

External Appropriation Request for a Non-Profit Organization

Organization: Greater Hickory International Council

Address: 250 3rd Ave. NE., Hickory, NC 28601

Contact: Hani Nassar, 828.234.6330. hani@hickoryic.com.

1. **Documentation of non-profit status:** The IRS letter is attached at the end of this report.

2. **Mission Statement:** The mission of the Greater Hickory International Council is to act as a forum for the local and global international community and to act as a liaison between that community and the local governments in order to promote goodwill, mutual understanding, cooperation, education, and respect among citizens.

3. **Amount of funding requested for the fiscal year and the proposed use of those funds:**
 Unfortunately, COVID-19 is still affecting our programing and is forcing us to deviate from the standard programs we have been accustomed to over the years of operation. Nevertheless, we continue to offer educational programs to our younger and adult generations in a way consistent with our mission. The amount of funding requested for FY 2022-23 is \$12,000 as detailed in the table below:

	OBJECTIVE	PURPOSE OF REQUEST AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT	TIMING	FINANCIAL IMPACT
1	FOLKMOOT USA	This is the official International Folk Festival of NC. Over 100 international professionals normally perform at the Drendel Auditorium to emphasize their international cultures and educate our adult community the value of international diversity. Note: In discussions with FOLKMOOT USA Board of Directors, it is still unclear if the FOLKMOOT Festival in July 2022 will continue to be limited to the Waynesville region. Therefore, the requested budget of \$500 is only a donation in support of the FOLKMOOT USA organization.	July 2022	\$500
2	Great Decisions	Great Decisions are 8 weeks of community discussions covering the most important international topics of the year relevant to the role and interests of the United States. Sponsorships cover Books, a DVD, discussion materials, advertisement, handouts, and guest honoraria. The 2021 event was held at LR University.	Sep 2022 - Oct 2022	\$1,000
3	International Christmas Concert	The international Christmas concert highlights the end of the year with Christmas Carols in Romanian and English. Performers include the Romanian Baptist Church Choirs (adult, old boys, youth, and children) and pianists, and guest performers. The idea is to involve the community in an international setting. Sing-a-long, and enjoy international delicacies. Sponsorship covers donations, guest fees, auditorium fees, and stage decorations. The event was held at the Drendel Auditorium on the SALT Block in December 2021.	Dec 2022	\$1,000
4	Model United Nations (MUN)	MUN is an extra-curricular activity in which Middle School and High school students role-play delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees. Participants learn the means of global cooperation & effective international decision-making, discover the world of diplomacy, explore current events on the international political scene, and engage in the democratic process. Sponsorship will be used to cover conference technology, facilities, publicity, and awards. This event was cancelled in 2021 and 2022 due to the pandemic and	March 2023	\$3,000

		because LR University, where the event is held, did not allow external events. In discussions with the LR leadership we are planning to resume this activity in March 2023.		
5	International Education Day	Pivoting to New Level of Excellence, and the Engaged Student Programming Initiative – a celebration of LR University’s commitment to not only diversity, inclusion, and equity, but also global citizenship. This event was cancelled for March 2022 but is planned to resume in March 2023.	March 2023	\$500
6	Children’s International Film Festival	The festival promotes cultural diversity among our young citizens by emphasizing cultures from outside the United States. It also highlights the value of international diversity. The sponsorship covers film and theater costs, and advertising. The GHIC leadership has decided to partner with the Footcandle Film Society and merge the children’s film festival with the annual Footcandle Film Society Film Festival in the fall.	Sep 2022	\$2,000
7	Community Connections (quarterly Film Series)	Collaborate with local agencies and organizations to share information such as international movies in partnership with Footcandle Film Society. The goal is to expose the community to different cultures, encourage newcomers to civic participation & action, and strengthen the social networks of the total community. The sponsorship covers programming and publicity including membership to Footcandle Film Society, movie rentals, and theater fees.	Once every quarter	\$1,000
8	HIC Grants	Award grants to individuals and community organizations that provide programs supportive of the goals, purposes, and mission of the GHIC. The community benefit is to solidify the International Council’s commitment and involvement in the community. These are 3-4 annual awards of \$ 500.	Q1, 2023	\$2,000
9	Rudy Wright International Service Award	The purpose of the Rudy Wright International Service Award is to recognize an individual or organization based in the 4 county Greater Hickory Metro Region that has made an outstanding contribution of goodwill, service, cultural awareness, tolerance, or global connectedness.	Q4, 2022	\$1,000

Total requested budget: \$ 12,000

4. **Amount of funding requested from Catawba County or other jurisdiction within Catawba County:** None.
5. **Description of the benefit to the citizens of the City of Hickory resulting from this funding:** Outlined in the table above.
6. **A copy of the most recent budget:** The above table represents the most recent budget. The most recent financial statement is attached at the end of this report.

The Greater Hickory International Council and its volunteers are appreciative of past funding which has resulted in a positive impact on the citizens of the City of Hickory and Catawba County. We will continue to promote international diversity, a key educational tool in these days of international turmoil. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to slow down some of our programs but the budget above reflects some return to normalcy in the next fiscal year.

With Gratitude,



Hani Nassar

President of the Greater Hickory International Council