

**Excellence in the Arts : Entry # 212**

**Is your organization a 501(c)3 nonprofit?**

Yes

**According to your 501(c)3 letter, in what town is your official office located?**

West Hartford

**Where will your project be performed or exhibited?**

West Hartford

**Will this activity occur after August 1, 2023?**

Yes

**Are you a recent grantee?**

Yes

**Enter your Report Code**

332841-Roberts2020

**Organization Name**

Music at the Red Door

**Organization's IRS Tax ID #**

824910448

**Principal Contact Name**

Ann Drinan

**Title**

Grants Consultant

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United States  
[Map It](#)

**Website**

<https://www.reddoormusic.org/>

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### **Amount requested this application**

\$5,000.00

### **What is the organization's mission/vision statement?**

Mission Statement: Music at the Red Door enriches our neighborhood with a broad range of wonderful musical programs and empowers children through musical education and performance.

Through a year-round season of professional-quality musical presentations in the acoustically and visually stunning setting of St. John's Church in West Hartford, Music at the Red Door employs the power of music and the spirit of fellowship to enrich the musical experience of Greater Hartford.

### **Describe the diversity of your board.**

Music at the Red Door has always made an effort to have our board diversified. It's a small board, and we were moving ahead with great plans to reach out to our community until COVID hit. We've had to retrench. Now that we're somewhat able to operate "normally," we'll continue our efforts to include more members of color and other indicators. One of five is African-American, and one of five is female.

### **What percentage of your board makes personal financial contributions to your organization?**

100%

### **Detail any changes since your last application.**

There have been no significant changes to the board or leadership with the exception of hiring Ray Giolitto as Director of Operations. Ray, a retired architect, is an organ student of Scott Lamlein's.

### **Project Name**

Music at the Red Door 2022-2023 Concert Series

### **Is this project related to the Visual Arts?**

No

### **Project Description**

Music at the Red Door consists of 4-5 major concerts per year of varying styles that include choral and organ, chamber music, jazz and "Pipes Alive!" - six half-hour organ recitals featuring local artists. We have also created a children's music day camp for 2nd to 4th graders in the West End of Hartford under the leadership of urban music education expert Calida Jones.

October 14, 2022 - Boyd Meets Girl: Laura Metcalf and Rupert Boyd - cello and guitar duo concert.

February 10, 2023 - Jazz at the Red Door - Nat Reeves and Friends

March 5, 2023 - Choral Music for the Soul: sacred music of Gabriel Fauré and Symphony No. 3 (the Organ Symphony) by Camille Saint-Saëns, featuring the Farmington Valley Symphony Orchestra and Scott Lamlein, organist.

April 21, 2023 - Spring Chamber Music with the Catalyst String Quartet. Founded in 2010 by the Sphinx Organization, the Grammy award-winning ensemble has toured widely, and is Ensemble-in-Residence at The Cleveland Institute.

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### **Project start/opening**

10/14/2022

### **Project end/closing**

06/16/2023

### **Project venue**

St. John's Episcopal Church

### **Project town**

West Hartford

### **Admission fees, attendance, and activity details**

All of our concerts are free, with no tickets required, so that no one is excluded because they cannot pay. We do request a "Free Will Donation" of \$20 from those able to pay.

Attendance in 2021-21 was 1,310 in-person attendees and 2,549 virtual attendees. Our 2022-23 in-person attendance will depend on the current COVID variant situation.

The main concerts are held Fridays at 7:30 (the Choral Music concert is Sunday at 3:00); the "Pipes Alive!" recitals are held Sundays at 12:30.

### **How do you intend to promote/market this project?**

Music at the Red Door creates a season brochure that is mailed to an extensive list. MRD sends out e-blasts announcing each individual event, hires a gentleman to put up posters throughout the community, erects a display banner in West Hartford, and enters all events in area online calendars. We also purchase radio support spots on NEPR.

