



**WACO ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION
COVER SHEET – PART II
Application for Grant:
2025-2026 Funding Cycle**

Assigned Grant Proposal #: 15

Project Title: Resonating Success: Funding Sound Acoustic Shells for Our New Space

Grade Level(s): 6-8 **# of Students DIRECTLY involved:** 855

Subject Area(s): Performing Arts

Amount Requested: \$ 8,500

Grant Focus Area(s): In order to be considered, Waco Education Foundation Innovation Grant proposals must fall under one or more of the E4 focus areas: early childhood development, enhanced programming for advanced students, extended education for staff, and emphasis on student performance. NOTE: In addition to meeting one of the E4 focus areas above, grant readers are especially interested in creative and innovative grant requests that target fine arts, STEM, literacy, or enrichment.

(check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Education for Staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enhanced Programming for Advanced Students | <input type="checkbox"/> Emphasis on Student Performance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fine Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> STEM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Literacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Enrichment |

Resonating Success: Funding Sound Acoustic Shells for Our New Space

Proposal #15

OVERVIEW

We are seeking funding to purchase and install high-quality acoustic shells for the new stage in our state-of-the-art building. These shells are essential for enhancing sound projection and clarity, creating an optimal acoustic environment for performers and audiences alike. By investing in these acoustic solutions, we aim to elevate the quality of our music programs, support artistic excellence, and provide an unparalleled performance experience in our new facility.

RATIONALE

This proposal is directly aligned with the WISD Education Foundation's mission to fund innovative and creative projects. This proposal is focused on Band/Fine Arts, Student Performance, Enrichment, and Extended Education for Staff. Due to the nature of this proposal, it will reach every student who performs on the stage on our newly built campus and will positively impact the learning experience of our students and enhance the sound quality that goes out to our audiences.

GOALS

The goals of the project align with critical thinking, creativity, innovation, and collaboration in several meaningful ways:

Critical Thinking:

Acoustic shells optimize sound projection, requiring careful planning of musical elements such as balance, dynamics, and phrasing during rehearsals and performances. Students learn to critically evaluate and adjust their performance based on how their sound interacts with the enhanced acoustics, promoting deeper engagement with the music.

Creativity:

With an acoustically enriched environment, students and performers are empowered to explore a wider range of musical expression. The clarity and projection provided by the shells encourage innovative approaches to repertoire and artistic interpretation, allowing performers to take creative risks and achieve new levels of artistry.

Innovation:

The incorporation of advanced acoustic technology represents a commitment to forward-thinking education and performance standards. By integrating cutting-edge design in the stage environment, the project fosters an atmosphere where students can experience and contribute to the innovative possibilities of sound and space.

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Collaboration:

A well-designed acoustic space enhances ensemble cohesion by allowing musicians to hear each other more clearly, improving timing, balance, and communication within the group. This fosters teamwork and collaboration, as students and performers learn to work together more effectively to achieve a unified and polished performance.

PLAN OF OPERATION

Activities:

- With awarded grant funds, we will purchase three of ten needed acoustic shells for our performance space on the stage in our cafeteria. We will need to raise more funds for the additional seven sound shells needed.

Timeline:

- Spring 2025: order three acoustic sound shells with awarded funds
- Spring 2025: receive three acoustic sound shells and use for spring performances
- Spring 2026: apply for more funding

