



IMAGINE YOUNTVILLE

GRANT FUND APPLICATION

2025 Funding Period

Project Name: The Amazing Bubble Man Workshop, Free for Yountville Kids	Requested Grant Amount: \$2,500 Other Funding Sources: \$8,385 TOTAL Project Cost: \$10,885
Project Physical Address: Generations Room / YCC 6516 Washington St, Yountville, CA 94599	Group or Organization Name: E & M Presents, Inc.
How did you hear about this grant program? From a friend who lives in Yountville	
Contact Person Name: Evy Warshawski	Contact Person Phone #: [REDACTED]
Contact Email: [REDACTED]	Contact Mailing Address: [REDACTED]
Property Owner of Project Site - Town of Yountville Name: Address: Phone:	
Grant Scope: This application packet describes the intended use of the requested grant funds to complete the project identified in the application and the elements listed in the Project Budget. I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the state of California, that the information contained in this Application Packet, including the required attachments, is accurate.	
Print Name: <u>Evy Warshawski</u> Signature: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	
Title: <u>Co-Director, E & M Presents</u> Date: <u>Revised App Submitted on 9/25/24</u>	



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PROJECT NAME: The Amazing Bubble Man Workshop, Free for Yountville Kids

BUDGET: List all features, amenities, supplies, and plans

COST ESTIMATE	Requested Funds	Match
Salaries/Wages (In-Kind Match Only)	N/A	
	0	1,000
Contracted Services		
ARTIST FEE (PERF+WKSHP)	2,000	3,500
Yountville cleaning+tech fees	0	750
Materials/Supplies		
Printing/Marketing		
Web/postage/print/NwsprAd	500	935
Rentals		
Yountville Comm Center	0	1,300
Other		
Insurance	0	250
Hotel & Hospitality	0	400
TOTAL REQUEST AMOUNT	A. 2500	
TOTAL MATCHING FUNDS		B. 8,385
TOTAL PROJECT COST (A+B)	\$ 10,885	

IMAGINE YOUNTVILLE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION – Page One

1 / Our goal is to give kids who live in Yountville the opportunity to attend a free, 45 minute workshop given by the internationally-acclaimed Amazing Bubble Man, Louis Pearl. Kids will learn how to: make their own bubble solution; use a free bubble trumpet (created by Pearl) to learn new tricks; and to make their own bubble toys with chopsticks and string. A total of 25 kids, on a first come, first served basis, will attend the morning workshop in the YCC Generations Room, hours before Pearl will give two matinee, ticketed performances open to the public. No special permits are required, and rental of the space has been secured for the date of Sunday, February 23, 2025.

2 / E & M Presents consistently markets shows in a comprehensive fashion and will include bubble workshop information in the following publicity materials: postcards to our 1,500-person mailing list; on our EandMPresents.org website; on social media such as Facebook; ads in the Yountville Sun (when appropriate); to past attendees at Bubble Man shows (one which took place in Yountville in 2023); in calendar listings; and through the Yountville tourist bureau and flyer posting in downtown Yountville.

3 / To date, no other groups are involved with this project. If possible, we would like to save some workshop spots for kids who may reside in underserved or unhoused situations in/near Yountville. We will approach two funders who have, over the years, been extremely generous to E & M Presents: the Gasser Foundation and Community Projects, based in Napa.

4 / The only maintenance involved will be a wipe down of the floor in the Generations Room post-workshop. Mr. Pearl will be bringing extra canvas drop cloths and has asked us to purchase Prochem Defoaming agent, used to mop up any bubble soap that has not landed on the drops. Ideally, he has asked if the workshop can place outdoors in the patio area, depending on the weather. We will discuss with YCC personnel as we get close to the workshop date.

5 / Mr. Pearl requires light snacks and lunch for this day. We always try to use the most recyclable plates, cups and eating utensils available on the market. We try to go organic in our offerings and distribute any leftovers to staff or take home ourselves. We feel that we are good renters and conscious about clean-up and returning the facility to how we find it. The two assistants provided by YCC are always helpful and terrific!

