



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1188

1. **Title of Project:** USF-SP - Black Society in Spanish Florida, 1513-1840

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Darryl Rouson

3. **Date of Submission:** 02/05/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

Our project is designed to introduce Florida students and the general public to the rich but long forgotten history of Africans in colonial Florida. More than a century before the English brought the first slaves to Virginia, hundreds of people of African descent, both free and enslaved, came to Spanish Florida. Over three centuries, they played critical roles in the history of La Florida, serving as “conquistadors,” translators, cowboys, farmers, masons, soldiers, and skilled laborers. Thousands of unpublished Spanish documents record their stories, both triumphant and tragic. We will create an online digital exhibit titled, Free and Enslaved: Black Society in La Florida, 1513-1840. In it, we will present engaging interactive materials, including a searchable biographical database, video productions, interactive maps, and 3-D imaging, giving students, teachers, scholars, and the general public unprecedented access to a critical chapter of US history.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Board of Governors

State Agency Contacted? No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	225,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	225,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	225,000	100.00%
Federal		0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)		0.00%
Local		0.00%
Other		0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	225,000	100.0%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** No



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10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	1. External consultants with targeted expertise in the translation and transcription of original Spanish and Latin documents. 2. External consultants with targeted expertise in IT, video production, 3-D imaging, UI/UX, API development, REST, and Data Management	225,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		225,000

11. Program Performance:

a. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds requested?

Our project is designed to introduce the public to an aspect of US history long overlooked. Funds will be used to support the transcription and translation of thousands of previously unpublished Spanish documents, including almost three centuries of marriage, baptism, and death records of people of African descent. Supporting technology will bring this material to classrooms around the entire state and make it available to the public.

b. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

We will work closely with Education faculty and teachers from around the state to build exciting new curriculum based on the content we create. Moreover, our material will be available to museums and tour operators to enhance the quality of visitor experiences by highlighting the central role that Africans played in Florida's history.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

All citizens will have free and open access to the content produced, including access to the most comprehensive biographical database that will include the names, occupations, and family ties of thousands of people of African descent whose stories have never been told. Genealogists will have free access to this material, which is not available anywhere else. Students, teachers, and scholars will use this material for research and for creating lesson plans.



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d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

Our target audience is broad, from elementary students to professional scholars. We anticipate that teachers from around the state will use the site to develop new curriculum. Moreover, we anticipate that the content will generate a great deal of interest among the general public, museum curators, and popular tourist sites such as Fort Mose. Scholars interested in the history of slavery will be interested in our data, which has never been published.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

We expect that this digital exhibit will transform the way the history of early America is taught, not just in Florida but throughout the United States. At the institutional level, we will create an assessment and evaluation plan to measure how the content is used in our US and Florida history courses. We plan to establish strategic partnerships with state and local school officials to ensure public awareness of the site and its content.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

Return funding to State

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

N/A

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Martin Tadlock
- b. **Organization:** University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- c. **E-mail Address:** mtadlock@mail.usf.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (727)313-6717

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- b. **County:** Pinellas
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** Helen Levine
- e. **E-mail Address:** hlevine@usfsp.edu
- f. **Phone Number:** (727)313-6717



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15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Helen Levine
- b. **Firm Name:** University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- c. **E-mail Address:** hlevine@usfsp.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (813)230-6017