

**Urgent Florida Legislative Alert
Immediate Action Requested On
State Arts, Cultural, Historical Appropriations**

Date: Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Thank you for your attention and immediate follow through on this alert.

1. What's at stake? Florida Divisions of Cultural Affairs' and Historical Resources' grant-line-item appropriations for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. You might want to go ahead and download the four attachments to this e-mail. They are referred to below as resources for you to use.

2. Why act now? The Florida House Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee (TED) met yesterday afternoon, January 19. They have been directed to complete a budget prioritization exercise (document is attached). Phase one is ranking their highest funding priorities and phase two is ranking their lowest funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. The Divisions of Cultural Affairs' and Historical Resources' grant line items cannot afford to be ranked low priorities by any of these House TED Committee members.

3. What can you do as a local arts agency now?

First: Legislative Appointments for Face-to-Face Meetings: Make an appointment now with the representative/s listed below your county, if your county is listed at the bottom of this e-mail. PLEASE get as many arts and cultural representatives as you can -- especially those who have received, are receiving, or have applied for state funding -- to agree to go and visit with the representative/s once the appointment/s are scheduled by your office. See attachment for those organizations who have applied for Division of Cultural Affairs' grants for FY 2010-2011 and [this link](#) to review other previous years' DCA funding by county. These appointments need to happen next week. Try to get individuals the representatives already know within your county to join you in these meetings if they are supportive of arts, cultural, historical funding.

Second: E-mail and letter-writing campaign: Encourage arts/cultural/historical organizations, board members, audience members, business representatives – anyone who cares about arts, cultural, and historical resources in your community – to e-mail and write NOW to members of the House Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee to make funding the Division of Cultural Affairs' and Division of Historical Resources' grants programs high priorities. **Here are the budget numbers from**

the budget prioritization worksheet they are using to rank their funding priorities:

Division of Cultural Affairs Cultural/Museum Grants , budget item 52 on page 7 and the detail line reference is 82.

Division of Historical Resources Historic Preservation Grants, budget item 55 on page 7 and detail line reference is 85.

The Excel file that includes all district and Tallahassee contact information for these House committee members is attached.

4. Who should communicate to these House TED Committee members now?

► **Level 1 Communications: Everyone Throughout the State Who Cares About Arts, Cultural, Historical Resources**, whether they have representatives or not who serve on the House Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee, should e-mail and send written letters on personal and company stationery to the **three leadership members** of the House TED Committee:

Chairman Rich Glorioso

813-757-9110

rich.glorioso@myfloridahouse.gov

110 W Reynolds Street, Suite 204

Plant City, Florida 33563-3379

Vice Chairman Mike Horner

407-943-3077

mike.horner@myfloridahouse.gov

323 Pleasant Street

Kissimmee, Florida 34741-5763

Minority Ranking Member Evan Jenne

(954) 321-2760

evan.jenne@myfloridahouse.gov

3107 Stirling Road, Suite 207

Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312-8502

► **Level 2 Communications: People from Counties Where Committee Members Serve:** Face-to-face scheduled meetings AND e-mail and letter-writing campaign to those member/s listed below the counties they represent. If your county is listed below, please schedule appointments now with the members listed below your county. See the list at the end of this e-mail for contact information and refer to the attached Excel file that lists all members by counties, their district and Tallahassee addresses, telephone numbers, staff, e-mails, districts, parties, term limits, committee assignments, etc. You can download this Excel file to make it easier and quicker to write to these House TED Committee members.

5. What should I emphasize when I communicate with these House TED Committee members?

Select two of the talking points from this [fact sheet](#), and add you own personal story of the impact state cuts have had on your organization and/or community/county (refer to the attached DCA county funding grid for the last five years of state funding and use this information if it is helpful). Encourage them to please rank state funding for the Division of Cultural Affairs' Cultural/Museum Grants and the Division of Historical Resources' Historic Preservation Grants as high priorities. **Here are the reference numbers from the budget sheet they are working from (attached to this e-mail) to prioritize their high and low funding priorities:**

Division of Cultural Affairs Cultural/Museum Grants , budget item 52 on page 7 and the detail line reference is 82.

Division of Historical Resources Historic Preservation Grants, budget item 55 on page 7 and detail line reference is 85.

Share with them that the state has already cut funding by over 92% for arts and cultural funding since Fiscal Year 2006-2007 when total funding was \$34,706,662; it is now only \$2,500,000. Florida now ranks 49th in per capita funding in state appropriations for arts and cultural resources – only 14¢ per Floridian. Yet, Florida's not-for-profit arts and culture industry "delivers more than \$446.5 million in local and state government revenue." The return on investment in 2008 was \$5 to every \$1 invested. These modest state investments help sustain over 88,300 full-time jobs throughout our state.

Here is our statewide 2010 Florida Legislative Top Arts, Arts Education, and Culture [Issues Platform](#), which we continue to receive endorsements for from throughout the state. You might want to share this document with them, too, when you meet with them, as well as this [fact sheet](#).

6. Members of the House Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee (TED) organized by the counties they represent:

Bay

Representative Jimmy Patronis
850-914-6300
jimmy.patronis@myfloridahouse.gov

Broward

Representative Evan Jenne, Minority Ranking Member
954-321-2760
evan.jenne@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Joe Gibbons
954-893-5006
joe.gibbons@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Hazel Rogers
954-497-3367
hazelle.rogers@myfloridahouse.gov

Charlotte

Representative Gary Aubuchon
239-344-4900
gary.aubuchon@myfloridahouse.gov

Clay

Representative Jennifer Carroll
904-573-4994
jennifer.carroll@myfloridahouse.gov

Duval

Representative Jennifer Carroll
904-573-4994
jennifer.carroll@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Audrey Gibson
904-353-2180
audrey.gibson@myfloridahouse.gov

Escambia

Representative Dave Murzin
(850) 494-7330
dave.murzin@myfloridahouse.gov

Franklin

Representative Jimmy T. Patronis
850-914-6300
jimmy.patronis@myfloridahouse.gov

Gulf

Representative Jimmy T. Patronis
850-914-6300
jimmy.patronis@myfloridahouse.gov

Hernando

Representative Robert Schenck
352-688-5005
robert.schenck@myfloridahouse.gov

Hillsborough

Representative Rich Glorioso, chairman
813-757-9110
rich.glorioso@myfloridahouse.gov

Lee

Representative Gary Aubuchon
239-344-4900
gary.aubuchon@myfloridahouse.gov

Miami-Dade

Representative Esteban Bovo
305-364-3113
esteban.bovo@myfloridahouse.gov

Okeechobee

Representative Mike Horner, vice chairman
407-943-3077
mike.horner@myfloridahouse.gov

Orange

Representative Mike Horner, vice chairman
407-943-3077
mike.horner@myfloridahouse.gov

Osceola

Representative Mike Horner, vice chairman
407-943-3077
mike.horner@myfloridahouse.gov

Palm Beach

Representative Maria Lorts Sachs
561-266-6645
maria.sachs@myfloridahouse.gov

Pasco

Representative Rich Glorioso, chairman
813-757-9110
rich.glorioso@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Robert Schenck
352-688-5005
robert.schenck@myfloridahouse.gov

Polk

Representative Mike Horner, vice chairman
407-943-3077
mike.horner@myfloridahouse.gov

Sumter

Representative Robert Schenck
352-688-5005
robert.schenck@myfloridahouse.gov

Volusia

Representative Dorothy Hukill
386-322-5111
dorothy.hukill@myfloridahouse.gov