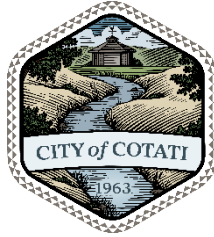


**A. APPROVAL OF 2025 COTATI CULTURAL GRANTAWARDEES**

It is recommended that the City Council of the City of Cotati adopt a resolution approving the Cotati Cultural Event Small Grant Program awardees for the 2025 cycle year.



## **Cotati City Council Agenda Staff Report**

**Item type:** REGULAR AGENDA (ACTION)  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** **APPROVAL OF 2025 COTATI CULTURAL GRANT  
AWARDEES**  
**Date:** January 28, 2025  
**Written by:** Ashley Wilson, Recreation Manager

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### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Council of the City of Cotati adopt a resolution approving the Cotati Cultural Event Small Grant Program awardees for the 2025 cycle year.

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### **Background**

At the September 24, 2024, City Council Meeting, the City Council approved the Cotati Cultural Event Small Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to encourage organizations and groups to host new and multicultural events in Cotati that promote an equitable, compassionate, and healthy community, that honor diversity as a source of strength.

### **Analysis/Discussion**

This is the first year of the grant cycle and because of the timing of when it was approved, there was a shortened application period. In future year cycles, there will be a longer application period for groups and individuals to apply for the grant.

For the 2025 grant cycle, the City received seven applications. One application was disqualified for being incomplete. Below are short descriptions of each of the other six proposed events.

1. Dia De Los Muertos, Carlos Pena – Altars will be set up in La Plaza Park for community members and businesses, as well as live entertainment, cultural demonstrations, and a mix of art making experiences. The event hosts will collaborate with local artists, partnered food vendors, and other organizations, including SSU multicultural groups, business chambers, and Hispanic radio stations.

2. Cotati Accordion Festival, Scott Goree – This longstanding Cotati two-day music festival event has a polka tent, zydeco dance party, younger musician stage, and two main stages. There are eighty vendors, food, beer, and wine, and approximately 150 volunteers annually.
3. Day of the Dead, Girasol Collective – Altars will be set up centrally in the park for all to add their own items. Traditional Mexican music performances will take place including mariachi and folkloric, children's activities will include crafts and storytelling sessions for children to learn the history of the Day of the Dead, as well as creating sugar skulls and papel picado. Vendors will be local and offering handmade goods, art, crafts, and authentic Mexican food including tamales, pan de Muerto, etc.
4. Running Fence Run 10k, Liberty Cookies, Inc. – This run will be a 10k run from Liberty School to the Hub and a 5k run from the Hub to Railroad St. and is a celebration of the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Christo and Jeane-Claude's Running Fence art project. There will be a race day festival in the park after the run and there will be art displays in the park, inspired by the Running Fence.
5. Cotati Big-Time, Progressive Tribal Alliance – This event will feature Native American dancers, singers, food, and educational opportunities such as workshops, arts and crafts, interactive exhibits with displays of art, history, and artifacts, hands on activities, and storytelling for members of the native and non-native community, to celebrate and share Indigenous traditions.
6. Cotati Big Time, Common Space Community Land Trust – This Native American celebration will feature Indigenous dancers, speakers, vendors, food and indigenous crafts, and potentially educational signage with history. The event will also include partnerships with non-native organizations to promote restorative relationships and provide an accurate history of the first peoples of Cotati.

All applications were reviewed by a staff committee. Scoring was based on the following criteria:

- Creativity – Uses imagination and innovation to create a new, different, and/or unique and memorable experience for attendees.
- Diversity – Highlights the culture of one or more ethnic groups or communities of interest.
- Inclusivity/Access – Increases access to music, arts, history, culture, or heritage, for people who may not feel included in community life, including low-income residents, people with disabilities, and other special populations.
- Feasibility – The event can be delivered with the available resources, time, and skills, as proposed in the application.
- Sustainability – The event will continue past the grant period.
- Promotes Community Togetherness/Broad Community Appeal
- Cotati Local Resident/Business Owner

Based on the criteria and quality of applications, the City recommends awarding two applicants for the 2025 grant cycle, each with a \$5,000 award. The recommendation is to award The Progressive Tribal Alliance to host their proposed Cotati Big Time event and Girasol Collective to host their Day of the Dead event.

The Progressive Tribal Alliance (PTA) would bring a new event to Cotati, with a focus on creating an inclusive space where individuals from all backgrounds can come together to celebrate and learn from Native American cultures. Their intention is to continue the event after the grant cycle has ended and be an annual tradition. They have an established event framework with templates, volunteer coordination systems, and strong partnerships with local businesses and stakeholders. Given the event experience the PTA has and their connections and support, this applicant is well equipped to host a successful and safe event in La Plaza Park.

Girasol Collective would also bring a new event to Cotati, designed to honor and promote Latino traditions within the community through a family friendly celebration that highlights the rich heritage of Dia De Los Muertos, fostering cultural appreciation and understanding. The event is planned to be offered annually, with the organization becoming more financially stable through revenue streams, community support, and fundraising efforts. They have experience organizing cultural and community focused events, strong ties with local vendors and cultural advocates, and a network of volunteers. As an up-and-coming organization that specializes in event coordination, small business promotion, and digital marketing, while having a deep connection with the local Latino community, awarding Girasol Collective will provide them with the support they need to create a meaningful and impactful annual event in Cotati.

Since there were duplicate event applications for both awardee proposals, the City recommends that each recipient reach out and make reasonable efforts to collaborate with the other applicants proposing similar events.

Each event will come back to the City Council at a later date for approval on the special event permits, to include any street closure, sales, fee waivers, or other requests.

### **Financial Considerations**

The financial considerations for the Cotati Cultural Event Small Grant Program awardees is \$10,000, which was approved at the September 24, 2024, City Council meeting. Funding would come from the City Council annual contributions budget through the City's General Fund. No additional appropriation is required.

### **Environmental Issues**

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.



**RESOLUTION NO. (XX)**  
**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTATI**  
**APPROVING THE 2025 COTATI CULTURAL EVENT SMALL GRANT**  
**AWARDEES**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cotati has a desire to bring more multicultural events to Cotati; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cotati approved the Cotati Cultural Event Small Grant Program at the September 24, 2024 City Council Meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, six completed applications were received for the 2025 grant cycle year; and

**WHEREAS**, two applications were identified by the review committee as the highest rated and best suited to be selected as awardees; and

**WHEREAS**, the two events selected to receive five thousand dollars each in grant funds are the Progressive Tribal Alliance and Girasol Collective; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that awarding grants to these events are part of a comprehensive economic development strategy in that new multicultural events may increase visitation to the City, promote the Cotati community and result in increased sales tax revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council further finds that the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Cotati will not be jeopardized by the approval of these grant awards; and

**WHEREAS**, the applications for this program are attached as Exhibit A; and

**WHEREAS**, the scoring rubric for this program is attached as Exhibit B; and

**WHEREAS**, the action of approving a Cultural Events Grant program does not constitute a project as defined by California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15378; therefore, no further environmental review is required.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that

Section 1. Findings. The above recitals are declared to be true and correct and are incorporated herein as findings of the City Council.

