DEAN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STUDENT VENTURE GRANT APPLICATION

Please read all instructions and regulations on the reverse side of this sheet prior to the completion of this form. The 8 copies of your proposal are due in the Dean's Office on the 2nd Friday of the Block by 1:00 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Rita Zook at x6686 or email rzook@coloradocollege.edu.

DATE SUBMITTED: 02-26-2010

NAME: ________________________ CLASS: 10__ WORNER BOX: _______ EXT. _______

ID # _______ HOMETOWN (Not Address) ________________________________

NAME: ________________________ CLASS: _______ WORNER BOX: _______ EXT. _______

ID # _______ HOMETOWN (Not Address) ________________________________

STUDENT RESEARCH X LIFE OF THE MIND ______ CONFERENCE ______

PROJECT TITLE: Translating Claro d'Oler:
A Senior Thesis Project Bringing Costa Rican Theater to Colorado College

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF INTENDED USE OF FUNDS
I will use the funds to travel to Costa Rica and spend a week in San José translating the play Claro d'Oler while working directly with its playwright, Ofr Leon. I will also use the funds to plan Leon's visit to the CC campus so that she may present the piece here.

PROPOSED DATE/BLOCK OF USE: Block 7 week 1 + Block 8 week 1

NAME OF FACULTY SPONSOR: Clara Lomas

HAVE YOU BEEN THE RECIPIENT OF A PREVIOUS VENTURE GRANT? Yes X No

IF SO, WHAT AMOUNT? ______ WHEN? ______ REPORT SUBMITTED? ______

TOTAL AMOUNT OF VENTURE FUNDS NOW REQUESTED: $1,000.00

ARE YOU SEEKING OTHER FUNDING FOR THIS PROPOSAL? Yes X No

IF YES, WHAT IS THE SOURCE? Cultural Attractions Fund, Mabel Marvill Scholarship, International Programs

If this proposal is approved, I understand that it is my responsibility to notify the Dean's Office immediately if I do not pursue my project as proposed to the Dean's Advisory Committee. I further understand that all funds are to be used according to the proposal as submitted and approved by the Dean's Advisory Committee. Any changes to an approved project must be submitted to the Chair of the Committee for approval. Please note: the IRS requires that we report Venture Funds as taxable income.

SIGNATURE: ________________________ DATE: 2/24/10

Approved
Translating *Clavo d'Olor*:
A Senior Thesis Project Bringing Costa Rican Theater to Colorado College

Proposal Summary

I selected Costa Rican theater as the topic for my thesis research based on the project that I completed during the Associate Colleges of the Midwest (ACM) Field Research semester in Costa Rica in spring of 2009. As a Romance Languages major, it was extremely important to me to choose a topic with a strong emphasis in communication and as a student heavily involved in Colorado College’s drama department for the past four years, I find performance to be one of the most expressive and complex forms of cultural and personal communication. I chose to study the theater of Costa Rica as a means of studying the country’s cultural identity.

As a companion to the research paper I produced for the ACM program, I will be completing a literary analysis of one of the plays I saw while in San José, *Clavo d'olor*, an original piece written and performed by Ofir León, which is representative of the current style of national Costa Rican performance. In order to share my findings with the Colorado College community I plan to travel to Costa Rica to work directly with Ofir León on a translation of the play from Spanish to English and plan the performer's visit to campus so that she may present *Clavo d'Olor* in Spanish. The audience will receive a program with the translation of the piece and an abstract from my research about the play as representative of Costa Rican performance.

Introduction

During my time in Costa Rica I completed a survey of the current state of the theater scene in San José, the country’s capital and cultural center, under the advising of Costa Rican actress, playwright, and poet Ana Istarú. I conducted historical research on the topic, interviewed several important figures in the dramatic arts in Costa Rica, including Ofir León, and attended shows of both national and international dramaturges as a means of analyzing current themes and trends. I produced a research paper of my findings and for my thesis I am translating that work from English into Spanish, with encouragement and support from my project advisor as well as my thesis advisor, so that it may be published in Costa Rican theater journals.

Several factors contributed to my selection of *Clavo d'olor* as the subject for my analysis. Having been involved in the dramatic arts in extra curricular, academic, and professional contexts for eight years now, including the completion of a theater analysis course at Colorado College, I felt that piece was unique and striking visually and that the themes, particularly those surrounding the role of women in society, had a very significant presence in Costa Rican theater as a whole. In terms of choosing this piece as appropriate and beneficial to present on campus, I feel that it is intriguing and expressive enough to transcend the language barrier; it contains themes and techniques that pertain
to many different areas of study and Colorado College, and from a technical aspect it is a one-woman show with minimal lighting and staging, therefore a feasible piece to transport and rehearse.

