



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1623

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami (MOCA) will use requested operating funds to support a full year of high-quality exhibitions, education programs, and community services benefiting residents across Miami-Dade County. As the only major cultural institution in a 25-mile stretch between Miami's Design District and Fort Lauderdale, MOCA provides reliable, year-round access to professionally produced arts programming for 30,000 people annually. The museum's 30th anniversary season will feature curated exhibitions, public programs, and free or low-cost art classes that expand cultural access for families, students, and seniors. MOCA's professional staff and teaching artists deliver consistent, measurable outcomes through workshops, camps, lectures, concerts, community events, and school partnerships. State support will ensure MOCA continues providing broad public benefit, strengthens local quality of life, and meets growing demand for dependable cultural and educational services.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

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

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500,000	10%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,800,000	38%
Other	2,500,000	52%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	4,800,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

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

9. Is future-year 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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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. 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?

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

11. 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

12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Partial salary support for Project Heads and Directors who oversee day to day museum administration	50,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Full- and part-time staff that manage and coordinate exhibitions, education, community, and public programs	50,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Exhibition expenses such as shipping, installation, deinstallation, fabrication, web development and maintenance; marketing and printing materials; travel expense for artists and curators; and program supplies for education, community, and public programs	350,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contracted services for teaching artists, art handlers, and panelists.	50,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The requested funds will strengthen a key piece of North Miami's civic infrastructure by supporting MOCA's role as the city's primary cultural and educational hub. As an anchor institution in the downtown corridor, MOCA activates the public Plaza shared with City Hall and collaborates with local libraries, schools, and the senior center to deliver year-round, free educational and cultural programs. Funding will help the museum meet growing community demand, support stable operations, and contribute to the economic vitality of the surrounding business district. The goal is to ensure that North Miami residents continue to benefit from reliable, high-quality public programming that enhances local quality of life and supports broader municipal development efforts.

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

MOCA will provide a full season of exhibitions, public programs, and free or low-cost education services for residents of all ages. Activities include year-round art classes, after-school programs, summer camps, senior workshops, community events on the MOCA Plaza, and partnerships with local schools and libraries. The museum will also maintain extended hours for monthly concerts and public lectures, offer guided tours, and continue producing accessible family programs. Operational support ensures facilities remain open and staffed, allowing MOCA to reliably serve the community and support the surrounding downtown district's cultural and economic activity.

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

MOCA's galleries will be open to the public five days per week (Weds–Sun), offering four major exhibitions and a 30th anniversary permanent collection presentation. The museum will deliver weekly and monthly education programs serving early childhood (ages 1–5), children (6–12), teens (13–17), and adults, including Sunday Stories, Mini-Makers, Teen Art Force, and MOCA Makers. Seniors will receive twice-monthly workshops through MOCA's partnership with the City's Housing and Social Services Department, and students will benefit from weekly programs at two North Miami libraries. Exhibitions will feature nationally and internationally recognized artists such as Geoffrey Holder, and leading South Florida artists commissioned through Art on the Plaza. MOCA will also provide free monthly Jazz at MOCA concerts on the Plaza with extended public hours, guided tours, film screenings, and family-friendly events that activate the downtown civic campus.

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

MOCA's target population includes residents of North Miami and Miami-Dade County across all age groups, with a particular focus on families, PreK–12 students, teens, young adults, and seniors who rely on free and low-cost cultural services. All 58,906 residents of the City of North Miami receive free admission to MOCA, ensuring full access to exhibitions, programs, and community events regardless of income. The museum and partners with local schools, libraries, community organizations and the senior center to reach residents who may not otherwise have access to arts education, including individuals with disabilities. MOCA expects to serve approximately 7,000 children, youth, and young adults and 22,000 adults, including an estimated 1,350 individuals with disabilities. In total, the museum anticipates reaching an audience of 29,000.

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

The project will expand access to cultural and educational services while elevating the profile of North Miami and the State of Florida through MOCA's nationally recognized exhibitions, international press coverage, and significant visitation during Miami Art Week. Funding strengthens a key civic asset that provides measurable community benefit, including youth development outcomes shown in national research such as the Wallace Foundation's findings on youth arts participation increasing wellbeing and academic engagement. MOCA features internationally lauded artists with roots in the community or region, inspiring youth to pursue creative careers. MOCA will measure impact through attendance tracking in its Altru CRM system, program registration and demographic data, growth in school and library participation, and monthly counts for Jazz at MOCA. Press impressions and program evaluations will document the project's cultural and economic benefits for the city and state.

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 in the contract?

In addition to standard contractual penalties, the contracting agency may consider requiring MOCA to submit corrective action plans with measurable milestones, temporarily restricting the release of remaining funds until benchmarks are met, or reducing future-year eligibility or award amounts if performance targets are not achieved. The agency may also request increased reporting frequency or on-site monitoring to ensure compliance.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?



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a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- ☐ Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- ☐ Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- ☐ Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

- a. First Name** **Last Name**
- b. Organization**
- c. E-mail Address**
- d. Phone Number** **Ext.**

18. Recipient Contact Information

- a. Organization**



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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 Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.