Section 2. Approvals. The Cotati Cultural Small Grant Program recipients for the 2025 cycle will be the Progressive Tribal Alliance and Girasol Collective, with grants of five thousand (\$5,000) dollars awarded to each organization.

Section 3. Effective Date of this Resolution. This Resolution shall become effective immediately.

Section 4. Severability. Each portion of this resolution is severable. Should any portion of this resolution be adjudged to be invalid and unenforceable by a body of competent jurisdiction, then

the remaining resolution portions shall be and continue in full force and effect, except as to those resolution portions that have been adjudged invalid. The City Council of the City of Cotati hereby declares that it would have adopted this resolution and each section, subsection, clause, sentence, phrase and other portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more section, subsection, clause, sentence, phrase, or other portion may be held invalid or unconstitutional.

**IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED** that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cotati held on January 28, 2025, by the following vote, to wit:

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Kevin Patterson, Deputy City Clerk

Approved as to form: \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney

**Print**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application - Submission #2226**

**Date Submitted: 12/6/2024**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application**

**Event Title**

Dia De Los Muertos November 2, 2025

**Applicant/Organization Name**

**City**

**State**

**Zip**

CA

**Contact Name**

**Title**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Budget**

**Total Project Budget**

6,000

**Applicant Cash Match**

500.00

**In-Kind Resources**

500.00



**Grant Request Amount**

5,000

**Event Narrative Questions****Please provide an event description.**

Dia De los Muertos ( Day of the Dead) is a day of celebration, particularly for the people in Mexico and Central America and for many Mexican-Americans in the United States. It is a day to honor and commemorate the dearly departed's lives and welcome the return of their spirits. The day will be a celebrative event where people remember, rejoice, and celebrate death as an important part of life. Altars are set up to honor those departed. The spirits are believed to visit relatives and feast on the ofrendas as a token of remembrance of what they enjoyed while living. Many of the items they enjoyed such as food, drinks, hobbies, etc are displayed. A full day of live entertainment, cultural demonstrations, and an eclectic mix of art-making experiences. We will be collaborating with local artists, partnered food vendors, and organizations for diverse and multicultural celebration.

**How will your event promote diversity in the Cotati community?**

The Mexican heritage, customs, and symbolisms, promote broader cultural understanding. The celebrations welcome people from all backgrounds to participate, honoring the memory of loved ones regardless of ethnicity or origin. Community building and celebrating together creates a sense of unity and belonging fostering connections within diverse communities. When done with respect and accurate information, celebrating Dia De Los Muertos can be a powerful tool for cultural exchange.

**How are you/your organization suited to produce this event? Please provide community resources that will be used if applicable (volunteers, vendors, local contributions, etc.)?**

We are suited for such an event due to our extensive experience fostering relationships with many community businesses and non-profit resources including institutions of learning such as SSU multicultural groups, business chambers, and using Hispanic radio stations as a means of promoting the event.

**What are your goals for this event? What population are you aiming to serve? Using measurable amounts whenever possible, please explain how you will know if you have succeeded in your goals**

The demographic target is the Hispanic community, but open to all including non-Hispanic groups. A marketing operational time line has been created from January 1 to November 2. A few goals are the number of altars created by community members and businesses for their employees. Another is to seek non-Hispanic participation groups. Benchmarks will be in place.

**How will you be able to host successfully continue your proposed event in future years, without Cotati Cultural Grant funding?**

The success of this event with the numerous partners and participation from the community will have created a foundation for the amount of sponsorships which we have a benchmark and will be in place.

**How does your event promote community togetherness and/or a broad community appeal?**

Dia De Los Muertos shares many common elements that many families can relate to the traditional cultural aspect within this growing Hispanic community. A yearning for such an event is desired and appreciated by the community.

**Do you own/operate a Cotati business/organization? If so, please list.**

No.

**Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy and Application**  
**201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati CA 94931 (707)792-4600**

Name of Applicant or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax ID # (if Non-Profit): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event: 11/2/25 Arrival/Completion Time: 9:00 Estimated Attendees: 50-100

Type of Special Event: Dia De Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Hispanic community celebration

**PARK REQUESTED:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> La Plaza Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Kotate Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunflower Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Draper Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Falletti Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Santero Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Putnam Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Civic Center (Cator) Park

Alcoholic Beverages Sold: Yes ☐ No ☒  
Alcohol not permitted in parks without City Council approval & an ABC license

Food served: No ☐ Yes ☐ Sold ☒

Street Closure Requested: Yes ☐ No ☒

Park Closure Requested: Yes ☐ No ☒

Animals: \_\_\_\_\_

Electricity Needed  
(La Plaza Park Only): Yes ☐ No ☒

Inflatable Jump House: Yes ☐ No ☒

Film Production: (if yes, see pg. 10) Yes ☐ No ☒

As an applicant for a City of Cotati Park Use and Special Event permit, facilities, I hereby agree to assume all risks for loss, damage, liability, injury, cost or any expense that may arise during or be caused in any way by use or occupancy of any area or facility of the City of Cotati. I further agree that in consideration of being permitted to use said facility, I will hold the City of Cotati, its officials and employees free and harmless from any loss, liabilities, damages, and/or injuries to persons and property occurring during applicant's use or public liability insurance as stated in "Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy" with the City of Cotati named as additional insured to be submitted no later than one month prior to the rental date. I have read the rules and regulations of rental carefully and agree to them as written. **I understand that applications not submitted thirty (30) days prior to event may not be able to be processed.**

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 12/2/22024

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Insurance Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments/Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Use Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Returned: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-00-60702-000000 101-00-35002-000000

Street Closure Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Restroom Cleaning Fee: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-23-64022-000000 101-24-80188-CLEANS

Group Classification: Cotati Resident ☐ Non - Resident ☐ ABC License Received ☐

**Please describe your event in more detail here. Include information such as agenda for the event. For events in La Plaza Park, use the attached map to indicate location of shade tents, tables, etc.**

Dia De Los Muertos is a community event rich in hispanic tradition remembering those love ones that have passed on to the afterlife. (See Attached sheet)

[illegible]

**FILM PERMITS ONLY:**

**Production Type:**\_\_\_\_\_ **Production Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Days Filming:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Production Company:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Contact Name and Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application - Submission #2192**

**Date Submitted: 11/25/2024**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application**

**Event Title**

Cotati Accordion Festival

**Applicant/Organization Name**

Cotati Accordion Festival, Inc.

**City**

**State**

**Zip**

**Contact Name**

**Title**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Budget**

**Total Project Budget**

\$125,000.00

**Applicant Cash Match**

\$19,000.00

**In-Kind Resources**

\$25,000.00

**Grant Request Amount**

\$5,000.00
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**Event Narrative Questions****Please provide an event description.**

The Cotati Accordion Festival is an annual nonprofit, multicultural, multi-generational, community run music festival featuring the many ways the accordion is used in cultures around the world. The festival has a polka tent, a zydeco dance party, an. Apocalypse Stage(featuring younger musicians who have found new and creative ways to use the accordion) and two main stages. It also features a playground (everyone 15 and younger is free), 80 vendors, food, beer and wine. There are also about 150 community volunteers who come aboard each year and run the many different aspects of the festival.