IMAGINE YOUNTVILLE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION – Page Two

6 / Requested funds will be used for: a portion of the artist's fee that includes the bubble workshop; a portion of postcard printing (1500) and postage; a portion of display ad costs for marketing in the Yountville Sun. Cost estimates are based both on actual contracts and on experience from presenting this artist in the past. Matching funds are based on ticket sales projections and corporate sponsorships.

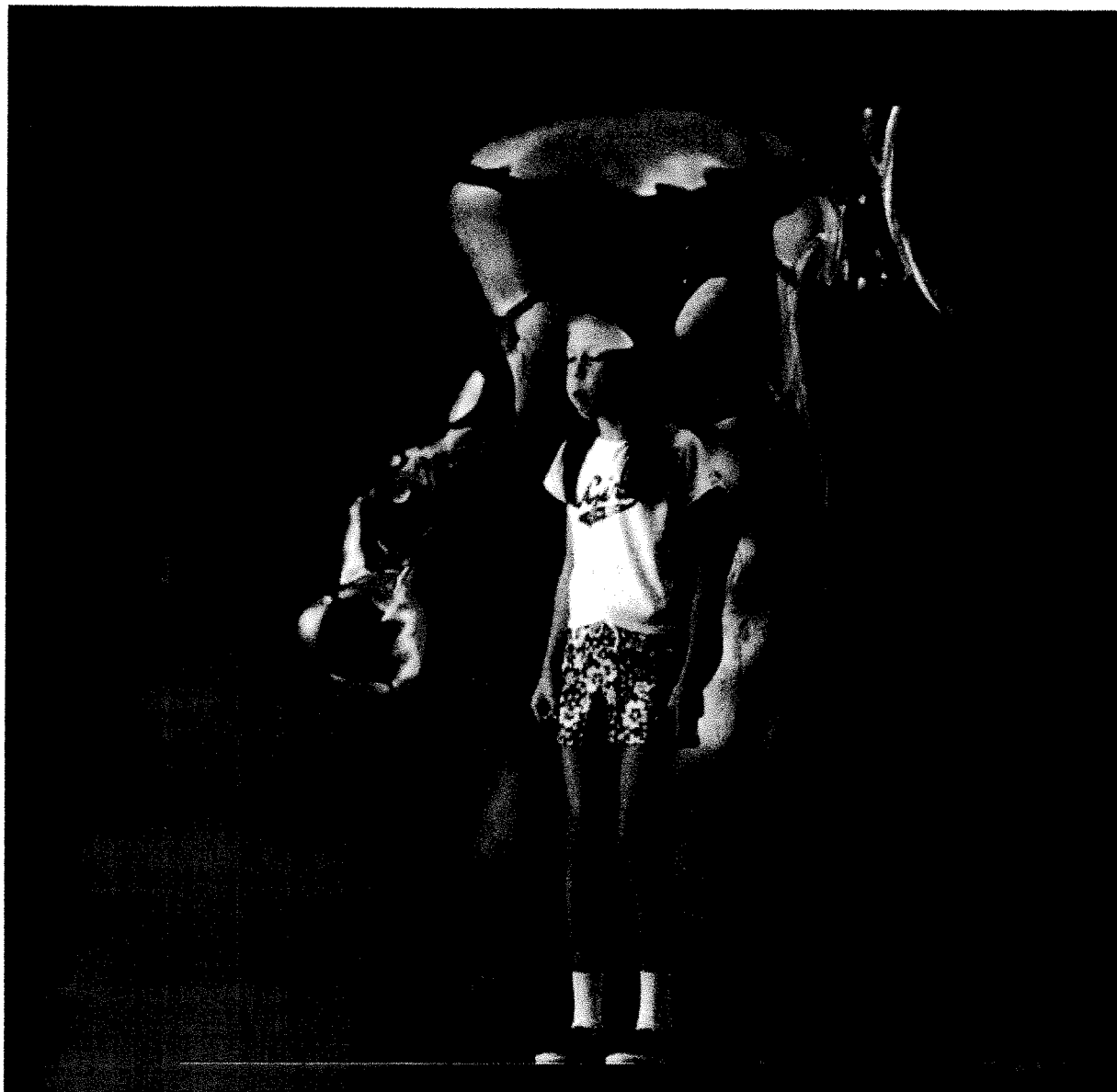
7 / All E & M presented shows strive for accessibility and diversity in presentation, attendance, ticketing and the use of Spanish translations when possible. One of our missions is to provide free tickets to those who cannot afford the price of admission or are underserved in other capacities. We work with nonprofit social service agencies that help determine which clients might be interested in attending E & M shows, and we have distributed hundreds of tickets to these clients over our ten years of existence. When requested, we make special accommodations for those who may need extra attention or special seating.

