FY27 Community Service Grant Application Form

Please complete and return this form to DSelf@DriggsIdaho.org or to City Hall, 60 S Main St by 6/11/26

Organization Name and Address:

Teton Valley Balloon Rally, Inc.
PO Box 1201 Driggs, ID 83422

Organization Mission:

To preserve the history of hot air ballooning, while creating accessibility and joy related to hot air ballooning in Teton Valley, ID

Funding Request Amount:

8,000

Funding Request Purpose:

The Annual Teton Valley Balloon Rally, taking place over the July 4th holiday every year, maintains accessible price points in order to ensure that locals & visitors alike are able to experience the event. The event sponsorship that we recieve annually from the City of Driggs is crucial to funding the event as a whole and keeping attendee costs low.

Percent of Funding for this Purpose Requested from City:

10%

Sources of Other Funding for this Purpose:

Additional sponsors, private donors, camping reservations, and admission fees all support event costs.

Informational attachments:

Type text here

SPONSORSHIP CONTACT:
Virginia Powell Symons / Event Director
[phone redacted] or [email redacted]

City of Driggs + Teton Valley Balloon Rally — continued partnership

Dear Mayor and City Council Members -

The historic Teton Valley Balloon Rally ("The Rally") has drawn hot air balloon pilots from around the country to fly the Teton Valley skies over the July 4th holiday for over 40 years, launching from the Teton County Fairgrounds in Driggs. The event has endured through both successful and challenging years with a variety of organizers at the helm over time. It has become not only a staple attraction for both Teton Valley locals and visitors to the area, but a key piece of the culture and history of Teton Valley.

In 2017, the current event organizers formed a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, Teton Valley Balloon Rally, Inc. (TVBR), dedicated to keeping the magic of ballooning alive for years to come. The value of ballooning culture in Teton Valley is clear, & TVBR supports this by providing creative and dynamic programs for elementary aged students and a scholarship program for middle and high school students. One scholarship, covering all costs, is provided each year to the Balloon Federation of America's Junior Balloonist's camp. This scholarship and the opportunity it provides has proven to be a defining experience for the Teton Valley youth who have had the opportunity to attend Balloon Camp. TVBR believes that everyone can benefit from involvement with hot air ballooning, as it cultivates a space focused on work ethic, teamwork and inclusivity while providing an experience of awe and wonder.

The annual Rally, in addition to being a keynote event in the Teton Valley summertime, is the primary fundraiser for the programming offered year-round by TVBR. When organizations and businesses sponsor the Rally they not only realize the benefit of being visibly associated with the iconic event, but their cash contribution allows the funds raised at the event to directed specifically to operations and programming. When the Rally is well supported by sponsors, Teton Valley as a whole benefits from more opportunities surrounding ballooning. The City of Driggs has realized the benefits for many years now, and the ongoing support provided by the City provides stability for the event and the organization.

As event organizers, and directors of TVBR, we hold the relationship between the Teton Valley Balloon Rally and the City of Driggs in high regard. As we look towards the future of our event, we hope to maintain the solid partnership that we have enjoyed with the City of Driggs since the beginning of our tenure. It is our hope that in years to come the annual Rally can continue to be a signature event that puts the City of Driggs on the map, featuring not only our iconic morning ascensions but live music, educational opportunities with visiting pilots, and a unique and inclusive gathering place for the community.

With increased competition for sponsorship dollars and the cost of most goods and services consistently rising, we are requesting that the City of Driggs consider a sponsorship of $8,000, our Title level, for 2027. We would be happy to discuss the partnership opportunity further and provide a detailed budget.

With Gratitude,

Virginia Powell Symons
Event Director / Board Chair

Margaret Rose Breffeilh
Program Director / Balloon Meister