**How will your event promote diversity in the Cotati community?**

Our festival's theme, from the very beginning, is to be a multi-cultural festival. We present acts that show how the accordion is used in different cultures and we use the festival as an avenue to bring different parts of society together through the love of music. At our festival people will find Cumbia, polka, zydeco, gypsy, Western swing, jazz, rock, Italian, Irish, Tex-Mex, and more on our multiple stages. All of this music takes place in the same weekend, giving people the ultimate exposure to the creativity of many diverse backgrounds.

**How are you/your organization suited to produce this event? Please provide community resources that will be used if applicable (volunteers, vendors, local contributions, etc.)?**

Our event is suited to produce this event because we have a team that has come together for 34 years to make it happen. The Cotati Accordion Festival also relies on the 150 community minded volunteers that come to the park in order to help produce it each year. The festival management is able to keep the gate price at an affordable level because we receive the help from 30 different local businesses each year. Without the generous contributions, our business plan would not be able to keep the gate price down and we would not have near the 5000 people in attendance each year. Where other local festivals of the same size have either folded completely or doubled their gate prices, we have been able to keep the gate reasonable because of the involvement of the community and all the community minded businesses.

**What are your goals for this event? What population are you aiming to serve? Using measurable amounts whenever possible, please explain how you will know if you have succeeded in your goals**

Our goals are to bring love and joy to the community through a multicultural display of music; to have community minded volunteers feel like they are doing their part to help the community by helping to produce the festival; to have people see the various ways the accordion is used in music around the world; and, as a nonprofit, donate our proceeds to music programs in our local schools. We know we have succeeded in our goals by watching the positive reaction of the audience and by making a profit so that we can hit our donation goal to the nonprofit organizations that we donate to each year. Once again, this is mainly to help music in the schools, but we also support the Cotati/ Rohnert Park Education Foundation and the Cotati/Rohnert Park Nursery Co-op.

**How will you be able to host successfully continue your proposed event in future years, without Cotati Cultural Grant funding?**

We have continued on each year by reaching out and recruiting more sponsors. Without the Cotati Cultural Grant funding, we would have to search even harder for community support. As costs of production keep rising each year, we have to look for more funding. The alternative is to double the gate charge as several other festivals have done in the last two years. This is our last resort as we fear that it would diminish attendance and damper the community enthusiasm.

**How does your event promote community togetherness and/or a broad community appeal?**

Our event promotes community togetherness through the fact that so many members of the community feel a great self-worth by helping to produce the festival. Businesses work with us, volunteer organizations work with us, and the city of Cotati has been a tremendous help to us. In many ways, we are one of the prominent faces of the City of Cotati.

**Do you own/operate a Cotati business/organization? If so, please list.**

Personally, I do not own a business in Cotati.

**A completed Park Use/Special Event application is required.**

Park Use/Special Event Application

**Upload your completed Park Use/Special Event Application**

WebPage.pdf

**Signature and Certification Letter**

I hereby certify that all the facts, figures and representations made in this application, including all attachments, are true and correct. This application is made with the written approval of my board of directors, which is attached to this application.

I agree that all publicity, press releases, publications, materials and /or media advertising produced as a part of this proposed project will acknowledge the Cotati Cultural Grant Program as an event sponsor.

I agree to carry out this project as outlined within this application. Further, I understand that failure to do so will invalidate this agreement and necessitate the immediate return of all Cotati Cultural Grant Program monies to the City of Cotati.

**Electronic Signature Agreement**

By checking the "I agree" box below, you agree and acknowledge that 1) your application will not be signed in the sense of a traditional paper document, 2) by signing in this alternate manner, you authorize your electronic signature to be valid and binding upon you to the same force and effect as a handwritten signature, and 3) you may still be required to provide a traditional signature at a later date.

**I agree**

☒ Yes

**Signature (First M. Last)**

**Date**

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**\*Grant applications must be submitted with a completed Park Use & Special Event Policy application.**

**Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy and Application**  
201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati CA 94931 (707)792-4600

Name of Applicant or Organization: cotati accordion festival

Name of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax ID # (if Non-Profit): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Petaluma ca 94952  
Street City State Zip Code

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event: 8/15/2025 Arrival/Completion Time: 8/17/2025 Estimated Attendees: 5000

Type of Special Event: accordion festival

**PARK REQUESTED:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> La Plaza Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Kotate Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunflower Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Draper Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Falletti Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Santero Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Putnam Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Civic Center (Cator) Park

Alcoholic Beverages Sold: Yes ☒ No ☐

Alcohol not permitted in parks without City Council approval & an ABC license

Food served: No ☐ Yes ☒ Sold ☐

Street Closure Requested: Yes ☒ No ☐

Park Closure Requested: Yes ☒ No ☐

Animals: \_\_\_\_\_

Electricity Needed  
(La Plaza Park Only): Yes ☒ No ☐

Inflatable Jump House: Yes ☐ No ☒

Film Production: (if yes, see pg. 10) Yes ☐ No ☒

As an applicant for a City of Cotati Park Use and Special Event permit, facilities, I hereby agree to assume all risks for loss, damage, liability, injury, cost or any expense that may arise during or be caused in any way by use or occupancy of any area or facility of the City of Cotati. I further agree that in consideration of being permitted to use said facility, I will hold the City of Cotati, its officials and employees free and harmless from any loss, liabilities, damages, and/or injuries to persons and property occurring during applicant's use or public liability insurance as stated in "Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy" with the City of Cotati named as additional insured to be submitted no later than one month prior to the rental date. I have read the rules and regulations of rental carefully and agree to them as written. **I understand that applications not submitted thirty (30) days prior to event may not be able to be processed.**

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 11/21/23

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Insurance Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments/Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Use Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Returned: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-00-60702-000000 101-00-35002-000000

Street Closure Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Restroom Cleaning Fee: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-23-64022-000000 101-24-80188-CLEANS

Group Classification: Cotati Resident ☐ Non - Resident ☐ ABC License Received ☐

**Please describe your event in more detail here. Include information such as agenda for the event. For events in La Plaza Park, use the attached map to indicate location of shade tents, tables, etc.**

The event is the 34th annual cotati accordion festival. It would take place in la plaza park with the la plaza streets and west sierra blocked off. It involves live music, 150 community volunteers, multiple stages, 80 vendors, beer, wine and food. We also need to reserve the lot next to the smart station on east cotati. The event is a fund raiser for school music programs along with donations to the cotati/Rohnert Park education foundation and the cotati/Rohnert Park nursery school co-op.

The event's theme is multi-culturalism as we present the many ways the accordion is used around the world and how the music at the festival can be a means to bring people together under one big tent.

