



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

Assigned Grant Proposal #: 30 _____

Project Title: Musical Masterpieces on the Move! _____

Grade Level(s): 9-12 _____ **# of Students DIRECTLY involved:** 150(+) _____

Subject Area(s): Fine Arts (Band) _____

Amount Requested: \$ 7,100.00 _____

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emphasis on Student Performance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fine Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> STEM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Literacy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrichment |

Waco Education Foundation- Innovative Grant 2025-26

Assigned Proposal Number: #30

Musical Masterpieces on the Move!

Project Description: “Musical Masterpieces on the Move!” focuses on broadening the enrichment and performance opportunities available to students enrolled in the band program, as well as the greater school and Waco community. By using a durable 12’ trailer, we will achieve more flexible, safe, and rapid transportation, delivering ensembles quickly and safely to performances around the Central Texas area, all while empowering students to take more responsibility in the process of planning and implementing loading and performance plans which best suit their needs.

- 1. Rationale:** *Create a brief explanation of how the project relates to the funding focus areas of the Waco Education Foundation (creative classroom project, rewards for results, or district initiative). Also address how the project relates to the District and/or Campus Improvement Plans. Why is this project needed for your school and/or the district? Although we do not give grants BASED ON need, we would still like a clear picture of your needs/situation explained.*

“Musical Masterpieces on the Move!” predominantly focuses on the funding areas of Fine Arts, Enrichment, and Emphasis on Student Performance. Though much of our teaching happens in the classroom, assessment and enjoyment of the full musical products our students create often occurs while out performing for the public. Knowing this, it is our goal to offer our students a wide variety of performance Enrichment opportunities; formal concert halls, restaurant venues, public event spaces and events, informal “out and about” tours and WISD campus mini-series, as well as many requested community organizations’ locations and events. Often, one of the most difficult challenges we have in executing these performances comes from moving music equipment and instruments safely and quickly from the school to the venue, leading to earlier departure and arrival times, more complicated transit and parking, and a greater energy expense of both the directors and students to keep the equipment safe and be set up on time. By adding a 12’ trailer, designed with easy towing and safe riding capacities, to our options of equipment movement, we can refocus our time and effort on traveling more efficiently, parking close and unloading rapidly, all having easier and safer processes, all of which allow us to refocus our assessment and enjoyment on Emphasizing Student Performance for all band students.

- 2. Goals:** *Clearly explain what you intend to accomplish, including specific expectations.*

If awarded the funds to enact this proposal, I intend to purchase a 12’ trailer from Magnum Trailers in Austin, TX, and outfit it to meet our equipment hauling needs for the jazz band, mariachi groups, steel band, and smaller concert ensembles. Having a smaller, well-equipped trailer will allow us to accomplish more of our program development and performance goals for our students.

First, we would be able to increase the visibility of the student’s achievements in all ensemble types by traveling more easily to different performances, near and far. While planning with different organizations and outside coordinators, the band directors toil over the logistics of simply getting to and loading into an event venue. Sometimes, plans and routes need to be adapted based on our current equipment delivery capabilities, leading to extra hassle from both the hosting parties, as well as performing staff and students. With a smaller trailer, we will have great flexibility in the types of areas we

perform; able to park closer and navigate parking situations in congested areas, quickly deploy equipment to not block drop-off lanes, and maintain a safer environment around district vehicles by parking them closer to the venue.

Second, having a trailer better suited to a small ensemble would allow us directors to engage students in the loading process more easily and in safer ways, allowing their use of creativity and critical thinking to pack the equipment safely. Currently, a district box truck requires a staff member to operate the lift at the back, tying up valuable staff leadership if they are the only individual traveling with the ensemble, and can prove cumbersome for students lifting and stabilizing equipment as it comes in and out. By having a small trailer, the director in charge can delegate all packing, strapping, and unloading safely and appropriately to students, freeing them to monitor and advise on the safety and strategic deployment of materials and individuals in busy areas without the need for a lift or excessive effort.

