



May 28-31, 2015
Downtown Lawrence, KS

Richard Renner, producer

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Lawrence Busker Festival, Inc.
408 Indiana Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

Lawrence City Commission
Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission
6 East 6th Street
Lawrence KS 66044

February 10, 2015

Dear LCAC and Commissioners,

The Lawrence Busker Festival will be produced this year for the 8th time in as many years. We have grown from a small event to one of the biggest in the city. The annual Journal World poll has voted us as the best event in Lawrence for the last 4 years and this recognition extends beyond our city. We are recognized as the biggest street performer event in the United States. This could not have been done without the amazing amount of support from the city and the citizens.

Our attendance has been estimated at 15,000 people over a 3 day period. Our performers have been both local and international, the farthest from Japan and New Zealand. The annual economic impact of our event has been estimated at \$198,000 by the city's public works division.

One of the reasons for our success is that we have maintained the Busker Festival as a free to attend event. Our funding has been a mix of sponsorships, grants and vendor fees and has fluctuated from year to year. Some years were fully funded, other years –not so much. I myself have worked for years without pay and some years where I gave money to keep it going. It has truly been a labor of love, fun and a gift to the people of Lawrence.

In the past we have received funding from the city through the LCAC and the Guest Tax Fund. This has totaled approximately \$15,000 over the last 8 years and the amounts have varied from year to year. This year we want to make a more direct request from the city for an annual amount of \$10,000 for the Busker Festival. This amount our will ensure our ability to attract international acts who have greater traveling expenses in getting here. It will also give us an amount of funding that will secure the Busker Festival's future after I am no longer the producer.

We want to make this same request for next year and therefore will not be applying for any other funding from the city than this. This once a year request will allow us to ensure the growth and longevity of this wonderful event in our community. This funding, along with other city support services, are greatly needed and appreciated to keep this event going.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Renner". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Richard Renner
Lawrence Busker Festival