**FILM PERMITS ONLY:**

**Production Type:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Production Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Days Filming:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Production Company:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Contact Name and Email:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Print**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application - Submission #2219**

**Date Submitted: 12/4/2024**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application**

**Event Title**

Day of the dead event

**Applicant/Organization Name**

**City**

**State**

**Zip**

**Contact Name**

**Title**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Budget**

**Total Project Budget**

Approximately 7000

**Applicant Cash Match**

3000

**In-Kind Resources**

marketing and other services like decorations etc provided by sponsors.

**Grant Request Amount**

5000

**Event Narrative Questions****Please provide an event description.**

The proposed Day of the Dead Celebration in Cotati, CA is a vibrant cultural event designed to honor and promote Latino traditions within our community. This family-friendly celebration will highlight the rich heritage of Día de los Muertos, fostering cultural appreciation and understanding.

The event will feature traditional Altars (Ofrendas): Beautifully adorned altars honoring loved ones who have passed, showcasing traditional elements like marigolds, photos, candles, and offerings.

Live Traditional Mexican Music: Performances that bring the soulful sounds of mariachi and folkloric music to life.

Children's Activities: Engaging crafts and storytelling sessions where kids can learn about the history and significance of the Day of the Dead, such as decorating sugar skulls and creating papel picado.

Vendors and Traditional Food: A vibrant marketplace offering handmade goods, art, and crafts by local vendors, alongside authentic Mexican cuisine, including tamales, pan de muerto, and more, giving attendees a taste of the culture.

This event will create a space for cultural education, celebration, and community connection, enriching Cotati with the vibrant traditions of Día de los Muertos. The funding will support venue setup, materials for altars and crafts, musical performances, vendor coordination, and outreach to ensure broad community participation.

**How will your event promote diversity in the Cotati community?**

The Day of the Dead Celebration will serve as a platform to promote diversity by highlighting the rich traditions of Latino culture and fostering cross-cultural understanding and appreciation in the Cotati community.

Through interactive elements such as traditional altars, music, food, and children's activities, attendees from diverse backgrounds will have the opportunity to experience and connect with the cultural significance of Día de los Muertos. By creating a space where people can come together to learn about and celebrate this tradition, the event encourages dialogue, inclusivity, and respect for cultural differences.

Additionally, featuring local vendors and artisans from various backgrounds promotes economic diversity and highlights the multicultural contributions to our community. This event will celebrate the cultural mosaic that makes Cotati unique while providing an enriching experience for all participants, strengthening bonds within the community.

**How are you/your organization suited to produce this event? Please provide community resources that will be used if applicable (volunteers, vendors, local contributions, etc.)?**

Our organization is uniquely suited to produce this event due to our deep connections within the community and our experience organizing cultural and community-focused events.

We will draw on several key resources to ensure the success of the Day of the Dead Celebration:

Vendor Booth Fees: Funds earned from vendor booth fees will help offset event costs, while also providing a platform for local artisans and entrepreneurs.

Volunteers: Members from local nonprofits, community organizations, and engaged residents will generously volunteer their time and expertise to help with setup, coordination, and day-of activities.

Local Business Sponsorships: Support from Cotati's local businesses will provide financial contributions, in-kind donations, and promotional assistance, further enhancing the event.

Our strong ties with local vendors, cultural advocates, and businesses ensure we can effectively mobilize resources, celebrate diversity, and deliver a meaningful event for the community.

**What are your goals for this event? What population are you aiming to serve? Using measurable amounts whenever possible, please explain how you will know if you have succeeded in your goals**

Our goal is to create a vibrant and inclusive event that serves all populations in Cotati and surrounding areas. The city currently lacks any event celebrating Día de los Muertos, making this a unique opportunity to introduce and share this rich cultural tradition with the community.

**Specific Goals:**

**Vendor Participation:** Attract a diverse range of vendors to showcase their products, ensuring they have a platform to share their offerings and achieve strong sales during the event.

**Community Engagement:** Draw a significant number of attendees from Cotati and beyond to celebrate, learn, and connect with the culture.

**Cultural Awareness:** Promote and spread awareness of Latino traditions by incorporating key elements of Día de los Muertos, such as altars, music, food, and children's activities.

**Economic and Social Impact:** Create a lively and bustling event that benefits vendors, supports local businesses, and strengthens community bonds.

**Measurable Success Indicators:**

**Vendor Participation:** Secure at least 15 vendors for the event.

**Attendance Numbers:** Achieve a turnout of 300+ attendees.

**Sales and Feedback:** Vendors reporting strong sales and positive feedback from attendees.

**Community Response:** High levels of engagement and interest, measured through attendee feedback, social media interactions, and word-of-mouth.

**How will you be able to host successfully continue your proposed event in future years, without Cotati Cultural Grant funding?**

Our organization is steadily growing and becoming stronger financially, allowing us to plan for the sustainability of this event in future years. We aim to build a foundation that enables the Day of the Dead Celebration to thrive independently of grant funding by:

**Vendor Booth Revenue:** Increasing vendor participation each year will generate a stable source of income to cover event expenses.

**Community Support:** Strengthening partnerships with local businesses for sponsorships and in-kind donations to offset costs.

**Volunteer Engagement:** Expanding our network of dedicated volunteers and community members to support operations and reduce overhead.

**Event Reputation:** Establishing the Day of the Dead Celebration as a beloved annual tradition will attract more attendees, vendors, and sponsors, ensuring ongoing financial viability.

**Fundraising Efforts:** Organizing additional fundraising activities, such as raffles or community-driven campaigns, to provide supplemental funding.

**How does your event promote community togetherness and/or a broad community appeal?**

The Day of the Dead Celebration brings the community together by offering a shared space to celebrate and learn about a rich cultural tradition.

**Community Togetherness:**

Encourages families, friends, and neighbors to connect through shared experiences like music, crafts, and altars.

Fosters understanding and appreciation of Latino culture, creating a sense of belonging for everyone.

**Broad Appeal:**

Offers activities for all ages, local vendors, and traditional food to engage a wide audience.

Provides a unique event not currently available in Cotati, drawing both residents and visitors.

This event strengthens bonds and celebrates diversity, making it enjoyable and meaningful for the whole community.

**Do you own/operate a Cotati business/organization? If so, please list.**

I do not. But i own a pop-up gift shop and some of my product is being sold inside Stones throw in Cotati.

**A completed Park Use/Special Event application is required.**

Park Use/Special Event Application

**Upload your completed Park Use/Special Event Application**

Park-Use-and-Special-Event-Reservation-Policy-and-Application-Packet-PDF.pdf

**Signature and Certification Letter**

I hereby certify that all the facts, figures and representations made in this application, including all attachments, are true and correct. This application is made with the written approval of my board of directors, which is attached to this application.

I agree that all publicity, press releases, publications, materials and /or media advertising produced as a part of this proposed project will acknowledge the Cotati Cultural Grant Program as an event sponsor.

