



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** Inclusion Theatre Project

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Rene Garcia

3. **Date of Submission:** 11/08/2017

4. **Project/Program Description:**

Inclusion Theatre Project (Theatre for Children with Developmental Disabilities)

5. **State Agency Contacted?** Yes

a. If yes, which state agency? Agency for Persons with Disabilities

b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested?

6. **Amount of Non-recurring Requested for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Amount Requested for Operations	Amount Requested for Fixed Capital Outlay	Total Amount of Requested State Funds
200,000		200,000

7. **Type, amount and percent of matching funds available for this project for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Type	Amount	Percent
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	90,000	16.7%
Other	250,000	46.3%
TOTAL	340,000	63.0 %

8. **Total Project Cost for fiscal year 2018-19 (including the Total Amount of Requested State Funds):** 540,000

9. **Previous Year Funding Details:**

a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? Yes

b. In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional) 2

c. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded? 2017-18

d. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No

e. Complete the following Worksheet.

FY:	Input Prior FY Appropriation for this project for FY <u>2017-18</u>
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	(If appropriated in FY 2017-18 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)		
Column:	A	B	C
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds *	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds *	Total Funds Appropriated (Column A + Column B)
Input Amounts:		175,000	175,000

10. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

Yes

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year.

\$200,000

11. Program Performance:

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

To provide theatre training in a stimulating creative environment to students with developmental disabilities. ITP is an educational theatre program that develops the creative skills of artists of different abilities. In addition to creative skills, ITP students achieve higher scores on standardized tests, increased reading comprehension, the ability to conceptualize context through their new acting skills, a more engaged attitude with peers and adults in and out of school, and a significant improvement in communication skills even for those with very limited verbal ability, compared to their peers who do not experience training in drama, movement, voice, etc. Theatre expands their ability to express themselves and better communicate needs and express emotions. The program directly impacts the set of personal life skills that these individuals need to navigate through life and that could not obtain in the traditional educational setting their schools provide them with.

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

In this inclusive program, founded by award-winning director Maria Banda-Rodaz, actors work with same-age peers from ASC's conservatory program, in addition to experienced instructors in the areas of acting, dance and music. With individualized attention, as well as group activities to promote social interaction, actors hone important life skills such as communication, self expression and problem solving, all through the magic of live theatre. For participants, the opportunity to be a part of a professional theatrical production is a dream come true.

c. How will the funds be expended?

Spending Category	Description	Amount
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Administrative Costs		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Program Director	30,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits	Program Coordinator	26,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Technical Personnel	10,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Administrative Costs	16,000
Operational Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Marketing, Advertising, Theatre Rental, Insurance, production cost	70,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Stage Director, Assistants	48,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
TOTAL		200,000

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

ITP brings experienced instructors to local schools providing on-site training to individuals who might otherwise not have the opportunity to access their natural abilities through the arts. Additionally, ITP hosts a conservatory program at the Area Stage Company studios located in the heart of Coral Gables where students train to perform in a full-length theatrical production. In efforts to be truly inclusive to all, ITP offers scholarship opportunities to students whose families struggle with financial hardships.

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

The target population of ITP is students across Miami Dade County, ages 5 +, with developmental and intellectual disabilities who wish to develop their creative and performance talents. Through our onsite classes, conservatory training, workshops, and community engagements, we plan to serve over 200 students annually.

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

The Inclusion Theatre Project (ITP) aims to strongly counter the devastating effects of assumptions placed on students with developmental disabilities by helping them manifest their true potential. Preliminary analysis of



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outcome measures reflects significant gains in language skills, memory, speech/articulation, behavior, problem-solving and social interaction for participating individuals with disabilities. Additionally, the use of evaluation tools including surveys, entrance and exit interviews, parent/guardian surveys and/or in-person meetings; and intern/peer relationships assessments enable us to monitor our student's progress.

- g. 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?**

N/A

- 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.**

NONE

- 13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. Name:** Maria Banda-Rodaz
- b. Organization:** Executive Director, Area Stage Company
- c. Email:** mariarodaz@areastagecompany.com
- d. Phone Number:** (305)666-2078

- 14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. Organization:** Area Stage Company
- b. County:** Miami-Dade
- 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:** Carolina Ordonez
- e. E-mail Address:** itp@areastagecompany.com
- f. Phone Number:** (305)666-2078

- 15. If there is a registered lobbyist, fill out the lobbyist information below.**

- a. Name:** David Caserta
- b. Firm:** David Caserta Government Relations Inc.
- c. Email:** flagovernment@aol.com
- d. Phone Number:** (205)463-8808