Third, outside of the physical implications of traveling with a smaller and safer vehicle, we intend to take on more diverse performance opportunities through which our students can learn about different communities, events, and celebrations in the Central Texas region. Exposing students to new experiences and places, in which they can perform and also learn about others, helps us lean into the TEKS based on understanding music and its practice and meaning in different cultures, occupations, and communities. We cannot achieve these TEKS on a meaningful level by staying in the classroom, and put a lot of effort and planning into taking our students out to where music is practiced and performed so they can see all the opportunities and beautiful experiences which await them if they choose to participate in music throughout their lives following high school, while also meeting all educational requirements.

3. Plan of Operation: *Write a description of the project, including activities, objectives, strategies, and school-community partners. A detailed timeline/calendar must be included. Specifically describe parental involvement.*

The fulfillment of this project is straightforward, as the immediate goal is purchasing a 12' trailer from Magnum Trailers. After this, the project will evolve with the support of both campus and Fine Arts department support to ensure the trailer has all the necessary tie-downs and structures needed to move our equipment safely. Historically, we have also partnered with community sponsors (such as Shipley's Donuts) to wrap our transportation equipment, and may look to do so again to meet updated Waco ISD/University HS branding.

- **September 1st, 2025:** If awarded funding, a purchase order will be drawn up and sent to Magnum Trailers to fulfill the ordering requirements.
- **September 19th, 2025:** Potential delivery window for the trailer.
- **October 18th, 2025:** Potential first use during UIL Region Marching Contest (parent volunteers typically help load/unload the trailer at these events along with our students)
- **October 2025 - May 2026:** Various performance uses, including students, parents, and community partners engaged in a variety of locations and events around the Central Texas area.
 - *One objective of note here is we would be looking to pair with business owners and event hosts that have been previously unreachable due to time and logistic challenges with our current transportation situation, leading to a deeper integration with Waco area events.*

The timeline above reflects the grant impact during the 2025-26 school year, but the trailer would continue to be of service in our fleet for over a decade to come, meeting our long-term goals of creating more safe and sustainable transportation and extending the curricular experiences of our students.

- 4. Communication & Dissemination:** *Identify your plans to include the Foundation in your grants. This can be with an invitation to observe, communicating photo opportunities, willingness to present your grant at a meeting, etc. Include your dissemination plans for sharing results with others in the District (such as staff development, WISD-TV, etc).*

To be inclusive of the Foundation if our grant proposal is funded, we would hope to use the social media accounts run by the band program and the school to capture the delivery and “maiden voyage” of the trailer with thanks to the WEF for their support of our students and their performances. In tandem with this, it would be excellent to have a small ensemble (one of which would transport equipment in this vehicle) give a small performance in and around the trailer which we can post as a “thank you” to those which made this grant funding possible.

Additionally, if we receive sponsorship from a community partner to wrap the trailer, it would be excellent to include “Funded by the Waco Education Foundation, 2025-26” on the vehicle to remember why we are able to have this piece of equipment for years to come, along with designs and branding which shows how Waco ISD is a district of innovation which supports student achievement and experience in all ways possible. This branding and recognition would be seen at all football games, competitions, outreach performances, and band activities for which the trailer is used.

- 5. Evaluation:** *Describe how the proposed project will be measured to determine if it was successful or effective.*

The effectiveness of this grant will be measured by observing the number of unique performances the band program is able to take, the total time and ease of loading/unloading the trailer, and the overall community’s response to having live music at more events around the city of Waco. If successful, we should see an overall increase in the amount of performance events we are able to transport equipment to, as well as a reduction in the time and effort it takes to load and unload our equipment for a performance.

In a less quantitative light, we can gauge the success of this grant in the overall health of our students and community engagement and response to our performances. By spending less time and effort getting to and from a performance, students will conserve energy and time which they can put towards performing, completing school work, and spending time with family. For community engagement, we would look for success in the frequency of requests to have our students perform, as most of our gig offers come from past partners or word of mouth associates who heard of a prior performance and have requested the ensemble. An increase in the general sense of program achievement and progress would mark this project as a success, and support us for many years to come.

