



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1119

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

Celebrating its 20th year of operation, Prodigy Cultural Arts is a diversion and prevention program that utilizes the arts to teach life skills to 1,750 high risk youth ages 5-17 across 10 counties in west central Florida. According to the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, over 99% of youth enrolled in Prodigy do not get into trouble with law enforcement thus lessening the burden on the state juvenile system, increasing public safety and saving the state millions of dollars. Prodigy classes are taught in person and virtually by professional artists where youth learn problem solving, anger management, communication, leadership, career development and other life skills through various art disciplines. One year of Prodigy services cost less than \$1000 per student enrolled making it one of the most cost effective youth development programs.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	250,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	250,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	500,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2020-21	250,000	0	1196	No

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.**

Hillsborough County
Grants and Fund raising

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



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

11. 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	Site liaison, data analyst, classroom instructors, assistant instructors, HR/payroll staff.	75,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Program materials, supplies, art and music equipment, field trips, travel	50,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Direct program costs for Prodigy host organizations and instructors to implement classes, community outreach, direct instruction, field trips, case management, data collection, purchasing of supplies and equipment	125,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

12. Program Performance

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

The funds will be used to support the implementation of the Prodigy Cultural Arts program across West Central Florida for 1,750 participants. For 20 years, Prodigy has been providing life skills infused cultural arts programs to keep children and youth out of the juvenile justice system. The funds will support program development, classroom materials, professional instructors, art, music and dance supplies, data collection and reporting, field trips and other program management tasks.

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

Prodigy Cultural Arts implements classes, both in person and virtually which are taught by professional artists. Classes consist of a variety of arts disciplines which are infused with life skill activities to teach anger management, leadership, problem solving, and communication skills. Activities such as field trips, educational workshops, mentoring sessions, community events and showcases are also included. Showcases are high level talent shows where participants show off their art work, stage or music productions to share what they have learned throughout the year.

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

Participants enrolled in Prodigy receive a life skills and risk assessment to gauge what type of services they need. This may include wrap around services such as mentoring, tutoring, or case management. They also receive their choice of art classes, music, dance, photography, performance or others. Participants (and their parents) also receive workshops on academic enrichment, career development, parent/child communication, money management and other life skills all taught by professionals. Lastly, Prodigy staff do outreach calls and case management to help keep youth on track.

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



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1,750 youth ages 5-17 from 10 counties in west central Florida are expected to be served. Prodigy targets communities in which law enforcement has deemed at risk for high levels of crime and delinquency. Youth are enrolled who are at risk, or suspected risk for school drop out and other delinquent behavior. Prodigy serves communities from south St. Petersburg to Tampa; from Bartow to I4 in Orange County. Prodigy also serves rural communities such as Lacoochee (Pasco) and Sebring/Avon Park (Highlands).

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

Prodigy is monitored by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and each month Prodigy has to submit tracking data to DJJ to see how the youth are doing, if they have had contact with law enforcement and if they are completing classes. The main goal of Prodigy is to keep youth out of the juvenile justice system. The latest DJJ's CAR (Comprehensive Accountability Report) reveals that over 99% of Prodigy youth did not get into trouble with law enforcement when enrolled.

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?

If Prodigy does not meet the deliverables, DJJ imposes a corrective action plan in which agencies work on their improvements within an allotted time frame. These improvements are documented in a system called PMM and is regularly checked by DJJ staff. Once the action plan is complete, there is a review by DJJ to determine if all corrective goals and deliverables were met. If not, penalties persist including a possible reduction of funds or termination of contract.

13. 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



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14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

15. 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

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number