February 19, 2022

RE: Bakersfield College Student Government Association CCA Grant

Dear Screening Committee Member:

**Brief Overview or Synopsis of Proposal**

This proposal request is for co-sponsorship of the 4th annual Jess Nieto Memorial Conference. The virtual event will take place March 29-31, 2022 as a three-day event series at Bakersfield College in conjunction with farm worker awareness week, Cesar Chavez Day, and the AB 540 Student Conference. The Ethnic Studies Department of College of the Sequoias, Arts Council of Kern, and Bakersfield College Social Justice Institute are co-sponsors of this event. The virtual event series will feature topics related to art, student leadership, scholarship, cultural heritage, and BC’s Peace initiative. Students are involved in the planning, facilitating, and moderating of the virtual series. For the past three years, the Bakersfield College Social Justice Institute has hosted the event to great success. Hundreds of people, students and community members, attend the event series to learn about the aforementioned topics and the scholars, student leaders, and community organizations invested in the region’s diverse history and culture.

This specific funding request is for help sponsoring the opening day panel session that will feature original Bakersfield College student art work and a multicultural mural project led by BC SGA President Edith Mata. Working with Bakersfield College faculty Joseph Tipay and Motivation Virtual DJ OMEDJ, the opening session will be an interactive session between the public, student artists, and OMEDJ who will guide participants through the virtual art engagement session. Ome has extensive experience serving as a motivation emcee in virtual platforms and does work not only in the Central Valley but also for statewide and national organizations as well. In 2020, the city of Fresno awarded Ome “woman of the year in arts and culture.”

**State the Benefits of your proposal to current BC students, the college, and the community. Include any student learning outcomes and relevant data**

There will be several benefits of this proposal to current BC students, the college, and community. First and foremost, OMEDJ will provide expertise in building excitement and entertainment to the opening of a more traditional academic conference. The opening session will feature original student art work, as well as set the tone for the remainder of the conference which celebrates the contributions of the San Joaquin Valley’s diverse and multicultural communities and heritage. The organizers of the conference have had great success with the Jess Nieto conference the past three years. By having OMEDJ participate in the opening student art session, the excitement and innovation she brings to virtual programming will afford a proper setting to feature original student art work and the multicultural mural project led by BC SGA President Edith Mata for our entire campus community. By having a high profile launch event to
the event series, BC SGA will also be able to leverage this virtual space to promote participation in student government.

**Details on how the speaker will be incorporated into the academic curriculum and Learning and Career Pathway**

OMEDJ will work with the conference organizers (Oliver Rosales (History), Andrew Bond (English), Joseph Tipay (Art), and Edith Mata (BC SGA President)) to create a work flow for the 90-minute showcase event on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 from 3:00-4:30 PM. This will involve a pre-meeting with the organizers to review the run of show, as well as other necessary scripting for a seamless event showcasing the student art work and mural project in an exciting and entertaining manner that OMEDJ specializes in as a professional virtual emcee and DJ. Rosales has budgeted $500.00 in an Arts Council of Kern grant in hold with the Bakersfield College Foundation to help meet OMEDJ’s required amount for contracting on this event; this proposal request will help meet her $2,060.00 fee for working with college and universities. Thus, the request is $1,560.00 from the BC SGA CCA grant fund to close this gap. Rosales and Bond have met with OMEDJ to discuss the event, and the fee stated above represents her required funding amount to participate in pre-planning and execution of event for organizations of our size.

Should you have any questions regarding this proposal submission, please contact me via email at orosales@bakersfieldcollege.edu or cell phone at 661.342.7324.

*Oliver Rosales*

Oliver A. Rosales, Ph.D.
Professor of History
Bakersfield College