

## ***The Babis Gousias Memorial Fund***

**Please read this document fully and carefully before applying.**

OYL is honored to administer *The Babis Gousias Memorial Fund*, with the financial assistance of a generous supporter of the OYL International Program. The Fund provides awards in the form of grants to artists who need extra support in order to attend the OYL International Program.

Babis Gousias was a Greek actor, artist, and long-time ensemble member of OYL Theater Company before he passed away, much too early, in 2014. His spirit remains with us in the mountains of Papigo during the OYL International Program, and in the spirit of his compassion and generosity, his memorial fund gives disadvantaged artists the opportunity to participate.

The Fund will defray a portion of the program costs for up to six successful applicants to the OYL International Program, whether it be for India, Japan, and/or Greece. A Fund award will not cover the entire cost of the Program. Please email us at [oylfinancial@gmail.com](mailto:oylfinancial@gmail.com) to discuss additional outside financial support.

### Eligibility and Application Material

Fund applicants must first be admitted to the OYL International Program to begin the application process for financial assistance. They may apply on the basis of one of the two following criteria:

1. **Financial Need:** Available to successful applicants who articulate and demonstrate that the Program is beyond their immediate financial reach. Financial Need applicants will write a 1000 word essay detailing their financial situation, and why they qualify for financial support. *They will also need to submit their own prior tax returns and/or any responsible parties' prior year tax return, if they still qualify as a dependent..*
2. **Minority Community:** Available to applicants who identify as part of a minority, underrepresented, or underserved community. Minority Community applicants will write a 1000 word essay detailing their experience and identification with a minority, underrepresented, or underserved community, on the basis of age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ethnicity, immigration status, or nation of origin.

Optional: All applicants may provide additional supporting documents and information at their own discretion.

### General Guidelines

*Babis Gousias Memorial Fund* awards are highly competitive and sought-after, so prospective applicants should consider carefully whether they meet the eligibility criteria requirements before applying. We encourage all applicants to consider other avenues of funding in the event that their application is not successful. OYL staff are available to discuss other options past participants have used that may still be available.

Submitted essays for either criterion must not be fictional. Rather, they must be factual expressions of personal experience in a narrative format.

Each application is reviewed in detail by a panel of OYL staff and members of the Board of Directors. The panel's decision will be made in its sole discretion and will be final. No further correspondence about applications or appeals will be available. All applicants will be informed of the final decision of their application.

One Year Lease Theater Company adheres to a strict policy of inclusion and non-discrimination.

### Successful Applicants

Successful applicants will have 7 days to accept or decline Fund support and their place in the program.

Fund Award recipients will be required to submit a creative work as a record of their experience of the program. The creative work may be in the form of a journal, narrative essay, poem, song, or other creative expression, as long as it can be submitted electronically. It is due 30 days after the conclusion of the program, September 12, 2024.

Additionally, Fund Award recipients will be asked to write a one page letter to *The Babis Gousias Memorial Fund*, detailing how the opportunity to spend time abroad and experience the local cultures in India, Japan, and/or Greece has impacted their world view and/or experiences as an artist of any kind.

The OYL Board of Directors, OYL staff, and the Fund Donor will review these submitted materials. They will be stored as an archival record of the Fund's impact. OYL and *The Babis Gousias Memorial Fund* reserve the right to publish these submissions.

### Summer 2024:

- The current deadline for Fund applications is **February 1, 2024**.
- Recipients will be notified on or before **March 1, 2024**.

**Ready to apply? Click [HERE](#) to find the Fund application.**