6. Long Term Implications: *Explain plans for sustaining the project after the 2025-2026 school year, and/or include long-term impact for constituents.*

“Musical Masterpiece on the Move!” is a proposal based around longevity; impacting dozens of staff members, hundreds of students, and thousands of audience members. By having a safer way to move our musical equipment, we save on direct costs of repair and replacement for equipment which travels, as well as eliminate the need for the district to supply a box truck and driver for smaller events. Continuing maintenance and repairs for a trailer of this size would be minimal, especially when the equipment is used properly. We already own much of the safety equipment needed for securing materials inside of the trailer, which also only needs occasional replacement as parts wear out slowly with use.

Besides the cost value of this grant, we would see a long term impact on student performance in many of our extracurricular groups; steel band, mariachi, and jazz band. By providing students with continual years of experience and achievement performing outside of the school atmosphere, we will produce some of the most mature and career-field ready musicians upon graduation. Not only does this speak well to their musical future, but also tends to lead to a sense of “giving back” as alumni revisit campus to help support younger students in their efforts. If this grant is fulfilled, we will witness a groundswell of upper level performances, deeply developed skills, and support and engagement for the band program in Waco and the Central Texas area.

7. Key Personnel: *List the responsibilities and qualifications of individuals who will carry out the project.*

- **Mr. David Gerada:** Assistant Band Director at University HS, Percussion Director, principal director of the UHS Trojan Pans and UHS Drumline, cleared by WISD Risk Management for use of district owned vehicles.
 - Responsible for documentation creation and trailer procurement, notifying the WEF of all updates, progress, and impact of the project, main planning and implementation of the project to outfit and wrap the trailer appropriately for use, and training with and using the trailer appropriately to transport to performances.
- **Mr. Archie Hatten IV:** Head Band Director at University HS, principal director of the UHS Jazz Band and UHS Mariachi Troyanos, cleared by WISD Risk Management for use of district owned vehicles.
 - Responsible for oversight on trailer procurement, advocacy and contact with community sponsors for wrapping the trailer, and training with and using the trailer appropriately to transport equipment to performances.
- **Mr. Jason Perez:** Assistant Band Director at University HS, Social Media and PR Manager
 - Responsible for organizing, creating, and publishing PR events about the procurement and use of the trailer
- **Dr. Ricky Edison:** WISD Director of Transportation
 - Responsible for advising on the inspection and registration of the trailer
- **Magnum Trailers** (Austin, TX): Approved vendor of Waco ISD

8. Budget and Budget Narrative:

- **Long Term Supplies / Equipment:**

- *Line 1:* 1x 12' Twin Axle Trailer (model LVVH612TA2-RD), this equipment is appropriate and necessary for the grant as it is a safe and reliable model of trailer, allows for customization to accommodate any number of instruments or equipment types we put inside, boasts a ramp and side door for easy access, and includes LED lights inside for use in dark areas. It also is produced in neutral colors, allowing for us to customize it with district logos and themes.

- **Contracted Services:**

- *Line 1:* 1x Tag and Freight Fees, these costs are necessary as Magnum Trailers will help us in initial registration and delivery of the trailer, ensuring everything arrives safely and as expected so we can begin immediate use.

9. Optional Additional Information:

Waco Education Foundation

Grant Budget Form

Assigned Proposal #	30
Project Title:	Musical Masterpiece on the Move!
Number of Students Served by Grant:	150

Qty	Budget Item	Verify Vendor (Y or N)	\$ Requested from the WISD Foundation	Other Secured Source	\$ from Other Source (if applicable)	Total Amount
Consumable Supplies						
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Consumable Supplies			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Technology						
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Technology			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Long-Term Supplies / Equipment (items that will last beyond the grant year)						
1	12' Twin Axle Trailer	Y	\$ 6,650.00			\$ 6,650.00
	(model LVVH612TA2-RD)					\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Long-Term Supplies			\$ 6,650.00		\$ -	\$ 6,650.00
Contracted Services						
1	Tag and Freight Fees	Y	\$ 450.00			\$ 450.00
						\$ -
total Contracted Services			\$ 450.00		\$ -	\$ 450.00
Personnel						
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Personnel			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Travel / Other						
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Other			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Totals			Total Requested from the WISD Foundation	Foundation Cost Per Student	Total from Other Sources	Total Cost of Project
			\$ 7,100.00	47.33333333	\$ -	\$ 7,100.00