



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1320

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Area Stage Company (ASC) was founded in 1989 on the principles of artistic excellence and education. This award-winning theatre organization has directed significant resources towards an innovative performance arts program unprecedented in the world of exceptional student education: ASC Disability Theatre Enrichment Program helps neurodiverse actors of all ages (five and up), as they embark on their journey towards adulthood and/or independence by teaching communication, team work, and performance skills (acting, dancing, singing) that, in essence, become life skills. To date, we have served 1,800 unduplicated students, have produced 22 full theatre productions, over 54 school productions, and have performed in festivals, events, and other places in front of thousands. Due to a State funding gap, we were only able to serve 75 of our 400 primarily minority students, ages 5+, through on-site classes at ASC's facility in South Miami, and at three partner schools.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	350,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	350,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	65,000	9%
Local	85,000	12%
Other	200,000	29%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	700,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	350,000	243	Yes

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.

ASC is supported by multiple grants on the state, county, city, and foundational level as well as donations and grassroots support.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1320

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

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

We received the SVOG grant which supported the loss of income of our performing arts organization.

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

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	The program Director works directly with the Organization Executive Director to deliver an exciting season of programming and class curricula for productions, classes and outreach. They manage the day to day operations, oversee educational and production activities, serve as lead producer for all events. They also leads community engagement activities, managing relationships with key community partners and expanding the disability program mission. They will be a key voice in season planning, and	30,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Executive Director, Administrative Manager, Administrative Assistants, Coaches/ Instructors	70,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	Rent, Utilities, Maintenance, Office Supplies	25,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Professional Fees, Accounting, Bookkeeping, Fund raising, Attorneys	65,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Artistic Personnel: Artistic Director, Associate Artistic Director, Musical Director, Choreographers, Set Design, Lighting Design, Sound Design, Costume Design/Costuming, Prop Master, Outside Artistic Fees, Technical Personnel: Technical Director, Production Management, Carpenters, Sound Technicians, Lighting Technicians, Crew	70,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	Productions Costs: Set, lights, costumes, sound, props, make-up & wigs, royalties, equipment/instruments.	45,000



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1320

Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Marketing, Advertising, Graphic Design & Wed Maintenance, Printing, Videography/Photography, PR Agency.	45,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		350,000

14. Program Performance

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

With the requested funds, we once again hope to serve its previous students and more who are unable to participate in the program due to the financial detriment of COVID-19. Our program went from serving 400+ students to only 75. With these funds, we plan to provide our services once again to be able to serve at least 375+ students on our waiting list.

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

Students will be able to participate in productions, outreach performances, and theatrical classes in acting, dance (ballet, jazz, musical theater), music, and singing. Classes are taught by trained instructors who are veterans in their various artistic fields as well as experienced working with neurodiverse individuals. Students also participate in two or three fully produced musical theater stage productions each year which they rehearse and perform in addition to classes. Students and instructors also participate in multiple community outreach activities yearly.

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

Direct services include artistic education, as well as improvement in the following areas: social-emotional intelligence, speech therapy, communication and leadership skills, cognition, coordination, and emotional well being. To the greater community, we provide education about and exposure to the neurodiverse community.

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

ASC's Disability Theatre Enrichment Project is recognized as a one-of-a-kind performing arts program specifically geared to meet the needs of a population with developmental and intellectual disabilities with learning disabilities, autism, spectrum disorder, Down syndrome, and cerebral palsy. It serves students k-12 in addition to an adult population (ages 18-42). Population: White: 58%, Black: 13%, Mix: 29%, Other: 6%. Hispanic: 82%, American: 14%. Other: 4%. English speakers: 100%, Spanish: 40%, Other: 2%. 100% of neurodivergent learners. Families are financially stable. Maybe 10% are at poverty level due to immigration status. 80% are MDC median income and 10% are above median. 400+ individuals are expecting to be directly served in FY 2023-2024.

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

Onsite students at ASC, and their parents are given pre and post assess, emts and surveys in order to measure outcomes and satisfaction. Additionally, partner school classes are evaluated once per year to ensure satisfactory student progress. Student attendance is tracked carefully for all groups, and perhaps most effectively and importantly, all students participate in multiple theatre performances onstage each year. This is where progress and development are most evident. Success is defined as follows: 100% of all students will have improved in all parameters (cognition, fine motor skills, verbal communication, cooperation, self-confidence, ect.) as evidenced by pre and post assessments, 100% of students will have completed all rehearsal and performances throughout the session, and 100% of students and parents will be satisfied with the program.

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?

As per the contracting agency of these funds - The Florida Stage Agency for Persons with Disabilities, according to contract #ACX61, page 12, section 38 of the previous contract, instances of noncompliance will be penalized through financial consequences.

15. Requester Contact Information



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1320

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

- ☐ 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