

2018 MOTUS ANNUAL REPORT



A YEAR TO REMEMBER!

2018 was an exciting year for Motus Theater. Motus events reached more than 2700 new audience members, 26% of which identified as people of color, via powerful live performances. Thousands more were reached through live streaming of performances, and via **KGNU Community Radio**.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Dominique Christina

JANUARY

Motus started 2018 off with a bang, with a powerful evening of slam poetry featuring the award-winning African-American feminist slam poet Dominique Christina. From January through October, Motus hosted 6 *Motus Meals* with talkbacks featuring *Women of Resolution* and *Law Enforcement Leaders Read 'Do You Know Who I Am?'*, and 3 university screenings of the film *Law Enforcement Leaders Read 'Do You Know Who I Am?'*.

APRIL

Motus wrapped up the *Creative Courage Initiative* with film premieres in English and Spanish, of the groundbreaking performance *Law Enforcement Leaders Read 'Do You Know Who I Am?'* Premieres took place in Lafayette, Louisville, and Boulder. 48% of the audience was Latino, securing Motus as a well-known organization in the Latino community.

MAY

Motus began developing the unprecedented *UndocuAmerica Performance & Media Project*, in response to national threats

to DACamented leaders and their families. This program features performances of autobiographical monologues for stage, podcast and radio, written in collaboration with young adults brought to this country as children. Elements of this project include: a *Monologue Workshop*, *UndocuMonologue Live Performances*, *The Sanctuary Project*, and a collaboration with the *University of Colorado*, and the *Boulder Weekly*.

"The Motus workshop created a safe space for us to look deeply into ourselves and to be able to share stories that were very personal... Knowing that this process was going to be used to make an impact in my community and the world, was deeply inspiring and rewarding."

—UndocuMonologue Writer/Performer

JULY

For a Piece of Paper was presented in collaboration with BMOCA. The performance wove 3 autobiographical monologues by DACamented leaders with the healing singing of Teresita Lozano and the beautiful artwork of Sebastián Sifuentes & Kirsten Wilson.

AUGUST

Motus collaborated with the world-renowned cellist **Yo-Yo Ma**, who performed a musical response to Ana Casas' performance of her monologue about her brothers' deportation entitled *La Frontera*. Former Boulder County DA **Stan Garnett** read an excerpt of her monologue questioning the gap between justice and the law.



Stan Garnett, Yo-Yo Ma, and Ana Casas



Joseph Salazar | Colorado Representative, House District 31

OCTOBER

In collaboration with the Boulder Weekly, Motus created and presented *Women of Resolution*, as a pilot performance for the *Sanctuary Sundays Series*, in which *Colorado State Legislators* read the stories of four Colorado women living in sanctuary. The performance featured acapellist, Teresita Lozano, renowned slam poet Dominique Christina, and photography by award-winning photojournalist Joel Dyer. Hosted at *eTown Hall*, the sold-out performance was live streamed across the country. Motus also collaborated on an Indigenous Day public art project with the **Native American Rights Fund** entitled "NARF Open House: Indigenize Your Eyes".

"I'm most pleased with this piece because you see the humanity and that's what comes out for me. We have to tell our stories. That is how we change laws and policies, but most importantly, how we change hearts and minds."

—CO State Representative, Leslie Herod, on reading *Women of Resolution*

DECEMBER

Motus completed the *UndocuAmerica Monologue Workshop* with 10 DACamented leaders sharing stories of the dangerous limbo their families live in and negotiate daily. The monologues will be the basis for the 2019 project *Shoebbox Stories*, which will include a national podcast, community readings and live performances.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Motus' work continues to be recognized and celebrated in the community. Artistic Director, Kirsten Wilson, received the **2018 Women Who Light the Community Award** from the Boulder Chamber of Commerce for her powerful healing arts-based work in Boulder County. Motus also won the **Colorado Pledge 1% Nonprofit Competition** during Boulder Startup Week.

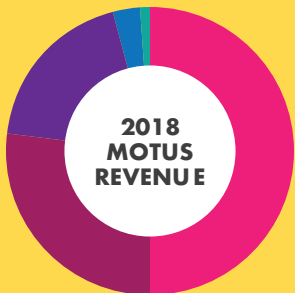
In 2018, Motus' work has been featured on **KGNU**, in the **Boulder Weekly** and in the **TRENDS Report** for encouraging community conversations and inspiring action through our community-based, social justice-grounded arts projects.

MOTUS IS GROWING!

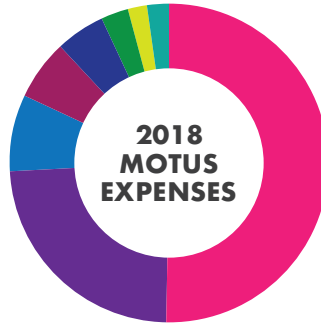
After hiring our first full-time employee in 2017, Rita Valente-Quinn, Motus has been on a roll. We hired Laura Peniche as our Production & Engagement Manager, and Kiara Chavez as our Administrative Assistant. Peniche and Chavez bring to Motus their experience negotiating documentation status as DACA recipients, storytelling, design and communications. Motus has invested in development and continues to diversify sources of funding for general operations. As well, Motus welcomed Rita's son Dennis in 2018!

2018 FINANCIALS

Motus Theater held a solid financial position in 2018, broadening our groundbreaking theatrical projects. The organization ended the year with \$167,742 in total assets, compared to \$158,357 the previous year. The year ended with \$228,954 in revenue from a healthy variety of sources. Expenses totaled \$222,840, supporting a range of powerful programming while paying local performers and staff.



50% FOUNDATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS AND TRUST
27% INDIVIDUAL AND BUSINESS CONTRIBUTIONS
19% LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS
3% SPECIAL EVENTS/OTHER
1% PROGRAMS



WE COULDN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU

Motus Theater's work is made possible by the generous support of many individuals, foundations, businesses, and local and federal governments. For a full list of our supporters and partners, please visit motustheater.org.

GET INVOLVED

Invest in Motus' mission to create original theater to facilitate dialogue on critical issues of our time, by becoming an annual or monthly donor. Set up your donation at www.coloradogives.org/MotusTheater/overview

Volunteer and serve as a catalyst for change! Volunteers provided more than 1,300 hours to our programs and projects in 2018 for a value of over \$20,000.

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