



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2357

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Florida Capital Freedom's Eve Emancipation Concert is a free, large-scale musical event in Florida's Capital City that celebrates and commemorates our State's unique Emancipation Day. The event pays homage to the historic "Freedom's Eve" gatherings, which began on Dec. 31, 1862 as enslaved African Americans gathered to await news that the Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect. Historic Freedom's Eve gatherings included: shared memories, reflections on faith, and celebration of community. This event serves up to 5,000 people.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	53,500
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	53,500

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	53,500	71%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	20,000	26%
Other	2,500	3%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	76,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

The Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra received \$268,414.12 through the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant. These funds were used to conduct a virtual concert series that kept musicians and staff employed through the pandemic and also helped with operational expenses.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Rentals—tables, chairs, portlets (\$3,000), music rental/purchase/licensing (\$2,000), cartage (\$1,000)	6,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Conductor travel and accommodation, rehearsal space, marketing, and hospitality.	7,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Orchestra musicians - rehearsals and performance, vocal soloists, choir preparation and honorarium, security/police, and production support.	40,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		53,500

14. Program Performance

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



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The goal is to commemorate and celebrate, through musical performance and spoken word, the immense importance of Florida's unique Emancipation Day in the State Capital. The event is designed in conjunction with the existing consortium of partners that include, among others, the Department of State, Knott House Museum, and John G. Riley Center and Museum. The event takes place in Cascades Park Adderley Amphitheater, less than a mile from the State Capitol Building and the Knott House, where, on May 20, 1865, the Emancipation Proclamation was read by Union Brigadier General Edward M. McCook, thereby announcing freedom for all enslaved persons.

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

The Florida Capital Freedom's Eve Emancipation Concert is a free, large-scale musical event in Florida's Capital City that pays homage to the historic "Freedom's Eve" gatherings, which began on Dec. 31, 1862 as enslaved African Americans gathered to await news that the Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect. Like historic Freedom's Eve gatherings, the event will include spoken word and shared memories, musical selections that pay homage to the holiday, and other celebrations of community.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

The Florida Capital Freedom's Eve Emancipation Concert is a large-scale, city-wide commemoration of this important part of our state's history. The event is meant to build community and honor shared history. This event is one of the keystone events of Tallahassee's annual Emancipation celebration.

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

The event will serve up to 5,000 citizens, both from the Capital City and from surrounding counties. As a free, community-building concert, the target population is broad and meant to include a wide range of citizens of all ages and abilities, ethnicities, and socio-economic backgrounds. Cascades Park is a central gathering space in Tallahassee, a central gathering space just steps from the John G. Riley House, the Smokey Hollow Commemoration site, the Korean War memorial site, the Community Remembrance Marker, and the State Capitol buildings. It is widely considered a welcoming space to all.

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

The project seeks to enhance and elevate further the long-standing events that have traditionally taken place in the State Capital surrounding the May 20th holiday. In addition to the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, other local, diverse artists will help bring the Emancipation story to life. The primary outcome for measurement will be in not only attendance numbers, but in surveying the audience with an eye towards diversity and inclusion.

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 the contract?

The Freedom's Eve Emancipation Concert is cancelled due to a force majeure event, only expenses incurred up until the time of cancellation will be obligated.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type



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- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name **Last Name**

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number