I agree to carry out this project as outlined within this application. Further, I understand that failure to do so will invalidate this agreement and necessitate the immediate return of all Cotati Cultural Grant Program monies to the City of Cotati.

**Electronic Signature Agreement**

By checking the "I agree" box below, you agree and acknowledge that 1) your application will not be signed in the sense of a traditional paper document, 2) by signing in this alternate manner, you authorize your electronic signature to be valid and binding upon you to the same force and effect as a handwritten signature, and 3) you may still be required to provide a traditional signature at a later date.

**I agree**

☒ Yes

**Signature (First M. Last)**

**Date**

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12/4/2024
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**\*Grant applications must be submitted with a completed Park Use & Special Event Policy application.**

Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy and Application  
201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati CA 94931 (707)792-4600

Name of Applicant or Organization: Girasol Collective

Name of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax ID # (if Non-Profit): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event: 11/1/25 Arrival/Completion Time: 11am-8pm Estimated Attendees: 300

Type of Special Event: Day of the dead event

**PARK REQUESTED:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> La Plaza Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Kotate Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunflower Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Draper Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Falletti Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Santero Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Putnam Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Civic Center (Cator) Park

Alcoholic Beverages Sold: Yes ☒ No ☐

Alcohol not permitted in parks without City Council approval & an ABC license

Food served: No ☐ Yes ☐ Sold ☒

Street Closure Requested: Yes ☒ No ☐

Park Closure Requested: Yes ☐ No ☒

Animals: \_\_\_\_\_

Electricity Needed  
(La Plaza Park Only): Yes ☐ No ☒

Inflatable Jump House: Yes ☐ No ☒

Film Production: (if yes, see pg. 10) Yes ☐ No ☒

As an applicant for a City of Cotati Park Use and Special Event permit, facilities, I hereby agree to assume all risks for loss, damage, liability, injury, cost or any expense that may arise during or be caused in any way by use or occupancy of any area or facility of the City of Cotati. I further agree that in consideration of being permitted to use said facility, I will hold the City of Cotati, its officials and employees free and harmless from any loss, liabilities, damages, and/or injuries to persons and property occurring during applicant's use or public liability insurance as stated in "Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy" with the City of Cotati named as additional insured to be submitted no later than one month prior to the rental date. I have read the rules and regulations of rental carefully and agree to them as written. **I understand that applications not submitted thirty (30) days prior to event may not be able to be processed.**

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 12/4/2025

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Insurance Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments/Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Use Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Returned: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-00-60702-000000 101-00-35002-000000

Street Closure Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Restroom Cleaning Fee: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-23-64022-000000 101-24-80188-CLEANS

Group Classification: Cotati Resident ☐ Non - Resident ☐ ABC License Received ☐

Please describe your event in more detail here. Include information such as agenda for the event. For events in La Plaza Park, use the attached map to indicate location of shade tents, tables, etc.

The proposed Day of the Dead Celebration in Cotati, CA is a family-friendly event honoring Latino traditions and promoting cultural appreciation.

**Event will feature:**

Altars (Ofrendas): Beautiful displays honoring loved ones with marigolds, photos, and offerings.

**Live Music:** Traditional mariachi and folkloric performances.

Children's Activities: Crafts like sugar skull decorating and papel picado.

**Vendors and traditional food.**

**Event would run from 1pm to 6pm.**

Set up would start at 11am and everyone should be out of the park by 8pm.

**FILM PERMITS ONLY:**

Production Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Production Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Days Filming: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Production Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Name and Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Print**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application - Submission #2201**

**Date Submitted: 12/1/2024**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application**

**Event Title**

2025 Running Fence Run 10K from Liberty School to Cotati Hub

**Applicant/Organization Name**

Liberty Cookies, Inc.

**City**

**State**

**Zip**

**Contact Name**

**Title**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Budget**

**Total Project Budget**

\$35000

**Applicant Cash Match**

5000

**In-Kind Resources**

5000

**Grant Request Amount**

5000
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**Event Narrative Questions****Please provide an event description.**

A celebration of the 49th Anniversary of Christo and Jeanne-Claude's Running Fence project with a 10K Run from Liberty School to the Cotati Hub and a 5K Run from the Hub to Railroad Street, where the Running Fence crossed 101. An art display featuring works inspired by the Running Fence will be displayed at the Cotati Hub with a race day festival. The event is a preparation and promotion for the 50th Anniversary of the Running Fence with a full marathon planned in 2026.

**How will your event promote diversity in the Cotati community?**

The Running Fence Run 10K will be open to people of all background. A 1K event at Liberty School will be held for young children. A celebratory festival will be held at the Cotati Hub for everyone. The Running Fence Run celebrates running with an art, and local artists will be recognized for works featuring the Running Fence. There will be outreach to encourage participation from diverse communities in Cotati and neighboring communities.

**How are you/your organization suited to produce this event? Please provide community resources that will be used if applicable (volunteers, vendors, local contributions, etc.)?**

The Running Fence Run will utilize volunteers from local running clubs and sponsorship from sporting goods stores and other local vendors. I am a member of the Empire Running Club. Sponsorship of prizes and in-kind contributions will be solicited from the community and appropriate national brands.

**What are your goals for this event? What population are you aiming to serve? Using measurable amounts whenever possible, please explain how you will know if you have succeeded in your goals**

The goal for the 2025 Running Fence Run 10K is to prepare and promote a 2026 50th Anniversary Running Fence Marathon along the roads adjacent to the Running Fence installation path. The event will celebrate the history of the world famous art project and promote tourism to Cotati and Sonoma County. It will encourage fitness for art lovers and art appreciation for runners.

The event will be successful by achieving good turnout. A few hundred runners would be reasonable participation. For the art contest having several schools participate with classroom art projects and a few dozen professional-level pieces submittal would be successful. From a tourism and promotional aspect having several news outlets and influencers cover the event would indicate success.

**How will you be able to host successfully continue your proposed event in future years, without Cotati Cultural Grant funding?**

A successful first 10K event will create interest and build mailing lists for the 50th Anniversary Running Fence Marathon. Achieving a profitable event on the 50th Anniversary and having sufficient community support would lead to a continued annual celebration.

**How does your event promote community togetherness and/or a broad community appeal?**

The Running Fence project in 1976 sparked the open space preservation movement to protect the rural beauty of Sonoma County. The process to discuss and approve the project was democratic and filled with debate. The Running Fence Run will honor that inclusive democratic process by soliciting memories and artwork inspired by the Running Fence project.

**Do you own/operate a Cotati business/organization? If so, please list.**

I do not own a Cotati business but will prioritize local business vendors for the race day festival.



Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy and Application  
201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati CA 94931 (707)792-4600

Name of Applicant or Organization: Liberty Cookies, Inc.

