

Highlights from Secretary of State's FY 2010-2011 Budget Requests To Governor's Office

The Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, is requesting **\$1,500,000** in General Revenue funding to provide **general program support grants** up to \$150,000 for non-profit, tax-exempt Florida corporations including, but not limited to, history museums, science museums, youth & children's museums, art museums, state service organizations, performing art centers, orchestras, dance companies, and theater groups; local or state government entities; school districts; community colleges; colleges and universities that have cultural program activities in any of the arts and cultural disciplines.

The program is designed to support the general program activities of an organization engaged in conducting, creating, producing, presenting, staging, or sponsoring multiple cultural exhibits, performances, events, or providing cultural services during the grant period. Organizations must demonstrate a sustained commitment to achieving cultural or artistic excellence, address their specific audience and community needs, include outreach and educational services and further the state's cultural objectives. Grantees match awards dollar for dollar with cash and in-kind contributions.

Applicants may apply for one General Program Support grant or one Specific Cultural Project grant but may not apply for both. Eligible applications are reviewed in an open competitive process by peer review panels comprised of professionals knowledgeable in the various disciplines. Panel recommendations are then reviewed by the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and forwarded to the Secretary of State for approval. In addition to providing citizen and visitor access to cultural activities, these organizations contribute to the vitality of their communities and bring in tourism dollars providing a return of \$8 to every \$1 invested by the state.

The Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, is requesting **\$1,000,000** in General Revenue funds in the **G/A-Specific Cultural Project Grants** appropriation category. The funding will provide for specific cultural project grants up to \$25,000 for nonprofit, tax-exempt Florida corporations, local or state governmental entities such as school districts, community colleges, colleges, universities, and local arts agencies for activities in arts in education, Culture Builds Florida, museums, or for activities in any of the arts and cultural disciplines and under-served cultural communities. Applicants may apply for one Specific Cultural Project grant or one General Program Support grant but may not apply for both. Grantees must match grant awards dollar for dollar and 25% of total project costs may be in-kind contributions. Organizations in a Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) designated county are eligible for a waiver of the cash match requirement.

Eligible applications for all specific project categories are reviewed in an open competitive process by peer review panels comprised of professionals knowledgeable in the various disciplines and are limited to one grant per annual grant cycle. Panel recommendations are then reviewed by the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and forwarded to the Secretary of State for approval.

State dollars provide an economic stimulus to the communities where grants are awarded. Quality of life is enhanced further encouraging the stability and vitality of the communities.

Arts in Education: Grants awarded support projects that advance arts education within school and community settings throughout the state. Activities range from artist residencies, to curriculum development, to community partnerships. Most projects have a direct involvement with public schools; others may be community after-school programs or designed for special audiences such as seniors or youth at risk. (The National Endowment for the Arts State Partnership Award requires that General Revenue dollars match dollar for dollar the Federal dollars awarded for Arts in Education.)

Discipline-Based: Projects are discipline-specific for organizations conducting cultural programming, realizing their stated mission, and furthering the state's cultural objectives as described in the Division's strategic plan. Projects address an identified program-based need within the service area, produce a measurable impact on the target audience or community, demonstrate cultural or artistic excellence, and promote inclusion through outreach and educational services. Disciplines for this category are defined as Museum, Community and Professional Theatre, Dance, Folk Arts, Music, Literature, Media Arts, Multidisciplinary, Sponsor/Presenter, and Visual Arts. Culture Builds Florida: Project grants are designed to support and encourage new statewide projects in the four vision areas of the Division's Strategic Plan, Culture Builds Florida's Future: Strengthening the Economy, Promoting Learning and Wellness, Building Leadership and Advancing Development and Design. Funded projects may include programs that benefit patients in healthcare settings, work with aging populations, or attract tourism and other drivers of the economy.

Under-served Cultural Community Development: Funding for these projects supports the organizational development of under-served cultural organizations. For the purposes of this project type, under-served means rural, minority, or lacking in resources. These organizations are typically located within counties where there is no designated Local Arts Agency or other means of acquiring ongoing cultural support, information, and assistance. (The National Endowment for the Arts State Partnership Award requires that General Revenue dollars awarded must match dollar for dollar the Federal dollars awarded to Under-served Arts Community Assistance grants.) There are three funding categories for Under-served Cultural Community Development projects: Capacity building, Consultancy, and Salary Assistance. Capacity building provides opportunities for staff exchange, professional development, and plan development such as fundraising, marketing, arts education, and equipment and technology procurement. The Consultancy category provides for retaining consultants that can provide specific administrative or

artistic needs such as needs assessment, board and staff training, grant writing, stage or house management, curatorial or exhibit guidance. The Salary Assistance category provides full or partial salary support for one or more positions critical to the mission of the organization.

The Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, is requesting **\$550,000** in General Revenue funding. This will provide funding for **Historic Preservation Small Matching Grants**. These grants preserve Florida's historical and archaeological resources through restoration and rehabilitation of historic buildings and structures, as well as through survey and evaluation of historic and archaeological resources. Additionally, historic preservation is a proven stimulus package that boosts both the economy and quality of life. It draws millions of tourists to towns and communities that offer authentic environs and a sense of history generating state and local taxes. Preservation grants create jobs directly in the restoration of older buildings and indirectly in the entrepreneurial opportunities restored buildings and downtown districts encourage. Preservation is also environmentally responsible. Reusing existing buildings depletes fewer natural resources, preserves greenways and conserves the energy originally required to extract, process, manufacture, transport and install a building's materials, and reduces the landfill waste that results from demolition.