



Women's History & More
W.H.A.M. Bakersfield College

H57 Humanities
Bakersfield College
1801 Panorama Blvd.
Bakersfield, CA
93305



February 28, 2017

Bakersfield College
Student Government Association
Campus Collaboration Action Grant

Dear Dr. Damania

Please accept this application for the BCSGA CCA Grant advertised on your website. We're seeking a \$1000.00 grant in order to sponsor one of our featured events for this year's Women's History and More (W.H.A.M.) events. The event, "The Art of the Self-Portrait", featuring Los Angeles-based artist Crystal Galindo whose artistry emphasizes the *Chicana* experience and body-type exploration, focusing on "celebrating diversity and power in *cultura*", will present techniques and theories related to the art of the self-portrait. The event complements this year's exploration of the impact of media and culture on how women perceive their own value.

Galindo's event is representative of Bakersfield College's long commitment to diversity and equity. Thirty-five years ago President Jimmy Carter issued a Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980, as the first National Women's History Week. In 1987 Congress expanded the celebration from a week into a month, and March is now National Women's History Month, and since the 1980s, Bakersfield College has participated in the countrywide effort to recognize the historical accomplishments of women with a month-long series of programs presented by local and regional leaders among women. This year, W.H.A.M examines the ways in which historical portrayals of women originated, evolved, and continue to influence modern presentations of "self", especially on social media.

"The Art of the Self -Portrait" and other W.H.A.M. events provide rich historical context and contemporary significance, appealing to students and communities of diverse ethnic, cultural, sexual orientations, gender identities, socioeconomic status, and religions. We endeavor to provide a variety of different types of events: panels, including professors, staff, and students; scholarly lectures; a film/documentary; a performing art, and a studio art, so that students and the community have a variety of different ways to engage the material and themes. We also create opportunities for the audience to engage in the experience, either through soliciting student participation in advance or through moderated discussion. Galindo's event blends each of these aims together into one significant presentation. Through her exploration of art, body image, and identities of "color", Galindo will provide a public lecture, exposure to her art, and an opportunity for the community discuss various expectations about gender, media, and culture.

In an effort to foster equity and diversity, our committee is comprised of faculty, staff and students. We collaborate with the Delano Campus, Taft College, and CSUB. We arrange events in diverse locations, appealing to rural and urban issues, trying to create equity, success, and access through inspiration and revelation of issues and opportunities relevant to women, as well as to the broader community.

Seeking to appeal to a broad audience, we advertise in numerous ways including the following: posters around campus; articles in the *Renegade Rip* and in the *Californian*; the banners on the BC main webpage; listing of events in the BC events pages; advertising on the Delano Campus, CSUB, and Taft College; and through faculty and staff event-invitation emails to BC, CC, PC, and CSUB (we include images, etc.), as well as through our webpage and via Facebook's Bakersfield College page and Student Life page.

We evaluate the events in numerous ways including attendance, participation in discussion, the feedback of colleagues, and through audience evaluations of some events.

Our objectives are to create diverse and enriching exposure to events surrounding Women's and Gender Studies, so students can compare and contrast the experiences of women from diverse cultures and backgrounds throughout history and to the present, to introduce the community to the ways in which women helped to shape and were simultaneously shaped by major historical episodes, to expose the community to the ways in which different academic fields explore women's issues, and to create collaboration across campuses, colleges, disciplines, and communities, among other objectives.

While we are not receiving funds from any other organizations for this particular event, we did obtain the sponsorship of the Levan Center for the Humanities for two WHAM events this year: Jennifer Morgan's Public Lecture and the documentary, *Miss Representation*. WHAM members create and pay for all of the publicity for non-Levan-sponsored events with their own money.

We have submitted the BCSGA CCA Grant application online through your website, including the letter of intent, the application form, and other uploaded forms. Should you require additional material or if you wish to speak with me, I can be reached by phone at [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED]. We look forward to discussing the grant with you. We would be glad to meet with you at your convenience.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Erin Miller
Professor of History
Bakersfield College
Department of Social Sciences
1801 Panorama Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93305
[REDACTED]