

Subject: Fwd: MAPFund Letter of Inquiry

From: Joseph Tomaras <jtomaras@bates.edu>

Date: 10/4/13 11:37 AM

To: Rachel Boggia <rboggia@bates.edu>, Marlon Barrios Solano <marlon@dance-tech.net>, Josephine Dorado <josephine@funksoup.com>

Full text of the submission is below. Good luck!

I will let you all know as soon as I hear back from MAP Fund. In the meantime, working with the various Kenyan contacts to firm up the budget will help in terms of being prepared for if MAP Fund asks for a full proposal, as well as soliciting other potential sources.

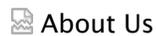
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From: <applications@mapfund.org>

Date: Fri, Oct 4, 2013 at 11:35 AM

Subject: MAPFund Letter of Inquiry

To: jtomaras@bates.edu



Review & Print

Please be sure to print a copy of this Letter of Inquiry for your records. After the submission deadline, your application will not always be available to you online.

President and Trustees of Bates College – Meta-Academy: Mixed local and virtual performance and choreographic exchange in Kibera, Kenya and in Lewiston, Maine

Application Number: 15911

Main Account Contact

Email Address	jtomaras@bates.edu
Honorific	Mr.
First Name	Joseph
Last Name	Tomaras
Title	Associate Director, Office for External Grants
Phone (Land)	207-786-6243
Address 1	42 Campus Avenue, Coram 222
City	Lewiston

State Maine
 Zip 04240

Organization Information

Name of Applicant Organization President and Trustees of Bates College

Organizational Bio / Mission Bates College is a liberal arts college with an undergraduate student enrollment of 1700. Our Mission Statement is as follows: "Since 1855, Bates College has been dedicated to the emancipating potential of the liberal arts. Bates educates the whole person through creative and rigorous scholarship in a collaborative residential community. With ardor and devotion – Amore ac Studio – we engage the transformative power of our differences, cultivating intellectual discovery and informed civic action. Preparing leaders sustained by a love of learning and a commitment to responsible stewardship of the wider world, Bates is a college for coming times."

With major fields of study in music, theater and dance, Bates is committed to the full integration of the performing arts in a rigorous liberal arts curriculum. Bates College also hosts the annual Bates Dance Festival.

Year Org Founded 1855

Year Org became a 501c3 1948

	2012	2013
Income	\$97,336,378.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$97,418,223.00	\$0.00

Budget Notes Totals from audited operations FY12 only. We cannot release FY13 until after the audit and Board of Trustees meeting in October.

Project Information

Project Title Meta-Academy: Mixed local and virtual performance and choreographic exchange in Kibera, Kenya and in Lewiston, Maine

Artist Names Ms. Rachel Boggia, Ms. Josephine Dorado, Mr. Marlon Barrios Solano

Project Discipline Dance

Project Summary This project will develop a mixed local and virtual performance through choreographic exchange between teens from low income communities in Kibera, Kenya and in Lewiston, Maine. We will invite two internationally renowned choreographers (one located in the US, one in Kenya) to teach both local and online masterclasses in choreography to teens using unique online pedagogical techniques we have developed through Meta-academy.

Project Description Dear Ms. Brennan and Committee:

We are writing to express interest in applying for support for a mixed local and virtual performance developed through choreographic exchange between teens from low income communities in Kibera, Kenya and in Lewiston, Maine.

We will invite two internationally renowned choreographers (one located in the US, one in Kenya) to teach both local and online masterclasses in choreography to teens using unique online pedagogical techniques we have developed through Meta-academy. Meta-academy cofounders Rachel Boggia (Bates College, Lewiston, ME), Marlon Barrios Solano (Independent Researcher in Berlin/New York/Lewiston) and Josephine Dorado (The New School, New York, NY) will work with the teens to develop the work into a high-quality mixed live and virtual performance that will be seen in Nairobi, Kenya, Lewiston, Maine, USA, and online. The development of this performance will create cultural connections between teens, introduce them to advanced artists and cultural entrepreneurs, teach them valuable choreographic skills, and increase their digital literacy. In addition to the final performances, the process will create a freely open resource bank of online choreographic exercises.

Meta-Academy is an open-access, online collaborative lab that brings participants together in a networked space to co-design innovative approaches and methodologies for embodied learning. In simple language, we use free, massively available platforms such as Google+, FLICKR, and YouTube to enable embodied, collaborative, creative learning. Meta-Academy increases the digital literacy skills of its users by providing well-documented instructions and granular, step-by-step activities that allow participants of all levels of digital literacy to participate easily. Rather than broadcasting existing realms of thought into the online space, Meta-Academy works with experts (in this case, the choreography masterclass teachers) to translate their ideas into activities that only exist online. This produces a low-hierarchy alternative to the MOOC (Massively Open Online Course) in which all participants are treated as contributing artist-scholars. It is free, hosted by the social network dance-tech.net and is open to all interested parties. No specific experience or environment is necessary, other than an Internet-enabled computer and webcam.

Co-founders Marlon Barrios Solano, Rachel Boggia and Josephine Dorado launched the first pilot of Meta-Academy July-August 2013 at the Bates Dance Festival. Focused on the work of renowned contact improvisation teacher Nancy Stark Smith, it brought together 66 participants from 4 continents to study improvisation through online creativity and was a smash success. Now we want to use this approach to teach choreography and create cultural leading to a performance by youth in communities that are connected through a diasporic history. Many of the teens who live in Lewiston are refugees from political instability in Somalia. Some of them were born in refugee camps in Kenya and still have family there.

