

**DIRECTIONS for EMAILS for You to CREATE and SEND to **SENATE LEADERS**:**

Below are suggested paragraphs for you to select, cut, edit, and personalize as emails to send individually to six Florida SENATE Leaders ONLY -- please do not send as a group email and please do it NOW:

→ **Suggested Subject Box Titles** -- please personalize and create your own to reflect your specific ask.

- Please RESTORE Appropriation for Cultural and Museum Grants to Higher Level
- Jobs and matching-local dollars are at risk — please restore appropriation to higher level.
- Our nonprofit and 488 others depend upon your leadership to restore this appropriation.
- Invest in Florida's \$4.7 billion dollar industry by supporting DOS DCA Matching Grants



Dear (type the title and Senator's name here for each Senate leader's individual email):

I write on behalf of (name of your organization) and 488 of my nonprofit arts and culture colleagues throughout the state to encourage you as a Senate leader to please RESTORE the appropriation level for budget line item 3121, Cultural and Museum Grants, to a higher level.

The current appropriation of \$203,985 in the Senate's proposed FY 2018-19 budget for Cultural and Museum Matching Grants would provide approximately 0.0049% of our recommended and qualified-matching-grant amount of \$ (fill in the grant amount your organization qualifies for under this category). The other 488 qualified nonprofit grant applicants across the state would also each only receive about 0.0049% of their recommended and qualified-matching-grant amount.

Last year, the Florida Legislature appropriated \$11,128,124 that funded 479 of these Cultural and Museum Matching Grants at about 31% each of their recommended and qualified-matching-grant amounts. When the Senate and House fully invested \$24.1 million for 307 matching grants under this category in FY 2014-2015, that appropriation provided the full-qualified-grant amounts for each of those 301 Cultural and Museum Matching Grants. That year, jobs were preserved and created and over \$492.3 million was returned to local and state government treasuries from Florida's arts and culture \$4.7 billion nonprofit industry -- a 9 to 1 return.

Our nonprofit organization and our other 488 Florida arts and culture nonprofit colleagues went through a very thorough application and vetting process that is well established in *Florida Statutes* and *Rules* to qualify and be recommended for a Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs' (DCA) Cultural and Museum Matching Grant for 2018-2019.

This state Cultural and Museum matching grant helps us leverage the other necessary matching dollars we need to meet our annual budget to sustain our jobs, programs, and services for our community residents and tourists. This state investment matters to our bottom line.

I will gladly provide you with additional and more detailed information regarding the value and importance of this Cultural and Museum matching grant to our organization, community, and state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, your name and contact information

**P.S.** Here is a county-by-county list of all recommended 2018-19 DCA matching grants by funding categories AND here is the ranked list of all 489 recommended 2018-2019 Cultural and Museum Matching Grant Applicants. Each of their organizational websites are also linked on those lists for you to learn more about each one's programs and services. Here is greater detailed information on all four FLDOS DCA matching grants' programs and what is needed to provide matching-state investments for this year for 658 qualified nonprofits.