Letter from the Producing Director

Dear Motus Supporter,

My name is Rita Valente-Quinn and I am honored to have joined the Motus Theater team as the Producing Director. I came on part-time in January of 2017 while I was finishing my Ph.D. in Culture and Performance Studies from UCLA. And since July 2017 I’ve been working full-time and full speed ahead.

Motus Theater is a powerhouse of socially engaged and compulsively innovative art-making. It is a privilege to put my experience as a producer, performing arts curator, and administrator at the service of Motus Theater, and to team up with Kirsten and share my experience as a dramaturge and my doctoral research focused on colonial histories and postcolonial identities.

Preparing the 2016 annual report with Kirsten was a great opportunity to review Motus’ impressive achievements. In 2016 we raised over $204,000. With your support, Motus managed the extremely impactful, large-scale collaborative arts-based project One Action 2016: Arts + Immigration, reaching 60,000 people throughout Boulder County. In addition, your contributions fueled: the touring of SALSA Lotería; the last performances of Do You Know Who I Am?; screenings of our films Rocks Karma Arrows and Do You Know Who I Am?; and the new performance Sharing Our Stories: Mexican Immigrants in Life, Media & Myth - presented for the City of Boulder Immigrant Heritage Week in partnership with KGNU Community Radio.

It is heartwarming to read the long list of individuals and organization that trust Motus with their financial and energetic support. In line with our mission of creating original theater that encourages community conversations, I will be connecting with you over the next months to learn more about your interests and to listen to your vision for our community. I am excited about the possibility of sharing with you new opportunities to support the Motus momentum and make an even greater impact in our community.

Thank you for being the force that moves our work and our community forward!

Warmly,

Rita Valente-Quinn
Producing Director (2017)
Ray Ramirez of the Native American Rights Fund, who served on the committee for the City of Boulder’s Resolution to celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day, mentioned Motus Theater’s work in relation to the Resolution: “Motus Theater’s Rocks Karma Arrows performance and the One Action 2012: Niwot’s Arrow project helped lay a piece of the groundwork for this to happen.”

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

City Official Recognition of Motus Project
The City Councils of Boulder, Lafayette, and Louisville declare 2016 the “Year of the One Action Arts & Immigration Project.”

Boulder County Official Recognition
Bo Co Commissioners, declare 2016 the “Year of the One Action Arts & Immigration Project.”

Motus Project Grant
Lafayette Cultural Arts Commission includes within their funding cycle special grant points for participating in Motus Theater’s One Action project.

PROGRAMMING

One Action 2016: Arts + Immigration reaches 60,000 people with 125 events and 55 collaborators.

Do You Know Who I Am? Final Spanish & English live performances - completing a total 5,000 people reached.

SALSA Lotería Monologues
Performed in Spanish as well as a bilingual English/Spanish, and reaching over 900 people.

Motus Theater Visual Art created by Kirsten Wilson and Sebastian Sifuentes

SPECIAL THANKS TO 2016 OUT-GOING BOARD MEMBERS

Kim Decker, Chair

MOTUS THEATER STAFF

Kirsten Wilson, Artistic Executive Director
Brook Engebretson-Horton, Executive Assistant

CONTRACT PROJECT LEADERS

Manuela Sifuentes, One Action
Mary Young, One Action
Sebastian Sifuentes, Designer
Wendy Baring-Gould, One Action (Arts Strategist/Volunteer)

Photo: New Vista High School Language Arts students reading their stories of immigration at the Boulder City Council One Action Proclamation.

Sifuentes featured in Dairy Arts Center exhibit.

Poetic Powerhouses & Academic Insight Former Colorado Historical Society lead historian Dr. Modupe Labode with poet Molina Speaks and musician Dexter Paine in conversation on Immigration and Civil Rights.

Photo: Mayors of Lafayette, Boulder, Louisville, and Longmont were represented at the launch of Motus Theater’s One Action 2016: Arts + Immigration Project.
In *Salsa Lotería*, a performance created in 2015 in collaboration with *Programa Compañeras of El Centro Amistad*, Latina immigrants perform stories about their strength and resilience as they hold their families together across the divide of countries, cultures, and deportation threats.

*Salsa Lotería* toured throughout Boulder County in Spanish and English in 2016, presenting 5 performances. The live audience of 456 people was 43% Latino and 34% immigrants. An additional 4,694 saw artwork created for “Salsa Lotería” by local artist Sebastian Sifuentes and Kirsten Wilson that was selected for the “Crossing Borders” exhibit.

Motus is working to create lasting change by using original theater to amplify the voices of marginalized community leaders.

*Do You Know Who I Am?* tells the true stories of five young undocumented immigrants living in Boulder County, struggling to get an education and make a life for themselves. The award-winning performance, created in 2013, was scripted by Kirsten Wilson from monologues written by the DREAMERS, who also performed them.