Objectives

I will complete a successful translation of Ofir León's Clavo d'Olor; successful meaning that it conveys the same feeling and message as the original.

I will bring Ofir León to the Colorado College campus so that she may present her piece Clavo d'olor for the benefit of several different sectors of the community including but not limited to the Spanish Department as it is a representation of Latin American language and culture, the Drama/Dance department, as it is a highly movement-based performance piece and will be another exposure to international theater, the English Department as the play is an interpretation of Shakespeare's Ophelia and the Feminist and Gender Studies Departments as it explores very feminine themes.

Methods

I have already received the script from Ofir León and will analyze it extensively prior to meeting with her. Upon arrival in San José I will take the bus to a hostel where I will be staying for the duration of my trip as León lives in the city and I will be able to meet with her regularly throughout my stay. In the city I will also have the Universidad de Costa Rica as a resource and work location as well as the Associate Colleges of the Midwest's facilities. I am very familiar with all of these support systems as well as the public transportation system in San José as I spent a semester making use of them. I will also meet with my project advisor, Ana Istarú for academic guidance and be in communication and sending drafts to my thesis advisor, Clara Lomas on the Colorado College campus. I will spend the majority of my time in the country translating the play and consulting with the playwright. The trip will be short and intensive, lasting only the first week of 7th block so that I may make use of the direct support of my experienced thesis advisor on campus. In addition to being able to work directly with the dramaturge, being in Costa Rica while translating a play, which communicates themes and sentiments deep-seeded in the country's society and culture seems an invaluable advantage to the project. Living and interacting with the people who were the inspiration for the piece will certainly enhance my ability to be true to the original tone and feel of the script.

Upon the completion of my thesis I will prepare the translation and an abstract of my analysis of the play to create the program for the piece. I will also prepare all of the technical aspects for the performance including space, lighting, sound, and seating as I am the Drama Department's lighting crew lead and am qualified to do so. I will be responsible for transporting León to and from the airport and arranging her lodging. Her visit will allow time for one rehearsal and one performance, she is also willing to teach a dance-related workshop and is excited for the opportunity to perform in America and share her art with the Colorado College community. I am currently working with
International Programs to determine documentation for the visitor as well as accommodation for meals. Dining Hall coupons will likely be supplied for her breakfast and lunch with a possible stipend and my personal contribution for dinners.

Evaluation

Clara Lomas, my thesis advisor in the Spanish Department, will evaluate my success in this endeavor. She will assess and grade the success of my literary analysis and translation as well as evaluate the appropriateness of the presentation as a representation of my research.
## Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 1: Translation in Costa Rica</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Flight:** Denver, CO to San José, Costa Rica  
Departing March 23, Returning March 30 | $400 | N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
$400 |
| **Lodging:** March 23 – March 30 @ $16/night | $112 | N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
$112 |
| **Transportation in San José:** 8 local bus rides per day  
@ 200-500 colones (about .36-.90 cents) per ride | $45 | N/A  
$45  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A |
| **Food:** $15/day for 7 days | $105 | N/A  
$105  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A |
| **Airport Exit Fee** | $27 | N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
$27 |

### Part 2: Performance at Colorado College

| **Performer’s Visa Interview and Purchase Fee** | $131 | $150  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A |
| **Transportation to/from Airport in San José:**  
Cab ride w/transport of props $17 one way | $34 | N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
$34 |
| **Airport Exit Fee** | $27 | N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
$27 |
| **Flight:** San José, Costa Rica to Colorado Springs, CO  
Departing April 19, Returning April 22 | $300 | N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
$300 |
| **Baggage Fees for Performance Props:** $50 extra bag  
Charge each way | $100 | N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
$100 |
| **Lodging:** Econolodge $40/night for 3 nights | $120 | N/A  
N/A  
$120  
N/A |
| **Food:** Bon Appetite coupons and small stipend | $80 | N/A  
N/A  
$80  
N/A  
N/A |
| **Publicity & Program Printing for Performance** | $200 | $200  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A |
| **Technical Assistance from CC Drama Dept. Workers:**  
Two skilled workers @ $10/hr for set up, rehearsal, and run | $200 | $200  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A |
| **Small Honorarium for Performer** | $500 | $500  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A |
| **TOTAL** | $2,400 | $1,150  
$150  
$200  
$1,000  
$1,000 |

| Venture Grant Committee | $400  
$112  
N/A  
$27  
N/A  
$131  
$34  
$27  
$300  
$100  
$120  
$80  
$200  
$200  
$500  
$1,000 |