Name of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ x ID # (if Non-Profit): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event: 9/13/2025 Arrival/Completion Time: 5:00am-5:00pm Estimated Attendees: 1500

Type of Special Event: 10K/5K Running Event and Festival

**PARK REQUESTED:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> La Plaza Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Kotate Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunflower Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Draper Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Falletti Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Santero Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Putnam Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Civic Center (Cator) Park

Alcoholic Beverages Sold: Yes ☒ No ☐  
Alcohol not permitted in parks without City Council approval & an ABC license

Food served: No ☐ Yes ☒ Sold ☐ X

Street Closure Requested: Yes ☒ No ☐

Park Closure Requested: Yes ☒ No ☒

Animals: \_\_\_\_\_

Electricity Needed (La Plaza Park Only): Yes ☒ No ☐

Inflatable Jump House: Yes ☐ No ☐

Film Production: (if yes, see pg. 10) Yes ☐ No ☐

As an applicant for a City of Cotati Park Use and Special Event permit, facilities, I hereby agree to assume all risks for loss, damage, liability, injury, cost or any expense that may arise during or be caused in any way by use or occupancy of any area or facility of the City of Cotati. I further agree that in consideration of being permitted to use said facility, I will hold the City of Cotati, its officials and employees free and harmless from any loss, liabilities, damages, and/or injuries to persons and property occurring during applicant's use or public liability insurance as stated in "Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy" with the City of Cotati named as additional insured to be submitted no later than one month prior to the rental date. I have read the rules and regulations of rental carefully and agree to them as written. **I understand that applications not submitted thirty (30) days prior to event may not be able to be processed.**

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 12/1/2025

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Insurance Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments/Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Use Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Returned: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-00-60702-000000 101-00-35002-000000

Street Closure Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Restroom Cleaning Fee: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-23-64022-000000 101-24-80188-CLEANS

Group Classification: Cotati Resident ☐ Non - Resident ☐ ABC License Received ☐

Please describe your event in more detail here. Include information such as agenda for the event. For events in La Plaza Park, use the attached map to indicate location of shade tents, tables, etc.

A celebration of the 49th Anniversary of Christo and Jeanne-Claude's Running Fence project  
with a 10K Run from Liberty School to the Cotati Hub and a 5K Run from the Hub to Railroad Street

8am 10K start time from Liberty School; Finish by 9:30 am

9:30 am 5K start time; Finish by 10:00am

Food and Art Festival from 9:00am to 5:00pm

Local bands or DJ music

**FILM PERMITS ONLY:**

**Production Type:**

**Production Name:**

**Number of Days Filming:**

**Name of Production Company:**

**Contact Name and Email:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

r Driving School



ss, Inc

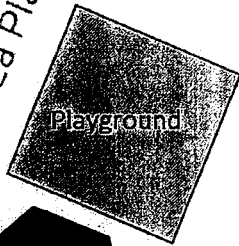


La Plaza Hwy

La Plaza Park Events: Indicate layout of event on this map.

Map not to scale

La Plaza



Playground

Old Redwood Hwy



Public  
Parking

Laplaza Park

Award Ceremony  
and music

Ave

La Plaza

Community  
Groups and Art  
Displays

Food and Drink  
Vendors

La Plaza

La Plaza

W Sierra Ave

W Sierra Ave

La Plaza



**Print**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application - Submission #2215**

**Date Submitted: 12/3/2024**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application**

**Event Title**

**Applicant/Organization Name**

**City**

**State**

**Zip**

**Contact Name**

**Title**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Budget**

**Total Project Budget**

**Applicant Cash Match**

**In-Kind Resources**

**Grant Request Amount**

\$5,000

**Event Narrative Questions****Please provide an event description.**

We are hoping to host the First Annual Cotati Big-Time, an event rich in Native American culture and education. The event will have native dancers, singers, speakers, food, and educational opportunities for members of our native and non-native community alike.

**How will your event promote diversity in the Cotati community?**

We will actively promote diversity by forging partnerships with local stakeholders such as the Cotati Chamber of Commerce, the Cotati Historical Society, and other community organizations. These collaborations will help bring together diverse perspectives and ensure the event reflects the rich cultural and historical fabric of the area. We will also utilize inclusive marketing strategies through social media, local press, and community networks to reach a wide audience and emphasize the event's role as a platform for cultural exchange and education. Through interactive workshops, storytelling, and hands-on activities, we aim to celebrate and share Indigenous traditions while inviting people from all backgrounds to learn, participate, and build connections.

**How are you/your organization suited to produce this event? Please provide community resources that will be used if applicable (volunteers, vendors, local contributions, etc.)?**

We are well-positioned to reproduce this event annually by leveraging our established event framework, including planning templates, volunteer coordination systems, and strong partnerships with local businesses and stakeholders. Our dedicated volunteer base, supported through collaborations with organizations like Redwood Credit Union and Apple Inc., ensures consistent staffing and support for the event's success. These resources allow us to streamline the replication process while continuously refining and improving based on participant feedback. Additionally, our year-round programming and community outreach help maintain engagement and build momentum, ensuring sustained interest and participation for future events.

**What are your goals for this event? What population are you aiming to serve? Using measurable amounts whenever possible, please explain how you will know if you have succeeded in your goals**

Our goal is to foster meaningful relationships between Native and non-Native communities by creating opportunities for cultural exchange, education, and shared experiences that promote mutual respect, understanding, and collaboration. We will measure success through the diversity and number of participants attending our events, engagement levels in workshops and activities, and feedback collected via surveys and discussions. Partner participation and the strength of collaborative initiatives formed as a result of these efforts will also serve as indicators of our impact. Over time, we aim to build a more united and inclusive community that values and supports Indigenous culture and representation.

**How will you be able to host successfully continue your proposed event in future years, without Cotati Cultural Grant funding?**

A continued partnership with the City of Cotati is essential to the success and sustainability of our initiatives. The city provides invaluable support in terms of resources, community connections, and logistical assistance, helping to ensure that our programs reach a broad audience and have a meaningful impact. However, while we greatly appreciate this partnership, we are committed to building the capacity and financial independence necessary to fund our projects on our own in the coming years. By diversifying our funding sources, expanding community involvement, and strengthening our operational infrastructure, we aim to reduce our reliance on external support and ensure the long-term viability of our initiatives, allowing us to continue serving the Cotati community and beyond.

**How does your event promote community togetherness and/or a broad community appeal?**

Our event is designed to promote community togetherness by creating an inclusive space where individuals from all backgrounds can come together to celebrate and learn from Native cultures. Through interactive activities, cultural demonstrations, and educational workshops, we aim to foster an environment of mutual respect, understanding, and shared learning. The event will appeal to a broad audience by offering something for everyone—whether it's exploring Indigenous traditions, engaging in local history, or participating in hands-on activities that highlight environmental sustainability and cultural heritage. By partnering with local organizations and businesses, we ensure the event resonates with the entire community, fostering connections that transcend cultural boundaries and strengthen the fabric of our community.

**Do you own/operate a Cotati business/organization? If so, please list.**

Our Secretary, \_\_\_\_\_, does currently live in the city and I have worked in the area in the past. We do not currently have an office in Cotati, but we are committed to serving and engaging with the community through our programs and events. Our involvement in the area is driven by our belief in the importance of cultural exchange and community building. While we may not have deep local personal ties, we are dedicated to creating meaningful relationships with Cotati residents and organizations, understanding their needs, and contributing to the community's growth and diversity.