In 2016, Motus presented the final 2 live performances, to an audience of 367 people, 69% Latino and 36% immigrants. We also completed a video of this show that will continue to impact people by illuminating the real lives at stake in the immigration debate.
On October, in honor of Boulder’s Immigrant Heritage Week Celebration, Motus Theater collaborated with KGNU Community Radio to present a live performance and radio broadcast of *Sharing our Stories: Mexican Immigrants in Life, Media and Myth*. This event featured immigrants and DACA students from Mexico who live in our community presenting their monologues from Motus Theater’s *SALSA Lotería* and *Do You Know Who I Am?*. Between monologues, Dr. Arturo Aldama, Associate Chair of Ethnic Studies at CU Boulder, offered facts about the assets immigrants bring to our community, addressed and challenged media stereotypes of Mexican immigrants. 215 people attended the live performance. Thousands more were reached through the KGNU broadcast.

In order to continue the conversations after the live performances are over, Motus Theater has created video versions of its original theater performances.

In 2016, we offered 4 screenings of *Rocks Karma Arrows*, to a total audience of 282, and 10 screenings of *Do You Know Who I Am?* to 422 people. Casey Middle School and the Boulder Valley School District teacher education program used these films as part of their curriculum or programming.

Media Collaborations to Reach Thousands!

On October, in honor of Boulder’s Immigrant Heritage Week Celebration, Motus Theater collaborated with KGNU Community Radio to present a live performance and radio broadcast of *Sharing our Stories: Mexican Immigrants in Life, Media and Myth*.

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**Cross-sector & Cross-genre**

Motus Theater continues to bring arts and educators together for unique programming explorations. For example, in 2016 we brought together former lead historian for History Colorado, Dr. Modupe Labode and improvisational poet, Molina Speaks, with musician Dexter Paine for an evening of reflection on immigration history in relation to the civil rights struggles and message of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Over 114 people attended this event, which was co-sponsored by the Boulder History Museum.
After a year of collaborative planning that engaged artists and community members from all over Boulder County, the “One Action 2016: Arts + Immigration Project” was a huge success. Motus Theater brought together arts and civic organizations, and invited them to engage deeply with the topic of immigration, using the power of the arts to build a stronger, more informed and more inclusive community.

**Scope:**
- Over 55 organizational partners
- Over 125 events
- Over 60,000 total attendance

**Examples** of some of the 125 events created for the project:
- **One Action Mural**, Boulder County Arts Alliance Mural brought award-winning muralist Rafael López to Boulder to create an immigration-themed mural with local school children and their parents.
- **Crossing Borders**, a juried multi-media art exhibit by immigrant artists created for One Action by the Dairy Arts Center was displayed at the Dairy Center, Lafayette Public Library, Louisville Art HUB, and Lafayette Art HUB.
- **Stories of Longmont Immigration Heritage**, an exhibition on Longmont’s immigration history created specially for One Action by the Longmont Museum and Cultural Center
- **Carousel Artists, Charles Looff and Augustus Wolfinger**, a special exhibit at the Carousel of Happiness in Nederland on immigrant influences in carousel art.
- **Silhouette: Stories of Immigration**, a photographic art exhibit at the Dona Laurita Gallery in Louisville.
- **The Resilience Project**, an exhibit of the photos of Boulder County Youth created by EcoArts Connection that was featured by the Lafayette Public Library and many more locations.

**Impact:**
- **Unprecedented educational effort**: Dozens of organizations participated in cultural competency training and coaching.
- **Unprecedented acknowledgment from government entities**: The cities of Boulder, Louisville and Lafayette and the Boulder County Commissioners declared 2016 the “Year of the One Action on Arts + Immigration”.
- **Unprecedented bilingual marketing**: A first-ever Spanish/English calendar of events in the Daily Camera and Longmont Times Call went to over 30,000 households.
- **Unprecedented access to arts funding and spaces**: Boulder County Arts Alliance and Lafayette Cultural Arts Commission translated grant applications into Spanish. Dairy Center for the Arts translated a call to artists into Spanish and waived submission fees. Lafayette Cultural Arts Commission created a special grant category for the One Action project.
- **Unprecedented immigrant engagement**: 40% of participating artists, speakers, and performers were immigrants or the children of immigrants.
## Executive Producers

$5000 +
- Brooke Jordan
- Margery Goldman
- Audrey Fishman Franklin
- Jared Polis Foundation
- Boulder County Arts Alliance
- Gini Coefficient fund
- Kim & Ethan Decker
- The Knight Foundation
- Chinook Fund
- Nancy Lee & Marie Wilson
- Boulder Arts Commission, an agency of Boulder City Council
- Boulder County Commissioners
- Colorado Creative Industries
- Daily Camera
- Wendy Baring-Gould

## Producers

$1000 - $4999
- Community Foundation Serving Boulder County
- Grace B. Ludwig Charitable Trust Fund
- David Ensign
- Nicky Wolman & David Fulker
- David Kirk
- Bradford Armstrong and Julie Dolin
- Kevin Daly
- m.o. Dines
- Eugene Wilson
- Glenda Russell
- Diane Israel
- Londa Weisman
- Boulder Human Relations Commission

