



As of April 10, 2017

Below are suggested legislative messages to edit and make your own dependent upon your organization's Division of Cultural Affairs (DCA) and/or community's DCA recommended 2017-2018 [grant requests](#):

WHO are you sending these emails to and recruiting others to do the same?

1. **Florida Senate and House Appropriation Leaders** — go [here](#) to access their email addresses and the names and emails of their legislative staff members (copy their legislative staff members on your emails);
2. AND to **your Florida Senator and Representative** — go [here](#) to access their contact information, and ask them in your emails to speak to their respective chamber leaders listed above under #1 about these DCA appropriations.

CULTURAL AND MUSEUM GRANTS Suggested Email Message: below is a suggested email for those advocates concerned about their individual **Cultural and Museum Grant** or those community arts and culture advocates who care about all of the Cultural and Museum grants [recommended in their county](#) for 2017-2018 funding. **Please edit this suggested email and use specific information applicable to your organization and/or county:**

Dear _____ (put the legislator's name here):

I write to thank you and ask for your leadership regarding support for the Cultural and Museum Grants (budget line item 3139). Our organization (name of organization) has a grant that qualifies and is recommended for (your grant amount) on [a ranked list of 479 other organizations](#) that have applied, been thoroughly vetted, and recommended for specific grant amounts under this category.

As of now in the legislative process, either 51% or 31% of these qualified grant amounts would be funded:

the **Senate recommends \$18,190,046 for Cultural and Museum Grants**, which would provide approximately **51%** of the qualified grant amount our organization and the other 479 recommended organizations qualify for under the [ranked list of Cultural and Museum Grants' category](#);

AND the **House recommends \$11,128,124 for Cultural and Museum Grants**, which is approximately **31%** of the qualified grant amounts being recommended for this category.

While I and our community are greatly appreciative of these vitally important appropriation recommendations, I ask you to please use your leadership to help secure at least what the Florida Legislature appropriated this Fiscal Year, which is \$19 million for Cultural and Museum Grants; and if at all possible, please provide a level higher that comes closer to the appropriation needed to honor all the qualified grant amounts of these 480 recommended grants throughout 39 Florida counties and their contiguous counties. Here is a [side-by-side document](#) that shows what these Cultural and Museum Grants would receive at full appropriation funding, current year funding, Senate recommendation, and House recommendation, to date, under the county or counties you represent in the Legislature. I ask for your help to bring back to these counties the highest appropriation investment possible that will help leverage millions in other private and public matching dollars necessary to sustain these 480 organizations' operations and all of the thousands of programs they provide to millions of residents and tourists. You can easily go [here](#) to see a complete list of the DCA grants recommended for funding that are based in the county or counties you represent in the Legislature.

Thank you for your continued support to recommend grant investments in the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs' grants programs. These state-appropriation investments [demonstrate substantial returns](#) to local and state government treasuries and help leverage millions throughout the state in the required-matching-grant dollars that support thousands of full-and part-time jobs in the arts and culture industry throughout Florida.

If I may provide you with additional information on how our organization or community positively invests these state DCA grants and the diverse returns they have on our organization, community, and state, please let me know.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Your Name and Organization if applicable and Address

continue below for suggested email messages for Cultural Facilities and Culture Build Florida grants:





WHO are you sending these emails to and recruiting others to do the same?

1. **Florida Senate and House Appropriation Leaders** — go [here](#) to access their email addresses and the names and emails of their legislative staff members (copy their legislative staff members on your emails);
2. AND to **your Florida Senator and Representative** — go [here](#) to access their contact information, and ask them to speak to their respective chamber leaders about this issue.

CULTURAL FACILITIES GRANTS Suggested Email Message: below is a suggested email for those advocates concerned about their individual **Cultural Facilities Grant** or those community arts and culture advocates who care about all of the Cultural Facilities Grants [recommended in their county](#) for 2017-2018 funding. Please edit the suggested email below, and use specific information applicable to your organization and/or county:

Dear _____(put the legislator's name here):

I write to thank you and ask for your leadership regarding support for the Cultural Facilities Grants (budget line item 3144A). Our organization (name of organization) has a grant that qualifies and is recommended for (your grant amount) on a ranked list of 35 other organizations that have applied, been thoroughly vetted, and recommended for grants under this state-grants' category.

As of now in the legislative process,

the **House recommends \$11,591,554 for Cultural Facilities Grants**, which is enough to fully fund all 36 grants on this recommended [ranked list of Cultural Facilities Grants](#) — thank you so much; AND

the **Senate recommends \$7,211,940 for Cultural Facilities Grants**, which would fund the first 22 on the recommended [ranked list](#) of 36 organizations and partially fund #23.

I ask you to please use your leadership to help secure in budget conference the House's current position, which would provide an appropriation that would fund all 36 recommended Cultural Facilities Grants. You can easily go [here](#) to see a complete list of all the DCA grants under four different grants-funding categories recommended for funding that are based in the county or counties you represent in the Legislature.

Thank you for your continued support of grant-matching investments in the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs' grants programs. These state-appropriation investments [demonstrate substantial returns](#) to local and state government treasuries, and help leverage millions throughout the state in the required-matching-grant dollars that support thousands of full-and part-time jobs in the arts and culture industry throughout Florida.

If I may provide you with additional information on how these state DCA grant dollars are invested and leveraged and the diverse returns they have on our organization, community, and state, please let me know.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Your Name and Organization if applicable

Address

continue below for suggested email message for Culture Builds Florida grant applicants





WHO are you sending these emails to and recruiting others to do the same?

1. **Florida Senate and House Appropriation Leaders** — go [here](#) to access their email addresses and the names and emails of their legislative staff members (copy their legislative staff members on your emails);
2. AND to **your Florida Senator and Representative** — go [here](#) to access their contact information, and ask them to speak to their respective chamber leaders about this issue.

CULTURE BUILDS FLORIDA GRANTS Suggested Email Message: below is a suggested email for those advocates thankful about their individual **Culture Builds Florida Grant** or those community arts and culture advocates who care about all of the Culture Builds Florida Grants [recommended in their county](#) for 2017-2018 funding. Please edit the suggested email below, and use specific information applicable to your organization and/or county:

Dear _____ (put the legislator's name here):

I write to thank you and ask for your continued leadership to keep in the budget what both the Senate and House agree to fund now for Culture Builds Florida Grants (budget line item 3138A) - \$2,320,109. Our organization (name of organization) has a grant that qualifies and is recommended for (your grant amount) its full grant amount on a ranked list of 109 other organizations that applied, been thoroughly vetted, and recommended for grants under the [Culture Builds Florida ranked list](#).

Thank you for your continued support of grant-matching investments in the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs' grants programs. These state-appropriation investments [demonstrate substantial returns](#) to local and state government treasuries, and help leverage millions throughout the state in the required-matching-grant dollars that support thousands of full-and part-time jobs in the arts and culture industry throughout Florida.

If I may provide you with additional information on how these state DCA grant dollars are invested and leveraged and the diverse returns they have on our organization, community, and state, please let me know.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Your Name and Organization if applicable
Address