**A completed Park Use/Special Event application is required.**

**Park Use/Special Event Application**

**Upload your completed Park Use/Special Event Application**

Cotati Event Application pdf.pdf

**Signature and Certification Letter**

I hereby certify that all the facts, figures and representations made in this application, including all attachments, are true and correct. This application is made with the written approval of my board of directors, which is attached to this application.

I agree that all publicity, press releases, publications, materials and /or media advertising produced as a part of this proposed project will acknowledge the Cotati Cultural Grant Program as an event sponsor.

I agree to carry out this project as outlined within this application. Further, I understand that failure to do so will invalidate this agreement and necessitate the immediate return of all Cotati Cultural Grant Program monies to the City of Cotati.

**Electronic Signature Agreement**

By checking the "I agree" box below, you agree and acknowledge that 1) your application will not be signed in the sense of a traditional paper document, 2) by signing in this alternate manner, you authorize your electronic signature to be valid and binding upon you to the same force and effect as a handwritten signature, and 3) you may still be required to provide a traditional signature at a later date.

**I agree**

☒ Yes

**Signature (First M. Last)**

**Date**

12/3/2024

**\*Grant applications must be submitted with a completed Park Use & Special Event Policy application.**

Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy and Application  
201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati CA 94931 (707)792-4600

Name of Applicant or Organization: The Progressive Tribal Alliance

Name of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax ID # (if Non-Profit): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event: 6/28/2022 Arrival/Completion Time: 10 to 3 Estimated Attendees: 1000

Type of Special Event: Cultural Education and Community Building

**PARK REQUESTED:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> La Plaza Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Kotate Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunflower Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Draper Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Falletti Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Santero Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Putnam Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Civic Center (Cator) Park

Alcoholic Beverages Sold: Yes ☐ No ☒  
Alcohol not permitted in parks without City Council approval & an ABC license

Food served: No ☐ Yes ☒ Sold ☒

Street Closure Requested: Yes ☒ No ☐

Park Closure Requested: Yes ☒ No ☐

Animals: No

Electricity Needed  
(La Plaza Park Only): Yes ☒ No ☐

Inflatable Jump House: Yes ☐ No ☒

Film Production: (if yes, see pg. 10) Yes ☐ No ☒

As an applicant for a City of Cotati Park Use and Special Event permit, facilities, I hereby agree to assume all risks for loss, damage, liability, injury, cost or any expense that may arise during or be caused in any way by use or occupancy of any area or facility of the City of Cotati. I further agree that in consideration of being permitted to use said facility, I will hold the City of Cotati, its officials and employees free and harmless from any loss, liabilities, damages, and/or injuries to persons and property occurring during applicant's use or public liability insurance as stated in "Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy" with the City of Cotati named as additional insured to be submitted no later than one month prior to the rental date. I have read the rules and regulations of rental carefully and agree to them as written. **I understand that applications not submitted thirty (30) days prior to event may not be able to be processed.**

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 12-3-2024

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Insurance Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments/Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Use Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Returned: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-00-60702-000000 101-00-35002-000000

Street Closure Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Restroom Cleaning Fee: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-23-64022-000000 101-24-80188-CLEANS

Group Classification: Cotati Resident ☐ Non - Resident ☐ ABC License Received ☐

Please describe your event in more detail here. Include information such as agenda for the event. For events in La Plaza Park, use the attached map to indicate location of shade tents, tables, etc.

The event will be an immersive experience designed to foster understanding between Native and non-Native communities.

Cultural Performances: Traditional music, dance, and storytelling by cultural leaders to showcase Native culture.

Workshops and Presentations: Hands on sessions on Native arts, crafts, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

Interactive Exhibits: Displays of Native history, art, and cultural artifacts, alongside educational materials.

Cultural Foods: Vendors offering traditional Native dishes, promoting cultural exchange from different tribes.

Children's Activities: Special programs for children, including storytelling, arts, and crafts and games.

to educate younger generations about Native culture while fostering a sense of community.

The event will be free and open to the public, creating an accessible space for the community to participate.

The goal is to foster a sense of unity, understanding, and strengthen bonds in the greater community.

The vendor booths will predominantly be along the Old Redwood and W. Sierra side of the park.

Food vendors will be located on the La Plaza side of the park. We will provide tables and chairs for most vendors.

**FILM PERMITS ONLY:**

Production Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Production Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Days Filming: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Production Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Name and Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**Print**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application - Submission #2228**

**Date Submitted: 12/6/2024**

**Cotati Cultural Event Grant Program Application**

**Event Title**

Cotati Big Time

**Applicant/Organization Name**

nmonSpace Community Land Trust

**City**

**State**

**Zip**

**Contact Name**

**Title**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Budget**

**Total Project Budget**

\$10,000

**Applicant Cash Match**

\$5,000

**In-Kind Resources**

Restorative practice allies to promote community engagement, Earth care and healing of historical injustice.

**Grant Request Amount**

\$5,000

**Event Narrative Questions****Please provide an event description.**

A "Big Time" is a Native American celebration that is like a family reunion with indigenous dancers from local tribes, speakers, vendors, food and children's indigenous crafts. Depending upon our funding, we hope to add educational signs that describe indigenous history and can be relocated to another, more permanent location after the event.

**How will your event promote diversity in the Cotati community?**

Native American tribal events are typically promoted by tribal leaders. This event will include support from non-native people in an effort to promote restorative relationships and an accurate history of the first peoples of Cotati. Non-native organizations that support the goal include: CommonSpace Community Land Trust, Stones Throw Gift Shop, Center for Ethical Land Transition and if they are willing, Cotati Historical Society.

**How are you/your organization suited to produce this event? Please provide community resources that will be used if applicable (volunteers, vendors, local contributions, etc.)?**

CommonSpace Community Land Trust is working in collaboration with f Progressive Tribal Alliance of Ya-Ka-Ama, of StonesThrow Gifts. I have had preliminary conversations with Cotati Historical Society and Suscol Intertribal Council. I have yet to reach out to them, but aligned with these values are: Camino de Sonoma, Sebastopol Grange, Morton's Warm Springs, Weaving Earth, and Center for Ethical Land Transition.

**What are your goals for this event? What population are you aiming to serve? Using measurable amounts whenever possible, please explain how you will know if you have succeeded in your goals**

Promote an accurate history of Cotati, to include the indigenous peoples. Promote healing and reconciliation between non-native and native peoples. Have fun!

Our goals are measured when people show up and are engaged. Through diverse groups of contacts we hope to create a broad base of enthusiastic support.

**How will you be able to host successfully continue your proposed event in future years, without Cotati Cultural Grant funding?**

One event can help determine these goals, but we hope to create relationships that can empower future events. CommonSpace has access to grant writers to this end.

**How does your event promote community togetherness and/or a broad community appeal?**

Having fun, supports togetherness. Inclusion promotes social healing. Engagement with indigenous traditions promotes intercultural relationships.