## Motus Members

$120 - $249
- Rollie and Josie Heath Family Fund
- Barrio E'
- Michael Moore
- Alicia Lewis
- Thomas R. Vischi and Roberta Baumann Vischi
- Virginia Corsi
- Nadya Sustache
- Midge Korczak & Hal Osteen
- Judith D Sheeks
- Valerie Hyman
- Dana B Lobell
- Felicia Furman

## Motus Arrows

$1 - $119
- Mary Casey
- Estill H Buchanan
- John Shapiro
- Maya Dansie
- Sonia Marquez
- Alexis Miles
- Joseph Wolf
- Loren Cobb
- Katie Laez
- Iam Solis
- Deb Gardner
- Jennifer & David Kessem
- Reynold Feldman
- Kathleen Nolan
- Tom Pathe
- Marta Loachamin
- Rica Potenz & Thomas Davenport
- Nilton Lopez
- Beta & Faun Rico
- Ofelia Carreon
- Kokoro Ichiro
- Fami Rodriguez
- Maria Ramirez
- Meg Allen
- Rich Matsh
- Arielle Tozier De La Poterie
- Hugo Juarez
- Alonzo Munoz-Cordova
- Rebecca Chavez & Mark Harben
- Mark E. Marquez
- Jann Oldham
- Lourdes Gonzales Figueroa
- Nicki & Dan Dayley
- Angelique Espinoza
- Leslie Ogeda
- Tania De La Torre
- Rita Valente
- Manuela Stewart
- Beverly J. Cole
- Thomas D. Hst
- Benjamin Heckscher
- Christy Speirn-Smith
- Sheila Goetz

## Motus Arrows Cont...

- Erin Jones
- Alice M Norton
- Diane Ladd & Bruce Holland
- Adrian & Margaret Vieth
- Catherine Harris
- Dawn & Mary Pat S A Miles
- Lodi Siefer
- Lorraine Fairmont
- David Vollmar & Angelique Espinoza
- Sandra Blanchard
- Patrick Lacz
- Karen Drucker
- Terrill Harkness
- Elvira Ramos
- Dena Gitterman
- Barbara Miller
- Janet Oldham
- Nancy Judson
- J. Akiyama
- Donna Sueper
- Christa Ray
- Peter McMillan
- Kathleen Norris
- Carmen Nelson
- Jack Walker
- Lee Shainis
- Paola Farer
- Abby Hickcox
- Julie Rothschild
- Shelly Catterton
- Ellen Burnes
- Barbara Dilley
- Lynn Gilbert
- Daniel Ziskin
- Keenan Allenberg
- John Cobb
- Alexis Halkovic
- Manuela Chavez
- Jennifer Merlin
- Sakura Pressly
- Paul Kim
- Josh Nims
- Ellen Brock & Lawrence Kaptein
- Carmen Ramirez
- Elaina Verveer
- Suzanne Jones
- Sandra L. Laursen
- Betty Weber
- Candace Walworth
- Janice Zelazo
- Evan Perkins
- Gail Holland
- Maren Waldman
- Jane Houssiere
- Catherine Williamson
- Kathleen Hall
- Steven Harrison
- Karen Raforth
- Suzanne Magnanini
- Kerry Lightenburger
- Elizabeth Davis
- Maria D. Young
- David Martens
Motus Theater experienced a year of financial stability in 2016, ending the year with $104,055 in total assets. For the second year in a row, the organization brought in over $200,000 in revenue and almost all of that revenue was put into supporting Motus’ programs and, particularly, the One Action 2016: Arts & Immigration Project. We finished the year with net income of $990, meaning that we didn’t have to dip into our revenue carry-over from the previous year. Motus received federal funding from the NEA to support programming in the context of the One Action Project through a grant managed by the Boulder County Arts Alliance. These funds are included in the Foundation and Trust Grants section, which results in the apparent absence of the Federal Grants in 2016, and in an increase in revenue from Foundations and Local Government Grants section. Contributions from private sources remained steady at 36% of revenue.

Motus continues to do an excellent job of keeping administrative expenses low, so that supporters’ dollars go directly support our programs. As always, we thank our friends, donors, and community members for ongoing support contributing to Motus’ success in fulfilling our mission.

Our Amazing Supporters & Partners
Get involved! Motus Theater does a lot with a little.

And we do that because we have amazing committed volunteers who make so much happen.

We will have 3 board positions opening up. If you would like to be part of the magic of Motus Theater, please contact: info@motustheater.org to learn more about how to get involved as a board member.

We also need volunteers to support us with their skills whether at performances or in the office. Please email info@motustheater.org to learn more.

Volunteers provided 1,681 hours to Motus Theater programs and projects in 2016 for a value of $40,916.