Our strong partnerships ensure that this project will be of high quality. We are in close conversation with the internationally recognized locally run non profit Shining Hope for Communities in Kibera, Kenya and Tree Street Youth in Lewiston, Maine, both of which run teen youth groups. We are in conversation with Marc Bamuthi Joseph to be one of the choreography teachers. Laura Faure, director of the Bates Dance Festival and a member of the Africa Consortium, will be our connection to the GoDown Arts Centre in Nairobi, which we hope will serve as our Kenyan hub and connection for Kenyan master choreographers.

We look forward to sharing our full proposal with you. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Rachel Boggia with Marlon Barrios Solano and Josephine Dorado

Premiere Month July
Premiere Year 2014

What phase of project development are you in? Early conception
Estimated Total Project Cost 25000

Artist / Ensemble Information

Artist #1

Honorific Ms.
First Name Rachel
Last Name Boggia
Email rboggia@bates.edu
Phone (Land) 207-753-6978
Address 1 2 Andrews Road
City Lewiston
State Maine
Zip 04240
Artist Type Performer/Creator
Artist Discipline Dance – Contemporary

Bio Rachel Boggia is an Assistant Professor at Bates College Department of Theater and Dance. She has served on the faculty of Wesleyan University, Connecticut College, Dickinson College, and the Ohio State University and the Bates Dance Festival. She has collaborated on projects funded by the NEH (Reflection:Reconstructing Anna Sokolow's Steps of Silence 2004; published by Insight) NSF (Superconductor Squaredance, part of the COSI Festival of Physics 2008) and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (Principal Investigator on Colby Bates Bowdoin Faculty Enhancement Grant of \$43,000 "Process, Performance Pedagogy" 2011-12). Rachel has presented her scholarship and dance documentaries internationally (including "Meredith Monk, Voice of Silence" and "Reflection: Reconstructing Anna Sokolow's Steps of Silence"). She has performed professionally in works by Headlong Dance Theater and many NYC-based choreographers. Rachel holds an MFA in Dance with a specialization in Choreography and Digital Dance Documentation from The Ohio State University and a BS in Biology from Cornell University.

Artist #2

Honorific Ms.
First Name Josephine
Last Name Dorado
Email josephine@funksoup.com
Address 1 4121 7th Avenue #D

City Brooklyn
State New York
Zip 11232
Artist Type Choreographer
Artist Discipline Multidisciplinary
Bio Josephine Dorado is a social entrepreneur, digital strategist, producer and professor whose work focuses on innovation in hybrid online spaces. She was a Fulbright scholarship recipient and initiated the Kidz Connect program, which is a virtual cultural exchange program that connects youth internationally through creative collaboration and theatrical performance in virtual worlds. Josephine also received a MacArthur Foundation Award in Digital Media & Learning to co-found Fractor, which matched news with opportunities for activism, and she continues to be involved with the Fulbright community as Vice President of the Board of Directors in NY. She currently teaches at The New School and is the live events producer for This Spartan Life, a talk show inside the video game Halo. She balances her work in online spaces with her passion for teaching Pilates, combining a technology-infused life with a physical, embodied way of being. Most recently, Josephine received the Selma Jeanne Cohen award for scholarly research in dance, recognizing her work using dance frameworks for online collaboration. Commissioned works include interdisciplinary productions for the ISEA and Romaeuropa Festivals as well as speaking engagements at SXSW, IgniteNYC, SIGGRAPH, PICNIC (Amsterdam), and IPZ (Istanbul). Her experience focuses on the convergence of physical with digital, arts with technology, and games with calls to action. She delights in architecting innovative transmedia experiences inspired by the collaborative methodologies behind games and theater. <http://funksoup.com> Twitter: @funksoup

Artist #3

Honorific Mr.
First Name Marlon
Last Name Barrios Solano
Email marlon@dance-tech.net
Address 1 1466 Summit Street
City Columbus
State Ohio
Zip 43201
Artist Type Media Artist
Artist Discipline Interdisciplinary
Bio Marlon Barrios Solano a Venezuelan artist, researcher, consultant, educator, on-line producer/cuartor, video broadcaster and vlogger based between in USA and Germany. He is the creator/producer/curator of dance-techTV, a collaborative internet video channel dedicated to innovation and experimental performing arts and its social network dance-tech.net. He has also conceived and developed the on-line co-learning lab meta-academy.org. With a hybrid background on cognitive science, dance improvisation and new media arts he researches and explores the network technologies as participatory systems and collaborative spaces within

cultural production and education environments. He researches the use of the internet for the development of open collaborative models of knowledge production/distribution among trans-local artistic communities and organizational contexts. He is a guest lecturer and associated researcher at HZT Berlin (Germany) and a research fellow at DanceDigitalUK and ICKAmsterdam (Holland). He has lectured and led courses/workshops at many international conferences, educational centers and artistic venues such as ImpulsTanz 2012 (Austria), Geneva Sessions and HEAD (Switzerland), EXTRA 09, 10, 11 (France), Festival Panorama 09, 11, 12 (Brazil), Itau Cultural Rumos (Brazil), Masters in Performance and Visual Culture (Spain), Media Lab Prado (Spain), CitiLab (Barcelona), Mov-s 2010-2012 (Spain), APAP 2011 (USA), ACCAD The Advanced Computer Center for Arts and Design (USA), School of Arts, Media + Engineering in Arizona State University (USA) and the Digital Arts and Humanities at The Ohio State University (USA) among many others. He has consulted, led and developed projects for several international art organizations such as The South American Network of Dance (Brazil/Uruguay), Urdimbre (Colombia), Gilles Jobin Company (Switzerland), Live Arts Development Agency LADA (UK) and Damsens Hus (Sweden). He holds an MFA in Dance and Technology 2004 (real-time digital technology, performance of improvisation and embodied cognition) from The Ohio State University, USA.



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