



# The Young S.A.M.O.A.

*Serving All Mankind Our Alofa*

## Section I: Applicant Organization

<b>Name of Organization</b>	The Young Serving All Mankind Our Alofa (SAMOA)
<b>Physical Address</b>	The Garcia Center for the Arts 536 W. 11 <sup>th</sup> Street San Bernardino CA 92410
<b>Mailing Address</b>	25850 Avalon Avenue San Bernardino CA 92404
<b>Telephone Number</b>	(909) 258 - 9661
<b>Non-Profit ID Number</b>	CA State Entity ID: 4181324 EIN: 83-1708802
<b>Website Address</b>	Linktr.ee/TheYoungSAMOA
<b>Number of Years in existence</b>	4

## Section II: Contact Person

<b>Name</b>	David Utuone
<b>Title</b>	Chief Financial Officer, Program Director
<b>Telephone</b>	(909) 713 - 9242
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:David.TYS.IEPA@gmail.com">David.TYS.IEPA@gmail.com</a> (please also include our general email for all communications regarding this matter: <a href="mailto:TheYoungSAMOA@gmail.com">TheYoungSAMOA@gmail.com</a> )

## Section III: Program Category/ies

Music
Dance
Visual Art
Literary Arts

## Section IV: Period of Support Requested

<b>From</b>	<b>Through</b>
September 7, 2022	June 30, 2023
<b>Amount Requested</b>	\$25,000.00
<b>Total Organizational Budget for Current Fiscal Year</b>	\$240,000
<b>Percent of total Org Budget Requested</b>	9.6%



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## Section V: Need Statement & Project Description

### Section V-a: Need Statement

According to School Accountability Report Card (SARC)\* data for the San Bernardino City Unified School District, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) young people have the lowest reading and math test scores and some of the highest dropout rates. Little data has been captured to understand why our students are not academically succeeding. With these data disparities, we have relied heavily on testimonials and consistent engagement-through-programming with parents and our young to gain an understanding. Among some of the more common contributing factors we hear: language barriers between school staff and parents, conflicts between academic responsibilities and familial/cultural obligations, poor health and inadequate living wages and conditions. These factors make NHPI young people some of the most disadvantaged in our city.

Furthermore, a recent survey of the 35 families/households (95% of which are Sāmoan) registered on The Young SAMOA listserv revealed less than 20% of our Sāmoan youth held any knowledge of Gagana Sāmoa (Sāmoan language) and even fewer (10%) had any basic knowledge of their Aganu'u Sāmoa (Sāmoan culture). Much of these disparities are due in large part to the lack of established Sāmoan community infrastructure. In other parts of the state like Long Beach and San Francisco where there are heavy saturations of NHPI communities, culture survives through long-standing churches and/or Pacific-Islander non-profit organizations facilitating safe spaces to learn. In San Mateo County Gagana Sāmoa has even been integrated into the school district with both English as a Second Language classes available for Sāmoan students, and Gagana Sāmoa as a second language available as an elective class. Within the city of San Bernardino, there is no such infrastructure in place. Our Sāmoan churches are nomadic institutions, with 0% owning the land they operate and constantly moving from city to city negatively impacting their ability to retain members and pass down our ancestral customs.

Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander – more specifically Sāmoan – young people in San Bernardino City are not only academically suffering, the preservation of their cultural identities as Sāmoans living in the continental diaspora are also severely at-risk. Resources and funding are needed to support collectives and organizations that promote academic success, and that interweave Sāmoan ancestral knowledge and practices into their program curriculum.

\*SARC SBCUSD: <https://www.sbcusd.com/workspaces/One.aspx?objectId=1610881&contextId=1610847>



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## Section V: Need Statement & Project Description

**Section V-b: Project Description:** *Two existing The Young SAMOA Programs would essentially be supported: Seasonal Youth Program (Fall, Winter, Spring) and Island Empire Performing Arts*

### Seasonal Youth Program Description

In partnership with The Garcia Center for the Arts, The Young SAMOA's Seasonal Youth Program is a 3-4 hour daily program that runs in selected months of each season of the school year and offers free homework help and tutoring for K-12 students (in English and Sāmoan if needed), art workshops with resident artists are The Garcia Center and with students from Art In Action at Cal State University of San Bernardino, and Aganu'u and Gagana Sāmoa workshops. Program curriculum interweaves western academia with concepts of Aganu'u Sāmoa – from collectivism, service, and respect, to the ancestral practices of weaving and making of our fine mats and siapo textiles – and Gagana Sāmoa – challenging our young people to write in the Sāmoan/English journals we supply them with using as many of the Sāmoan words they learn to summarize the books we read or answer the Sāmoan/English writing prompts we have printed in the journals.

### Island Empire Performing Arts (IEPA) Program Description

IEPA runs in conjunction with our Seasonal Youth Program and is a series of it's own workshops facilitated at The Garcia Center for the Arts teaching program participants about Siva Sāmoa/traditional Sāmoan dance, Pese Sāmoa/traditional Sāmoan songs and Tahiti Otea/traditional Tahitian dance. This program allows our participants to learn and our organization to accept invites to further visibility of Pacific Islander culture within our city. We have taken our IEPA students in the past to culturally demonstrate through Siva Sāmoa at the office of Connie Leyva, the Downtown San Bernardino Artwalk, and holds it's own showcase events at the Garcia Center for the Arts.



