



Theatre Day Productions, Occupied Palestinian Territories

23rd October 2015

Dear Jackie,

I am writing to update you on the outcome of the 2015 Impact Awards selection process.

I am delighted to inform you that Theatre Day Productions has been selected as the 2015 Stars Impact Award winner. This Award will entitle you to \$50,000 of unrestricted funding plus access to capacity building consultancy support.

We would like to congratulate you on your achievement throughout this very competitive process where 38 organisations were shortlisted across 5 Arab countries and only 15 received a field assessment visit. Theatre Day Productions is one of our 8 winners in the Arab world.

The Awards assessment team, the Awards Panel and the Stars Trustees considered your application very carefully and concluded that there were a number of strengths in your application when compared to others we received.

The selection process evaluated your organisation through an initial written Expression of Interest and later a Skype call designed to supplement the information already provided.

Throughout the application process, TDP came across as a robust organisation committed to serving disadvantaged Palestinian children and youth. Your application described well the context in which you operate and the needs of your target groups. It was also strong at describing the activities TDP implements and at demonstrating how children and young people are involved in the projects' cycle, ensuring that their voice is heard and their participation guaranteed. When your application was good at describing your organisation's monitoring and evaluation processes and the outcomes of your activities, more information about their long-term impact would have made it stronger. During the Skype call, TDP was particularly good at demonstrating evidence of scale of programme through outreach activities. For example, Stars appreciated to hear about your mobile units that reach beneficiaries that otherwise wouldn't have access to your activities including women in Gaza.

The Awards assessment team, the Awards Panel and the Stars Trustees considered your application very carefully and concluded that there were a number of strengths in your application when compared to others we received.

During the visit, the Awards assessment team was impressed by TDP's programmes and professionalism. Your unique methodology, using drama in education, allows young Palestinians to express issues that are important to their wellbeing and addresses psychosocial issues and trauma. It was also clear that your organisation has put a strong emphasis on human resources with an experienced staff and leadership committed to the mission of your organisation and able to be responsive and adapt to the very difficult



environment you operate in; such as imposed movement restrictions, the political context, the cultural challenges and the ongoing wars on Gaza.

It was impressive to see how TDP has been able to adapt its operational structure with offices split between Gaza and the West Bank due to the Israeli blockade, in order to bring hope to disadvantaged Palestinian children. The panel made positive comments on your outputs and your diverse efforts in scale up your approach; for example by building the capacity of other organisations throughout Palestine. Both the Awards assessment team and the panel noted that your organisation has built positive relationships with a range of stakeholders, including community leaders and international agencies such as UNRWA which has contributed to build your reputation. Finally, Stars assessment team felt that TDP has a strong governance structure and leadership, strong policies and a robust financial management system.

In terms of areas for improvement, Stars would encourage your organisation to keep developing tools and procedures that would allow it to demonstrate the long-term impact and the depth of TDP's intervention on the lives of its beneficiaries. Stars would also recommend TDP to strengthen its financial sustainability, for example through income generating activities.

We do hope that the feedback we have provided will be of assistance to you.

We would like to congratulate you and everyone Theatre Day Productions on your achievement again and look forward to seeing you in Paris for the Awards Week, Philanthropreneurship Forum, and Stars' Annual Gala Dinner in December.

We are always looking for ways to improve the Awards process to ensure that we are meeting the needs of organisations working with children. To help us do this we would be very grateful if you could take the time to provide us with any feedback you might have on our application process. You can email us at africa@starsfoundation.org.uk. We will also be sending you a short survey in a couple of weeks to get your feedback on your experience of applying to the Impact Awards. We will keep this feedback in mind when making changes to the 2015 Awards process.

We will be announcing the 2015 Award recipients later this year. Please see our website for further details www.starsfoundation.org.uk. We would be grateful if you could keep this information confidential until such time as we have released the information to the press and the public.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your kindness and hospitality during our visit to your organisation.

Yours sincerely,

Samia Zoued
Programme Officer, Africa-Middle East
Stars Foundation