

To Whom it may concern,

Greetings! My name is Tim Davis, and I'm the Coordinator of Theatre here at the Bluegrass Community and Technical College here in Lexington. I would like to lend my support and the support of our Theatre program to Antagonist Productions in their quest for a 2027 grant for their Shakespeare in the Park production at Woodland Park.

In 2023, the BCTC Theatre program co-produced this event with Antagonist at two Central Kentucky venues (Equus Run Vineyards, and Moondance), and in 2024 we co-produced the event at Woodland Park. Our Theatre program plans to be involved as an "in kind" partner for this production, and we strongly support the work that Antagonist has been doing with this endeavor.

Two things stand out in my mind. One is the value of live theatre to the community in these post-Covid times. Getting together in one space and having a communal experience such as theatre provides has been sorely lacking in our everyday lives for much of the last few years. The Shakespeare in the Park experience is one where the audience can enjoy a great production, have some good food courtesy of the local food trucks that take part, and enjoy excellent music as the pre-show, courtesy of many fine local musicians- and all of it done free for the public!

The other main benefit is for the cast / crew of these productions. Last year we brought together BCTC Theatre students, other current and former students from many local colleges and universities, and a wealth of local actors, directors, fight choreographers, and technicians/designers with a wide range of professional experience. This experience is incredibly valuable, as all the students get to work with peers from other schools, and to get to ply their craft side by side with very experienced Theatre practitioners. It also affords the local theatre folk the opportunity to work with one another in a fun, professional atmosphere.

I am happy to support Antagonist in their endeavors, and I look forward to other collaborations with them in the future. I hope you'll consider this grant request in their favor.

Sincerely,

Tim "X" Davis

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BCTC Theatre Coordinator