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## Section VI: Realistic Number of Persons Expected to Benefit

A. Number of persons who will pay an admission charge	0
B. Number of persons who will receive free admission	Participants: 45 Event Audiences: 90-100
C. Number of classes scheduled	Seasonal Youth: approximately 72 IEPA: 24
D. Number of performances scheduled	7

## Section VII: Intended Results

Target Group(s)	NHPI K-12 Young People	K-12 Young People (Non-NHPI)
Time Frame	07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023	07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023
Number of Performances	7	7
Anticipated Max of audience and participants	Confirmed Participants: 45 Max Participant Limit: 60 Audiences: 90-100	Confirmed Participants: 8 Max Participant Limit: 60 Audiences: 90-100





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## Section VIII: Project Budget

Expense	Description	Total Budget	Amount Requested from Grantor
Personnel	Stipends to be paid for each instructor. (2 instructors, paid \$1k per month)	\$22,000.00	\$10,000.00
Supplies/Materials	Printing, crafting supplies, materials for cultural demonstrations/uniforms	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00
Travel	Transportation of participants to/from facility	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00
Rent	Annual rent of office/program space at the Garcia Center for the Arts	\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$52,000.00</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>

## Section IX: Funding Sources

Name of funding source	Amount committed to this project
Sierra Health Foundation Subgrant	\$10,000.00
Center for Disease Control Subgrant	\$4,000.00
Empowering Pacific Islander Communities Subgrant	\$10,000.00
Whole Kids Foundation Grant	\$3,000.00
Total	\$27,000.00

## Section X: Future Objectives

We operate from a place of "this work will be done, regardless of funding." We've unfortunately grown very accustomed to not receiving support from public institutions at the city and county level. We hope if approved to receive funding through this opportunity, this is the start of a lasting relationship with the city of San Bernardino's Park and Recreations and all other institutions and will not be deterred from applying from future opportunities if we are not selected to be awarded this round.

We have close to \$23k in pending grant applications related to the arts, and \$56k related to health and wellness with some aspect of education through cultural art built into our submittals that we hope to hear from by November, as well as donations from Amazon Smile and other crowdfunding platforms averaging at about \$1k per month.



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## Section XI: Brief History/Background of Organization

The Young Serving All Mankind Our Alofa (SAMOA) was formally established in 2018. Our mission is to reach at-risk and disadvantaged Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander youth and their families through the arts and alofa(love) while raising better awareness and visibility of Sāmoan and Pacific Islander culture within the Inland Empire communities we serve.

The Young SAMOA grew identifying first that our Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities within our region are often overlooked and as a result underserved. There is very little initiative to account for our community, and we have taken an approach to build a community infrastructure “for us, by us.” We work with our Pacific Islander young people on volunteer opportunities, training, sponsoring their academic and athletic pursuits, and try to engage and answer needs from food insecurity to financial assistance of their overall families/homes.

Our organization shied away from grant-writing early on. We relied on the incremental donations from (at the time) our volunteer staff. COVID-19 brought forth many opportunities to receive grant funding from institutions like the CDC, CA DPH, and The California Endowment. Our capacity to grant write through these opportunities have vastly expanded our capacity to grant write, so much so a good percentage of our org budget is now reliant on grant funding.

We have built many meaningful relationships with different community based organizations, and established a coalition with two other Pacific Islander- serving orgs (Island Grad, and MALO) operating in the Inland Empire called the Pasifika Inland Empire Coalition for Empowerment (PIECE). Through PIECE, we are building a very reliable network of support and much needed sustainable resources for our Pacific Islander community member in need. Other notable partnerships aforementioned in this application is with The Garcia Center for the Arts. They have been instrumental in providing us a physical space to facilitate our programming, and since we formally established a tenant relationship with them in December of 2021, our programs have grown 300% as far as participants and program retention has increased from 90% to 98%.



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## Section XII: Current Financial Report (Unaudited)

Fiscal Period: September 2021 – September 2022

*Taken from our upcoming Board Leadership Meeting Handbook for Q4 scheduled for 09/15/2022*

Fiscal Year Report for The Young SAMOA Board Leadership Review - 09/15/2022

Fiscal Period: 09/2021 - 09/2022

### Donations

Total One-Time Donations	\$5,000.00
Total Recurring Donations	\$12,000.00
Total Grants	\$284,000.00
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>\$301,000.00</b>

### Expenses

Personnel	\$156,283.45
Insurances	\$12,845.69
Licensures	\$1,235.82
Administrative costs	\$4,562.32
Rent	\$5,280.00
Non-Personnel Programmatic Costs	\$82,000.32
Public Events	\$600.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$262,807.60</b>

The Young SAMOA Fund Balance: **\$38,192.40**



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## Section XIII: Officers and Board Leadership

### Officers

Name	Position	Address
Vai Matautia	Chief Executive Officer	25850 Avalon Avenue San Bernardino CA 92404
David Utuone	Chief Financial Officer	25850 Avalon Avenue San Bernardino CA 92404
Daniel Utuone	Chief Operations Officer	25850 Avalon Avenue San Bernardino CA 92404

### Board Leadership

Name	Position	Address
Pesa Matautia	Co-Chair	25850 Avalon Avenue San Bernardino CA 92404
Aminahh Mahmoud-Fe'a	Co-Chair	[REDACTED]
Emily Vakalahi	Member	Declined to Disclose City of Residence: San Bernardino
Hannah Alo	Member	[REDACTED]
Teumtisa Nua	Member	Declined to Disclose City of Residence: Las Vegas
Karla Thomas	Member	[REDACTED]
Gene Reyes	Member	Declined to Disclose City of Residence: San Jose

CERTIFICATION:

*David Utuone*

Project Officer: David Utuone

Title: Chief Financial Officer

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Date 09/01/2022

E-mail Address: [david.tys.iepa@gmail.com](mailto:david.tys.iepa@gmail.com)