### **How is your organization going to use Roberts funding?**

Funding from the Roberts Foundation will be used to pay the performers - in particular the Catalyst String Quartet. Their fee is \$7,000.

### **How will Roberts support be recognized?**

The Roberts Foundation logo will be prominently displayed on all print material, on our website, and on our e-blasts.

### **What is your organization's definition of artistic excellence?**

Music at the Red Door strives to present only the best in musical talent, whether it be a concert created from within its own resources at St. John's or by inviting a group to perform on the series. Our track record over the past ten years indicates that we have done extremely well in consistently presenting concerts of the highest quality, which in turn enhances the spirituality of our audience members and enriches our community.

### **How does this project align with that definition, and how does it advance your mission?**

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We are extremely pleased to be offering a concert by the Catalyst String Quartet as part of our 2022-2023 season. The quartet, which combines a serious commitment to diversity and education with a passion for contemporary works, believes in the unity that can be achieved through music, and imagines their programs and projects with this in mind, redefining and reimagining the classical music experience.

Saint-Saëns' Organ Symphony is a truly magnificent work, especially when heard on St. John's Austin organ is the marvelous acoustics of the church.

Nat Reeves' concert is always a sell-out event, attracting a wide audience - many who couldn't afford the price of a jazz club.

Boyd Meets Girl performs an eclectic range of repertoire, from the baroque to the modern day. Their offerings are both winsome and profound.

The "Pipes Alive!" recitals offer a wide variety of organ music from an equally diverse group of area organists.

### **How will your audience and the community benefit from this project?**

The audience will benefit from experiencing a wide variety of excellent programs in many differing genres. The community benefits by having such an excellent musical resource available that is open to all, regardless of ability to pay. All are welcome to all events.

Our Kids Community Music Camp, which is designed for children who don't have ready access to quality music programs, is very inexpensive; we provide partial or full scholarships to any family who requests assistance. We present a variety of musical styles to appeal to diverse audiences, and encourage people to explore unfamiliar traditions. While classical music forms the core of our programming, we also present other musical styles, such as jazz and Gospel, and ensure that music from Black and women composers is included. We make musical experiences accessible to diverse audiences and honor music from many traditions, so that a wide variety of people who seek musical refreshment and engagement can find it.

### **How will this project be evaluated?**

The Music at the Red Door series is evaluated based on the number of people who attend our concerts, and the feedback we get from our constituents: parishioners, donors, board members, concert goers, and members of our community.

### **Cover letter**

- [Music-at-Red-Door-Cover-Letter-1.pdf](#)

### **Current year operational budget**

- [Music-at-Red-Door-Series-Budget-2022-23.pdf](#)

### **Balance sheet**

- [Music-at-the-Red-Door-Balance-Sheet-June-2022.pdf](#)

### **Project budget**

- [Music-at-Red-Door-Series-Project-Budget-2022-23.pdf](#)

### **Does your organization produce an annual report?**

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No

**Has your organization adopted a strategic plan?**

No

**Grant Report**

- [Music-at-the-Red-Door- -Grantee-Reporting-Form.pdf](#)

**Other materials?**

- [Music-at-Red-Door-Brochure-2022-23.pdf](#)
- [M@RD-Artists-Fees-2022-23.pdf](#)

I have been unable to save a 2nd proposal I'm submitting for a 2nd client. It blew it all away, and I had to spend several hours reconstructing it. (I'm afraid I was more eloquent the first time.)

Also, please make it possible to save a copy of the proposal. Your report form refers to "the original proposal," but there is no way to save a copy. Printing the proposal as a PDF cuts off many of the longer entries.

I am submitting this without a balance sheet (I've asked the MRD Treasurer for such a document - I thought I had it). I'm afraid of losing the proposal again - I simply can't enter it all a third time. I will send Lisa Cullin the balance sheet as soon as I get it.  
Ann Drinan

**Have you contacted the Executive Director by email or phone to discuss this proposal?**

Yes

**Is your cover letter signed by your senior executive? on your letterhead? with your official office address?**

Yes