FOREVER BLOWING BUBBLES: MEET BUBBLE-OLOGIST LOUIS PEARL

Register Staff, Sep 6, 2023



"Bubble-ologist" Louis Pearl will bring his art to Yountville on July 23.



A member of the audience gets into bubbles at one of the Amazing Bubble Man's shows.

Imagine blowing a huge bubble that magically morphs into a snowball, or maybe a cube or even a rocket. And then, in just a few seconds, that bubble bursts with a gentle “pop,” never to be seen in quite the same way again.

Meet native San Franciscan and master “bubble-ologist” Louis Pearl. For the past 39 years, Pearl has been delighting audiences of all ages

with unimaginable, innovative bubble effects created and perfected through his unique soap and water-based art.

On Saturday, July 23, Pearl, accompanied by accordion diva Jet Black Pearl, will be performing at 1 and 3 p.m. in the Generations Room of the Yountville Community Center at 6516 Washington St. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit eandmpresents.org.

“When I started,” Pearl said, “I knew of about six people in the world doing bubbles. Now there are thousands. It’s about to reach a tipping point where most people will actually know what I’m talking about when I say I do shows onstage with bubbles. Trying to explain it, however, is impossible.”

Pearl’s evolution into The Amazing Bubble Man began at UC San Diego, where his goal was to study marine biology.

“I soon realized,” Pearl shared, “that I was more interested in studying the arts and ended up with a major in literature and a minor in art. The university is attached to the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and I became an assistant to graduate students studying local aquatic species.”

“This commitment entailed hundreds of hours a year scuba diving and studying the fish populations. I became fascinated with the bubbles I was exhaling. I think that was the first time as an adult that I looked at air bubbles with a scientific curiosity. I began observing soap bubbles with a similar curiosity.”

In 1980, Pearl stumbled into making toys as a way to earn a living. He sold his first toy, the Bubble Trumpet, one by one on Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley. He spent hours demonstrating how to make large bubbles and soon learned his own bubble tricks.

“I did my first show in 1983 and haven’t stopped since with more than 150 shows worldwide each year,” Pearl said. “I sold my company in 2002 when I had 147 products. Now I don’t sell toys any more, I just play with them.”

Accordion diva Jet Black Pearl, who hails from the port of Amsterdam, has brought her talents as singer, rapper and beat boxer to more than a thousand stages all over Europe and the West Coast. She adds an eclectic and sometimes wacky complement to Amazing Bubble Man shows.

“I really love performing with live music,” Pearl said. “Jet is able to watch me and improvise just the right music to accompany whatever I am doing.”

