



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2381

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Vero Beach Art Club requests funding to initiate 2 art education programs. (1) Adolescent program for middle school students, addressing the effects the pandemic has had on overall well-being, the experienced stress resulting from illness, social isolation, lack of routine, etc. (2) Similarly, a veteran program targeted to giving veterans opportunities through creation of art that can promote positive mental health. In 2021, research found that 30,177 active-duty personnel and veterans who served in the military after 9/11 have died by suicide, compared to the 7,057 service members killed in combat in those same 20 years. Both programs will provide opportunities to address thoughts and feelings through art language. Regular classes directed to each cohort will be led by accomplished art teachers. Periodic public exhibitions will be held to further development of self-esteem and a sense of accomplishment and contribute to the community's recognition of and respect for them.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	35,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	35,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	35,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	35,000	50%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	70,000	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.



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The Art Club would provide whatever funding that might be available from its normal collection of club member dues, exhibition fees, and art sales commissions. Because the Art Club relies on these same funds for its normal operations, it is not likely to be adequate to offer as many educational components and/or opportunities that a state grant would enable.

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.

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	Office Supplies	1,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Part-time employee and teaching staff	19,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Art supplies, advertising, and snacks	14,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		35,000

12. Program Performance

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

(1) Both targeted groups: creation of art products (drawings, paintings, collage, sculpture, etc.); social interaction with peers pursuing the creative process; and self-exploration and discovery through new mediums. (2) Adolescents, feelings of stress caused by the various negative factors of the pandemic; development of increased self-worth; and achievement of new skills that may inspire future academic, career, and life choices. (3) Veterans, healing from effects of PTSD and other stresses triggered by military experiences; discovering self-expression; opportunity to earn income from sale of their own creations; and realization that creativity can bring peace and fulfillment. (4) The greater community, discovering fellow citizens, whether young & struggling or aged & overlooked, can contribute to the well-being of community. The Art Club points out: "Art lights our way. In the best of times, art creates connection, community, belonging, and joy."

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

Art instructors will conduct art classes on a regular schedule and will provide all supplies, equipment, and instructional materials. The Vero Beach Art Club will periodically sponsor public exhibitions to showcase students' work. An occasional guest artist/speaker will offer presentations that can inspire new creative ideas and techniques. Regular social interaction experiences for both groups are planned into the program appropriate to students' ages and interests. Instructors will schedule individual one-on-one meetings with students on an as-needed basis. Veteran programs will be free. The adolescent program will operate on a sliding fee scale, depending on need.

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



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Both targeted programs will consist of citizens who will benefit from the program. Adolescents, parents, teachers, and the community will benefit from the students' increased ability to cope with pandemic-triggered emotional disturbances. Similarly, the community will benefit by veterans that can alleviate conflict-induced insecurities and contribute more by becoming more involved citizens. Public art exhibitions will provide entertainment and cultural opportunities to community members of all ages. In addition, for adolescents, some of the classes will be offered as summer camp and school holiday programs, thus offering parents and students opportunities to use their free time profitably and enjoyably.

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

The adolescent program will target students in middle and high school, generally an age range of 12-18 years. The veteran program will target men and women who have served in any of the U.S. Armed Forces, regardless of age and income, with a particular interest in serving those who have experienced mental health issues triggered by their military experiences. Adolescent groups will serve up to 150 total students dispersed over various classes in the first year. Veteran groups will serve a maximum of 10 adults in each class.

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

A tangible benefit of this project will be the actual creation of at least one work of art by each student, probably more, as well as the introduction of a new field of endeavor and the attainment of new skills. Less tangible but perhaps more important will be the achievement of greater self-awareness, self-acceptance, and self-worth and the development of new coping mechanisms. The program sponsor will develop evaluation procedures, including a questionnaire to be distributed to students for their written assessments of the program and will also solicit oral comments and responses throughout the program, particularly as they might be pertinent to a specific project. In addition, instructors will seek feedback from parents and regular school teachers where appropriate to augment their own comments on each student's participation. The program sponsor will then assess all evaluation results in order to improve offerings and instructional approaches for future classes.

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?

The Vero Beach Art Club fully understands that failure to achieve its goals may result in diminished future opportunities to apply for or receive state funding. Since the Art Club is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation with limited financial resources and a reliance on volunteer support, this would indeed be a significant penalty. The Art Club is determined to develop and implement a highly successful program that will greatly benefit adolescents, veterans, and the greater community. Founded in 1936, the Vero Beach Art Club is proud of its 85-year successful record of delivering high levels of art and service to the citizens of Indian River County, the State of Florida, and its many visitors.

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.

None



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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