

Suggested Email Blurb for outreach (with sponsor deck):

Dear **Name**,

On behalf of The Unusual Suspects Theatre Company's Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support of our critical mission to mentor, educate, and enrich youth in under-resourced communities through the creation of collaborative, original theatre.

As you know, I serve on the Board of Directors for this organization and am passionate about the impact we have made together for thousands of at-risk youth and countless families. Your generosity enables us to provide transformative theatre arts education to our most vulnerable youth and families.

Over the last 28 years, The Unusual Suspects has become a recognized leader in the fields of arts education, youth development, mentorship, and community building, receiving accolades for our work, including The National Youth Arts and Humanities Program Award (our nation's highest honor for after-school arts and humanities programs).

What began as a single program providing creative expression for foster youth in direct response to the Los Angeles Uprising, The Unusual Suspects has since developed 7 free after-school theatre arts education workshops, throughout multiple middle and high schools and juvenile detention centers, as well as intergenerational theatre workshops and programs for residents in under-resourced L.A. communities. The global circumstances of 2020 provided another spark for innovation by The Unusual Suspects. Since the COVID-19 pandemic hit, US quickly pivoted to offering programming virtually to help mitigate the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on our communities and has served nearly 1,000 participants in 2020 alone.

The outcomes for our participants are lasting and life-changing. We are proud to see so many of our alumni go on to lead successful career and personal lives, such as Julio Quijada, a formerly-incarcerated program participant, who is now a US board member and distinguished NBC Universal employee, all while also studying at West LA College. We have seen the impact that having access to the arts has had on our participants, especially during these unprecedented times.

We hope we can, once again, count on your support as sponsor of our 2nd Annual Virtually UnUSual Create-A-Thon held throughout the month of June 2021, honoring our incredible teaching artists, hosted by actress and board member Melissa Peterman and actress and US Advisory Council Member Kirsten Vangsness, and celebrating the support of the community.

Please take a look at the attached Sponsorship Packet and consider supporting this incredible non-profit 501c3 organization that means so much to me so that we may continue to provide our high-quality, transformative theatre-arts programs to those who need it most.

We hope we can count on your support and look forward to your thoughts!

- Click [HERE](#) for *Unusual Suspects By-The-Numbers for 2020*.
- Click [HERE](#) to watch the Alumni Theatre Residency Program's original play "The Family Tree".
Written and performed by workshop participants from schools and community centers across L.A.

County, as well as students served in our youth detention center programs, this moving story explores topical themes of injustice, racial discrimination, family dynamics, and self-exploration.

- Visit theunusualsuspects.org for more information about our programs and history.

Thank you.