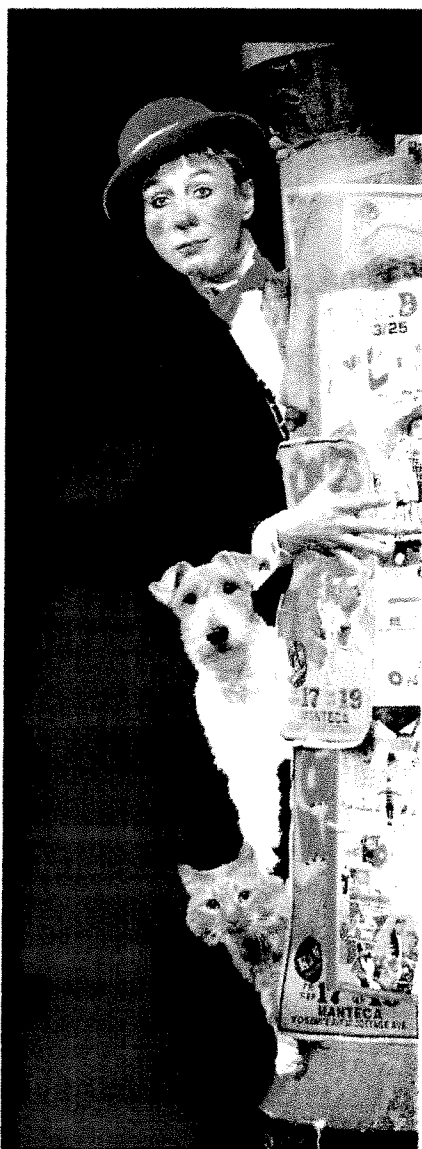
“I don’t like to just do the same show over and over, so I don’t have a set script. I have enough material to do each show slightly differently, so to have a live musician is wonderful. Having her do the music means that I really focus on the bubble work; I talk a lot less and can do a more ‘poetic’ kind of show.”

What Pearl can fashion from his bucket of bubble mixture is anyone’s guess, but the menu might include: square bubbles; bubbles inside bubbles; fog-filled bubbles; bubble volcanoes, tornadoes and trampolines; the disco bubble; the snow globe; people inside bubbles, and many more.

“Bubbles are like dreams,” Pearl said. “They take people into a dream world. When you are having them, dreams are very, very real, and you are completely entranced by them. Then *boom!* You wake up and they are gone.”

“Same with bubbles; all your other thoughts, worries and cares go away, and you are back in everyday reality. Bubbles are like a bridge to dreamland.”

To watch The Amazing Bubble Man in action,
visit: [youtube.com/watch?v=xSZWHgcXV1I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xSZWHgcXV1I).



Filling an Arts Niche for Kids and Families

Napa Valley kids have an abundance of after-school and weekend activities available to them, including sports, extra-curricular classes plus arts activities across all genres.

Now, kids and families can also choose to experience high-quality performing artists—on tour—curated just for them! It's a niche that was missing from the Napa Valley's cultural calendar until the nonprofit organization E & M Presents was created in 2015.

"My favorite shows to book were always those with a family focus," says Evy Warshawski, who served for 6.5 years as both Executive and Artistic Director at the Napa Valley House. Now a partner in E & M Presents with her husband Morrie, both Warshawski's have discovered that special bond that takes place when kids—accompanied by parents, siblings, extended family or friends—share the collective experience of the performing arts.

E & M Presents understands that providing a setting where kids can feel comfortable, safe and welcome is as important as the show itself. That's why the venue of choice has been the spacious Performing Arts Center at Napa Valley College where Gregory

Popovich brought his menagerie of talented pets—dogs, cats, mice, ducks and even a talkative parrot. Louis Pearl (aka The Amazing Bubblicious), wrapped volunteers from the audience in large, expansive bubbles, and kids outfitted in head-to-toe "Frozen" costumes sang their hearts out while the words to the movie appeared on screen.

In October, 2016, E & M brought the Zoppe Italian Family Circus to the Napa Valley Expo for five performances, and audience raves are still coming in! The show featured horses, clowns (of course), magic, comedy and mayhem, all under an enormous tent set up on the fairgrounds. Even the tiniest audience members sat spellbound as young trapeze artists swooped through the air.

"One of our most rewarding programs is the distribution of hundreds of free tickets to kids and families who could otherwise not afford to attend," Warshawski shared. "Thanks to generous individuals, corporate sponsors and grants, I'm also keen on the free arts activities we offer in the lobby, one hour prior to each show. Kids really like that, especially when they can share their artistry with friends and family."

For information on the 2017-2018 season, visit www.eandmpresents.org or to join the mailing list, email eandmpresents@gmail.com. **NVL**