



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1939

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The pervasive lack of knowledge about the Holocaust and the sharp increase in both anti-Semitic incidents and white supremacist incidents underscores The Florida Holocaust Museum's mission as an essential bulwark against the tide of hate, Holocaust denial and bigotry in all its forms, particularly among the young. It also demonstrates our need as a state to ensure that first-rate Holocaust education reaches, motivates, and empowers current and next-generation leaders with the knowledge and tools they need to confront the extremes of hatred and persecution. State funding would support the design, development, and construction of an immersive educational theatre space in which students, teachers, scholars and visitors can interact in real-time with Holocaust survivors, significantly enhancing the impact these conversations have in engaging, educating and inspiring future generations about the Holocaust and antisemitism through these irreplaceable voices of lived history.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,500,000

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)	2,500,000	46%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	300,000	5%
Other	2,700,000	49%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	5,500,000	100%

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

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

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

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

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



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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.

In FY 2020-2021, The Florida Holocaust Museum received \$258,160 in PPP funds used for payroll and health insurance for employees during a 10-week period, as well as a \$149,900 EIDL loan for Museum operational expenses, during the COVID pandemic.

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.

The Florida Holocaust Museum, the sole owner of the facility, will receive the funding.

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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Expenses associated with the design, development, and construction of an immersive educational theatre, including engineering and architectural fees, technical equipment (LED screens, projectors, audio equipment and lighting), seating installation and other related expenses.	2,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,500,000

14. Program Performance



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

The Museum's request this year would build on the state's previous investment that has enabled essential building improvements to ensure a safe and secure educational environment for students and visitors by supporting the design, development, and technology required to mount a state-of-the-art immersive, educational theatre space within The Museum, allowing students, scholars and visitors of future generations to communicate with Holocaust survivors forever.

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

The Museum's pioneering Dimensions in Testimony² (DIT) project, developed in concert with the Shoah Foundation, uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) and natural voice technology to allow visitors, students and researchers to ask questions of Holocaust survivors about their life experiences and hear responses in real-time, lifelike conversations. This ensures that students and visitors can forever engage in conversations with survivors in real-time and hear their stories from their own voices.

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

In addition to conversations with a survivor, this interior educational space would also be used to present Holocaust-relevant programming, including orientation for students and visitors, presentations by survivors and their descendants, discussions led by researchers and experts, and Holocaust-related films and documentaries produced by filmmakers in Florida and globally. These crucial resources will honor the memory of millions of innocent men, women and children who suffered or died in the Holocaust and help to ensure that future atrocities never occur.

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

A new safe and technologically infused education center for over 1300 teachers, 300,000 students, and 24,000 individuals who are impacted through the Museum's educational programs, survivor talks, and commemorations each year.

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

The orientation experiences and Dimensions in Testimony² will be free to all school groups and free with admission to scholars and the public. An orientation film specifically designed for students will be adapted to single-screen format and included in The Museum's dynamic "Teaching Trunk" curriculum, which includes grade-appropriate learning materials, available free of charge, shipped to students and teachers across the state to meet the requirements of state statute and the Next Generation Sunshine Standards. Outcomes will be measured through student, educator and visitor surveys and increases in the number of students, teachers, scholars etc. visiting the museum.

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?

Disbursed funds for deliverables not met will be returned to the state.

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