



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2482

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

tag! Children's Museum of St. Augustine is constructing phase 1 of the children's museum that includes indoor and outdoor galleries and exhibits. tag! Children's Museum will be a premier family cultural experience, attracting 100,000 to 150,000 annual visitors. The museum serves the local community and out-of-town visitors with interactive exhibits, STEAM educational programming and workshops, and special events and activities.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	3,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,500,000

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)	3,500,000	32%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	7,500,000	68%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	11,000,000	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?

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



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Paycheck Protection Plan Loan - \$68,983.30

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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

2/01/2024

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/01/2024

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.

N/A

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	Funding will play a crucial role in covering the construction and infrastructure expenses related to establishing the museum's indoor gallery and exhibit spaces, as well as the expansive 35,000-square-foot outdoor recreation and exhibit areas.	3,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,500,000

14. Program Performance

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

Funding will construct a new, interactive Children's Museum. This investment delivers a legacy cultural experience and a unique play-based educational environment for children and families. As the first new cultural facility in Northeast Florida in more than 30 years, the museum plays a vital role as a cultural focal point enhancing the community's vitality.

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



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tag! Children's Museum will offer various activities and services, including 1) A budget-friendly destination for families to enjoy a blend of recreation, education, and cultural experiences tailored for children. 2) A central community hub providing hands-on learning and engaging STEAM-based programs catering to preschool and grade school students. 3) A preferred destination for 4th-grade field trips in Florida. 4) Opportunities for high school Bright Futures participants to volunteer and contribute to the community. 5) A versatile venue for hosting special events and activities to attract tourism and encourage visitation.

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

Services will encompass diverse offerings, including 1) Immersive play-based learning experiences integrated into all galleries and exhibits. 2) Structured and unstructured educational programs tailored for children aged 14 and under, fostering growth and development. 3) Programs and community events that celebrate and explore the Museum's five areas of influence: STEAM, health and wellness, history and culture, citizenship and compassion, and environmental stewardship.

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

The museum's mission is rooted in an interactive and engaging environment for families with children aged 14 and younger. With an anticipated annual visitation of 100,000 to 150,000 guests, the museum is positioned to make a significant and lasting impression within this diverse demographic. Educational benefits include 1) Hands-on learning activities that assist in the retention of information more effectively than passive learning. 2) Multi-sensory experiences help provide a deeper understanding of concepts and subjects. 3) Activities and exhibits designed to build critical thinking and problem-solving essential to academic success. 4) STEAM-based programs fostering creativity and innovation.

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

The museum offers cultural experiences for families that foster play-based learning and promote the holistic development of children, encompassing cognitive, social, emotional, and physical dimensions. These benefits include: 1) Healthy alternatives to excessive screen time, reducing sedentary behavior. 2) Exhibits and activities that require movement, climbing, crawling, jumping, and running that contribute to a healthy body. 3) Activities that develop fine and gross motor skills. 4) Hands-on learning that boosts problem-solving and creativity, leading to a sense of achievement and satisfaction. 5) Social experiences that improve emotional well-being and reduce feelings of loneliness. 6) Engaging in imaginative play and activities that reduce anxiety and promote relaxation. Longitudinal studies in collaboration with educational partners will monitor the effectiveness of our programs among specified groups of students. Surveys and testing will be used for data collection.

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?

tag! Children's Museum will return all funding.

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

For Profit Entity



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- 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