**Do you own/operate a Cotati business/organization? If so, please list.**

No, but I am in collaboration with StonesThrow gifts specifically in collaboration for this event, I am very active member of St. Joseph's Catholic church Cotati and one of our indigenous team members, is a Cotati resident.

**A completed Park Use/Special Event application is required.**

Park Use/Special Event Application

**Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy and Application**  
201 West Sierra Avenue, Cotati CA 94931 (707)792-4600

Name of Applicant or Organization: CommonSpace CLT

Name of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax ID # (if Non-Profit): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event: 6/2025 Arrival/Completion Time: 8am - 5pm Estimated Attendees: 50-200

Type of Special Event: Indigenous Cultural Event - Celebration and Education

**PARK REQUESTED:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> La Plaza Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Kotate Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunflower Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Draper Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Falletti Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Santero Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Putnam Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Civic Center (Cator) Park

Alcoholic Beverages Sold: Yes ☐ No ☒  
Alcohol not permitted in parks without City Council approval & an ABC license

Food served: No ☐ Yes ☒ Sold ☒

Street Closure Requested: Yes ☒ No ☐

Park Closure Requested: Yes ☒ No ☐

Animals: If attendees bring pets

Electricity Needed  
(La Plaza Park Only): Yes ☒ No ☐

Inflatable Jump House: Yes ☐ No ☒

Film Production: (if yes, see pg. 10) Yes ☐ No ☒

As an applicant for a City of Cotati Park Use and Special Event permit, facilities, I hereby agree to assume all risks for loss, damage, liability, injury, cost or any expense that may arise during or be caused in any way by use or occupancy of any area or facility of the City of Cotati. I further agree that in consideration of being permitted to use said facility, I will hold the City of Cotati, its officials and employees free and harmless from any loss, liabilities, damages, and/or injuries to persons and property occurring during applicant's use or public liability insurance as stated in "Park Use and Special Event Permit Policy" with the City of Cotati named as additional insured to be submitted no later than one month prior to the rental date. I have read the rules and regulations of rental carefully and agree to them as written. I understand that applications not submitted thirty (30) days prior to event may not be able to be processed.

DocuSigned by  
Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 12/6/2024

Date of Application: 12/6/2024 Date Insurance Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments/Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Use Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Returned: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-00-60702-000000 101-00-35002-000000

Street Closure Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Restroom Cleaning Fee: \_\_\_\_\_  
101-23-64022-000000 101-24-80188-CLEANS

Group Classification: Cotati Resident ☒ Non-Resident ☐ ABC License Received ☐

Please describe your event in more detail here. Include information such as agenda for the event. For events in La Plaza Park, use the attached map to indicate location of shade tents, tables, etc.

A "Big Time" is a Native American celebration that is like a family reunion with local indigenous dancers, vendors and information tables, food and children's indigenous crafts. This event will include support from non-native people in an effort to support restorative relationships and healing and an accurate history of the first peoples of Cotati. Depending upon our funding, we hope to include educational signs that describe local indigenous history and can be relocated to another, more permanent location after the event.

Included in our event planning team is \_\_\_\_\_, Native American dancer and Cotati resident and \_\_\_\_\_ Cotati resident and Cotati business owner.

**FILM PERMITS ONLY:**

Production Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Production Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Days Filming: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Production Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Name and Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# COTATI CULTURAL GRANT SCORING RUBRIC

CRITERION	2 EXEMPLARY (7-10 POINTS)	1 ADEQUATE (4-6 POINTS)	0 INSUFFICIENT (0-3 POINTS)	COMMENTS
<b>CREATIVITY - USES IMAGINATION AND INNOVATION TO CREATE A NEW, DIFFERENT, AND/OR UNIQUE AND MEMORABLE EVENT EXPERIENCE FOR ATTENDEES (10PTS)</b>	The proposal presents an innovative and original concept that is new to Cotati.	The proposed event is new to Cotati but has been hosted in nearby communities.	The proposal presents an event that is similar to existing events or is an existing event.	
<b>DIVERSITY - HIGHLIGHTS THE CULTURE OF ONE OR MORE PARTICULAR ETHNIC GROUPS OR COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST. (10PTS)</b>	The application exceptional diversity, engaging multiple cultural, ethnic, and/or social groups and reflects a broad and accurate representation of various cultural perspectives.	The proposed event involves some engagement with different ethnic, cultural, and/or social groups but could include more or is not comprehensive in the application.	The proposed event lacks clear effort to include diverse groups and shows minimal to no representation of diverse cultural perspectives.	
<b>INCLUSIVITY /ACCESS - INCREASES ACCESS TO MUSIC, ARTS, HISTORY, CULTURE, OR HERITAGE, FOR PEOPLE WHO MAY NOT FEEL INCLUDED IN COMMUNITY LIFE, INCLUDING LOW INCOME RESIDENTS, PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHER SPECIAL POPULATIONS. (10PTS)</b>	The application leaves no question as to how activities will be adapted when appropriate to create an inclusive environment for all populations, including those with specific disabilities and limitations.	The application implies intent to provide an inclusive environment for all populations, but does not clearly articulate the specifics about adaptations to be employed.	The application includes few or no plans to adapt activities to create an inclusive environment.	
<b>FEASIBILITY - THE EVENT CAN BE DELIVERED WITH THE AVAILABLE RESOURCES, TIME, AND SKILLS, AS PROPOSED IN THE APPLICATION (10PTS)</b>	Personnel, event activities timeline, and budget expenditures congruent with project description and outcomes.	Deficiencies or overestimations exist in personnel, timeline, or budget within tolerable range, outcomes appear achievable despite gaps or leaps.	Insufficient information about personnel, event activities timeline, or budget expenditures to gauge feasibility.	

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

# COTATI CULTURAL GRANT SCORING RUBRIC

CRITERION	2 EXEMPLARY (7-10 POINTS)	1 ADEQUATE (4-6 POINTS)	0 INSUFFICIENT (0-3 POINTS)	COMMENTS
<b>SUSTAINABILITY – THE EVENT WILL CONTINUE PAST THE GRANT PERIOD (10PTS)</b>	Evidence presented that event or its impact can be sustained locally beyond grant period, if results warrant.	Event plan is temporary, designed to end when grant ends, or some effort to secure commitment beyond grant period is represented.	No meaningful plans for future event beyond funding term appear in application.	
<b>PROMOTES COMMUNITY TOGETHERNESS/ BROAD COMMUNITY APPEAL (10PTS)</b>	The event proposes high engagement and encourages widespread community participation and addresses critical needs or interests of the community.	Proposed community engagement is limited with moderate participation and has some relevance but may not fully align with community needs or interests.	The proposal shows low levels of community engagement and participation or shows minimal relevance to community needs or interests.	
<b>COTATI LOCAL RESIDENT/BUSINESS OWNER (10PTS)</b>	The applicant lives in or has a business in Cotati.	The applicant lives in or has a business in Sonoma County.	The application does not live in or have a business in Sonoma County.	
<b>TOTAL SCORES</b>				