wise Fool expects the Show Director to produce a professional show based on the defined theme of ReUnite. Typically there will be 4 performances over the course of three days, and each shall be 2.5 hours in length with an intermission.

Typically the performances take place in November.

With the support of the show director, the larger performance will be tailored for community performances throughout January through May 2023.

Organizational Overview

It is Wise Fool’s mission to ignite imagination, build community and promote social justice through performances and hands-on experiences in the arts of circus, puppetry and theater. Each year, Wise Fool provides over 2,000 New Mexicans with hands-on programs and performs for more than 10,000 people across the state and the US.

Submission Requirements

To submit a proposal, please include the following:

1. Work samples, including performances and community events.
2. Proposal of the show you would like to create including outcomes and what impact on the audience the show would have
3. A brief narrative describing the proposer’s relevant experience and the organizations through which the experience was gained. Please include your history of social justice work and the history of cultural environments you have worked in.
4. Preliminary budget of any expected fees or needs; housing, flight, travel, per diem and other expenses or needs

Proposals should be submitted to alishiya@wisefoolnm.org by July 21, 2022 at 5pm.

Compensation and Contract Award

Fees should be all-inclusive and structured as a lump sum to be negotiated upon a split of duties and an overview of the overall budget. This project is grant funded with an opportunity to raise more. The successful proposer shall invoice and be paid on a scheduled timeline, in accordance with negotiated contract terms.

Questions & Submission of Proposals

All questions concerning this RFP must be made in writing by e-mailing Alishiya Kapoor, Productions and Administration Director, at alishiya@wisefoolnm.org. Proposals shall be submitted to the same individual. Proposals must be submitted by July 21, 2022 at 5pm.

Statement of Non-Commitment

Issuance of this RFP does not commit Wise Fool to award a contract or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of proposals in response to this RFP. Wise Fool New Mexico does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.