



*A contemporary artist residency, dance and performance center,  
for Martha's Vineyard and beyond*

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October 14, 2022

Dear Mr. Elvin,

I am the Acting Executive Director for The Yard. My team and I are excited to re-enter the LUPC review process, proceeding with the critical improvements to our campus that will facilitate the continued achievement of our organizational mission: to support the arts and dance artists in particular; and to sustain our cultural impact and engage the varied populations that inhabit our home of Martha's Vineyard.

I am up to speed with the project and working closely with Yard Board members and Blake Middleton, architect extraordinaire! We are submitting minor changes to our June 2022 plan for follow up review and approval to advance our project.

Blake and his team have worked to refine the site plan based both on comments by the LUPC as well as our need to look for construction cost savings where we can find them with diminution of our mission. The footprint of the structures are very similar, we have re-organized where the production office is located, have modified the type of fire pump generator, and enhanced our landscape concept to create a more robust vegetated barrier between the new ambulance building next door and ourselves. The design team has listed the modifications in more detail in the submittal package.

Among other issues, you asked if the Yard was open to donating and re-purposing the existing structures that we propose to replace with the new houses. These structures are the FrontYard, SideYard, and BackYard, and we would be happy to donate them to another Island group. If practicable, we want to recycle these structures and offer them to a third-party group, as long as they remove the structures at their own cost and in a timely manner, mindful of our construction site and schedule. Please advise me and my team how to proceed with this effort.

I understand that the meeting for next week has been confirmed: Thursday, October 20th at 7:00 pm. My team is ready to attend.

Thank you so much for your help and assistance with moving our proposal forward. Please reach out to me or to Blake if you need anything additional.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yvonne Mendez".

**Yvonne Mendez**

Acting Executive Director/Program Director

*She/Her/Hers (what's this?)*



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