



Florida Cultural Alliance www.flca.net

Top 2008 Arts, Arts Education, Cultural, and Historical Legislative Issues

Arts and Culture -
part of the solution...

"World-class scientists demand the best in cultural, educational and recreational offerings when they're deciding where to do their research."

Dr. Richard A. Lerner,
President
Scripps Research
Institute

"Policy makers across the country are finding that a relatively modest investment in culture frequently pays big dividends. Support for the production, distribution, and infrastructure of the arts is critical to success in tourism, attracting business interests, economic development, and quality of life issues."

National Conference
of State Legislatures

"74.9% of Florida visitors participate in cultural activities... It is important to understand the factors making Florida an attractive destination and to retain and enhance those factors."

Florida Tax Watch
Tourism Research
Report

"New Cornerstone and other reports emphasized the role of arts, culture, and historic preservation in supporting Florida's economy, helping advance key initiatives around the State."

Florida New Cornerstone
Revisited, 2007
Florida Chamber
Foundation

The following 2008 Florida Legislative issues were developed through a series of statewide conference calls among representatives from local arts agencies throughout the state; and statewide arts, cultural, and arts education service organizations.

1 Support the Department of State's FY 2008-2009 requests for arts and cultural resources, a proven catalyst for economic development.

Florida's annual investment in its arts and cultural resources, a proven economic catalyst for diversification and development, business relocation, tourism, and jobs, has declined by over 40% in the last 12 years. We support the Florida Department of State's appropriation requests to begin the restoration of Florida's investment in its creative and historical industries.

PROGRAM/PROJECT - Grant Line Items:	Florida Department of State Requests for FY 2008-2009:
ARTS IN EDUCATION PROGRAM	\$ 700,000
CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS PROGRAM	7,000,000
LOCAL ARTS AGENCIES/STATEWIDE SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS	750,000
SCIENCE MUSEUM GRANTS PROGRAM	550,000
STATE TOURING PROGRAM	300,000
STATEWIDE ARTS GRANTS PROGRAM	4,000,000
YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MUSEUM PROGRAM	270,000
Subtotal for Cultural PROGRAM-Grant Appropriations:	\$13,570,000
HISTORIC MUSEUM GRANTS	2,000,000
HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANTS	2,500,000
Subtotal for Historic PROGRAM/PROJECT-Grant Appropriations: ...	\$4,500,000
FLORIDA HUMANITIES COUNCIL (pass-through appropriation)	430,000

2 Fund the pre-approved grant lists submitted by the Florida Department of State Divisions of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources for:

CHALLENGE GRANTS (19 projects)	\$ 870,921
CULTURAL FACILITIES (41 projects)	17,176,929
REGIONAL CULTURAL FACILITIES	2,499,780
CULTURAL ENDOWMENT MATCHES (25 qualified matches)	6,000,000
Requested for Division of Cultural Affairs Pre-Approved Lists ...	\$26,547,630
Requested for Division of Historical Resources	
Pre-Approved Special Category Grants (60 projects)	\$16,273,708

TOTAL Requested for these Department of State Line Items: \$61,321,338

For additional information on these legislative issues, please e-mail Sherron Long at FLCULALL@aol.com or call 561-848-6231. www.flca.net



Arts and Culture -
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3

Advance student achievement for all students through equitable access to quality arts education courses and experiences.

"Students with high levels of arts participation outperform arts-poor students on virtually every measure."

U.S. Department of Education

"Arts education is a money-and time-saving option for states looking to build skills, increase academic success, heighten standardized test scores, and lower the incidence of crime among general and at-risk populations."

National Governors Association

"This is a world in which a very high level of preparation in reading, writing, speaking, mathematics, science, literature, history, and the arts will be an indispensable foundation for everything that comes after for most members of the workforce.

It is a world in which comfort with ideas and abstractions is the passport to a good job, in which creativity and innovation are the key to the good life, in which high levels of education - a very different kind of education than most of us have had - are going to be the only security there is."

National Center on Education and the Economy
The New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce's Tough Choices Or Tough Times

- **ENSURE** the one-full credit in a visual of performing art remains as a high school graduation requirement with no further erosion of this credit, AND **REVISE** the middle school requirements to include at least one-full credit of study in a visual or performing art.
- **ALIGN** the *Florida Statutes* with the *No Child Left Behind Act*, and define all visual and performing arts courses as part of the core curriculum.
- **INCLUDE** the visual and performing arts as collaborative, integral, and qualitative components of workforce categories and career academies.
- **SUSTAIN** the integrity of all elementary, middle, and high school art, theatre, music, and dance programs, including the retention and expansion of qualified staff to provide equitable access for all students to quality visual and performing arts academic courses.
- **PROTECT** access for all students to visual and performing arts courses while satisfying PE requirements.
- **MAINTAIN:**
 1. band and dance as PE credits;
 2. major and minor majors in the visual and performing arts as part of current high school requirements; OR if *Florida Statutes* are revised to address World Class Standards, ensure the visual and performing arts are core subjects.
 3. classrooms designed for teaching and/or performing the visual and/or performing arts as spaces dedicated for those original purposes (art rooms, theatres, band and choral rooms, photography labs, etc.).
- **STRENGTHEN** *Sunshine State Standards* in all the visual and performing arts.
- **SUPPORT** the National Arts Education Working Group's four recommendations for the reauthorization of the *No Child Left Behind Act*.
 - Retain the arts in the definition of core academic subjects of learning.
 - Require annual state reports on student access to core academic subjects.
 - Improve national data collection and research in arts education.
 - Reauthorize the arts in education programs of the U.S. Department of Education.

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