



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1263

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The mission of Theatre South Playhouse is to nurture, challenge, and empower artists and audiences in order to inspire and educate the Southwest Orlando community. The Theatre strives to create a safe space for artists of all backgrounds to gather together with the common goal to teach the values of mutual respect for all. In 2009, Executive Director Hillary Brook started "Theatre South Orlando" with a philosophy that when students are inspired by working with diverse professional artists, anything is possible. Theatre South not only became a safe place for young people to explore theatre arts, but also a place for local artists to share their gifts. In 2016, Theatre South became a non-profit under the new name "Theatre South Playhouse." Today, as the Theatre celebrates its 15 year anniversary, Theatre South Playhouse has evolved into a professional theater, an academic conservatory, and a community center for kids, teens, and adults to learn their craft.

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	446,250
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>446,250</b>

**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)	446,250	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>446,250</b>	<b>100%</b>

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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Without state funding the Theatre would need to raise the prices of its educational programs and theatre production tickets to keep up with the rising cost of renting its space and to keep programming going. That directly conflicts with its mission of having the arts be available to all.

**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.**

The Theatre received two (2) PPP Loans that were \$18,621 each. Both forgiven. The Theatre also received an SVOG grant for &176,000. This was used for payroll, rent, and independent contractors. This is in the process of being forgiven.

## 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.**

**13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	This the cost of our yearly rent and is set to go up by 5% each year.	128,050
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Retaining a Production Manager. - A Production Manager builds sets and props for productions. She also coordinates interns, Stage Managers, Lighting Designers, and Sound Techs. She also maintains the spaces. Hire a full time Financial Officer who would handle writing grants and act as a Development Manager. Funds to allow our teachers a much needed raise	200,000



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Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	The goal is to put on 4 large scale professional productions per year. Each musical costs around \$29,550 to produce. This includes the rights and royalties for each show as well as sets, costumes, lighting design, sound design, microphones, and props. The Theatre also strives to offer competitive pay to directors, musical directors, choreographers, stage managers, and actors,	118,200
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>446,250</b>

**14. Program Performance**

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

The Theatre produces professional and youth training shows that employ artists in the Central Florida area and allow young actors to learn and create with professional working artists. The Theatre is also a Conservatory offering young actors a flexible school environment and enrichment classes in the performing arts. The goal to continue to offer the performing arts to the Southwest Orlando community at a reasonable rate so that the programing is attainable to all.

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

Theatre South Playhouse is a community center that not only provides an academic conservatory for students in grades 4th - 12th but is also a thriving theatre company that offers training for children and adults. The Theatre also produces high quality theatre for audiences young and old to enjoy as the only stand-alone theatre in Dr. Phillips. With these funds the Theatre would be able to expand its offerings, keep prices down, and elevate the quality of programs.

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

The requested funding allows the Theatre to stay in the Dr. Phillips area where it is able to provide programming and artistic offerings to the community. Given the funding requested, Theatre South Playhouse will continue to provide a safe space for artists of all ages to learn, grow, and explore the world of the performing arts in a modern workspace.

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

Over 12,000 Dr. Phillips residents and visitors will experience live theatre in an intimate and immersive theatre space, bringing people back to Restaurant Row and the surrounding areas. At least 450 local artists will receive experience performing in theatrical productions. The Theatre will also continue producing theatrical training productions giving 210 young actors a chance to learn from working professionals.

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

The Theatre's programming offers the following benefits: Improve physical health, improve mental health, enrich cultural experience, improve quality of education, increase or improve economic activity, increase tourism, and create specific immediate job opportunities. The Theatre utilizes participant and audience surveys to gather data on how effective its programming is in attaining these goals and adjusting the programing. The Theatre also utilizes test scores and FLVS to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Conservatory. Lastly, the Theatre uses reviews of its shows to gauge success of its offerings.

**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 the Theatre fails to meet the deliverables or performance measures, all funding shall be forfeited and returned.

**15. Requester Contact Information**

**a. First Name**  **Last Name**



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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
- 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