PROPOSAL
FOR DOERR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INNOVATION GRANT

April 22, 2016

From: Geoff Winningham
Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts

Project Title: “In the Eyes of Our Children:
Houston, An American City”

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A Brief History of the Project

In the spring of 2011, HGOco (the community outreach office of Houston Grand Opera) invited Geoff Winningham, Professor of Visual Arts at Rice University, and the Center for Education at Rice to join in an intercontinental art project called “Home + Place.” The two-part goal of HGOco’s proposed project was to teach photography to a diverse range of school-age children in Houston, then assist them in photographing their “Home + Place” in the city. Utilizing the existing school contacts of Rice’s Center for Education and drawing on Professor Winningham’s extensive experience in teaching photography to young children, the project proved to be a resounding success, culminating in an exhibition of photographs by thirty-four children from four Houston schools. The exhibition was presented at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston in June and July of 2011. Eight Rice undergraduates contributed to the project, working closely with Professor Winningham and serving as teaching assistants in the schools.

From 2011 to 2014, Professor Winningham, funded through The Pozos Art Project (*) and with the cooperation of Rice’s Department of Visual Arts, continued and expanded the project. Selected Rice undergraduate students continued to work with him, expanding the photo documentation of the greater Houston area, with emphasis on the city’s cultural diversity.

(*) The Pozos Art Project, Inc, is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation founded by the photographer and Rice Professor Geoff Winningham and the artist Janice Freeman. Since its inception in 2009, the project has provided workshops in the visual arts to children and young adults in Houston, Texas and in Mineral de Pozos, Mexico.
In 2015, a grant from the Rich Family Endowment for Student Community Service (through Rice University’s Center for Civic Leadership) further expanded the project, putting additional Rice student volunteers into Houston schools, allowing the purchase of additional cameras, and funding the start of an historical archive of selected photographs by children working in the project since 2011.

Seeking the Completion and Public Awareness of the Project

After five years of work in 8 Houston area schools, this application seeks the funding necessary to bring the project to fruition, with the production of the following:

1) a carefully edited collection of the best photography and art from the project, to be made into a boxed portfolio and donated to the Houston Public Library or Rice’s Woodson Research Center, where it will be archived as a visual record of the city at this moment in history, and preserved for study and exhibition in the future;

2) a beautifully produced, full color book of approximately 160 pages, which will bring together the best of the children’s photographs of the city, plus additional art to be produced by children in workshops at Rice, scheduled for June of 2016;

3) an exhibition of approximately 175 selected photographs, paintings, drawings, and other works of visual art by Houston area school children, age 6 to 16.

The subjects of the photography and the art in the book and the exhibition will be the city of Houston; specifically, the city’s landmarks, parks, historical sites, cultural and sporting events, as well as the diverse neighborhoods in which the participating children live.

Building Leadership

Professor Winningham will direct every aspect of the completion of the project, from the summer workshops in June of 2016, through the design and production of
the book and the exhibition. He will select approximately 12 Rice University undergraduates to assist him at various stages in the project. These students will be given broad responsibilities and leadership roles in the planning and the day-to-day operations, including:

- planning, instruction, and evaluation of the June workshops

- downloading, organization, and archiving of the large number of digital photographs that the participating children will take

- copying and archiving all of the art (paintings, drawings, and monoprints) that the participating children will make

- participating in the research, conception stage, design, and writing of text for the book

- working with the printer and the publisher to meet deadlines for the printing of the book

- planning and execution of the distribution of the book, both locally and nationally

- designing and fabricating the exhibition, including making exhibition prints, matting, framing, and hanging

- working with the public relations firm to handle media relations and promotion for the book and exhibition
2. BUDGET

*Complete Project Period: May 2016 - March 2017*

**Phase 1:** Workshops, Editing, Proofing, and Archiving
May - June 2016

**Phase 2:** Preparation of Book
July - October, 2016

**Phase 3:** Preparation of Exhibition
43,488.00
(November 2016 – March 2017)

Total Budget for the Project $119,303.00

All funds awarded as a result of this request to the Doerr Institute will be used for
**Phase 1:** Workshops, Editing, Proofing, and Archiving

**Budget Detail for Phase 1**
Children’s Photography and Art Workshops,
Editing and Proofing of Children’s Photographs,
& Permanent Archive of Selected Works

- Art supplies for 40 children for 15 days: $3,000.00
- Photography supplies for 40 children for 15 days 1,000.00
- Van rental for photography field trips
  - 3 weeks, with full insurance [PV Rentals] 3,900.00
  - Gas for van 300.00
- 1 Rice Undergraduate “Workshop Coordinator” (4 weeks) 2,400.00
3 Rice Undergraduates  
  "Workshop Assistants" 3 @ $1,800 (3 weeks) 5,400.00

Photography workshop instructor  
  Geoff Winningham 5,000.00

Art workshop instructor  
  Janice Freeman 5,000.00

Proofing: 1,000 8.5"x11" color-corrected inkjet proofs of selected photographs from the beginning of the project, 2011-2016. 2,000 x $2.00 ea 2,000.00

Archival printing: 200 11"x17" fully corrected, exhibition quality archival inkjet prints to create an historical archive of the project. 200 x $10.00 2,000.00

Archival storage of all digital files of the photography and art from the project  
  2 6-TB Solid State Digital drives @$600 1,200.00

Total Budget for Phase 1  
  $31,200.00

Funding requests pending or in preparation:

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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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  | $120,000.00 |