



COUNCIL ON CULTURE & ARTS | TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY

## FY24 Grant Program Report

**Grant programs:** Cultural Grant, Marketing Grant and Cultural Grant (Community) Grant Updates:

- All three grant programs were consolidated into a single application and single panel review.
- Cultural Grant award amount increased from FY23.
- The panel was held virtually, with coaching options held in-person and virtually.
- The grant programs were successfully administrated through Submittable, COCA’s new online system.
- The required County review process for statutory compliance to §125.0104, Fla. Stat., was completed. The request from COCA for the County to define its criterion for the eligibility review remains.

**Results:**

Program	FY24 Applicants	FY24 Awards	FY23 Applicants	FY23 Awards	FY22 Applicants	FY22 Awards
<b>Cultural Grant</b>	32 total	31 total	29 total	25 Total	29 total	27 carried forward
	1 new, 31 returning	2 deemed ineligible per County review; 1 accepted with revisions; 1 withdrawn	2 new, 27 returning	0 new, 25 returning, 4 ineligible per County review	2 new, 27 carried forward	2 new & ineligible per County review
<b>Marketing Grant</b>	31 total	30 total	23 total	23 total	24 total	23 total
	2 new, 29 returning	2 deemed ineligible per County review; 1 accepted with revisions; 1 withdrawn	1 new 22 returning	1 new, 22 returning	3 new, 21 returning 13 did not reapply	1 new & ineligible per County review
<b>Cultural Grant (Community) Grant</b>	28 total	27 total		31 total		
	2 new, 26 returning	1 ineligible per staff review				

**Grant program principles:**

**ACCESS:** Offer opportunities for eligible organizations to apply for both of our grant programs.

**EQUITY:** Ensure funds are available for all programs and distributed through an equitable process that allows as many grantees as possible access to funds.

**SUPPORT:** Balance resource allocation to long-time grantees of the program with opportunities for new grantees.

**FLEXIBILITY:** Balance the requirements of the programs with streamlined processes that will simplify the application process while keeping existing compliances in place. This will allow organizations the flexibility to respond to new programmatic realities and needs.

## FY24 GRANT AWARDS

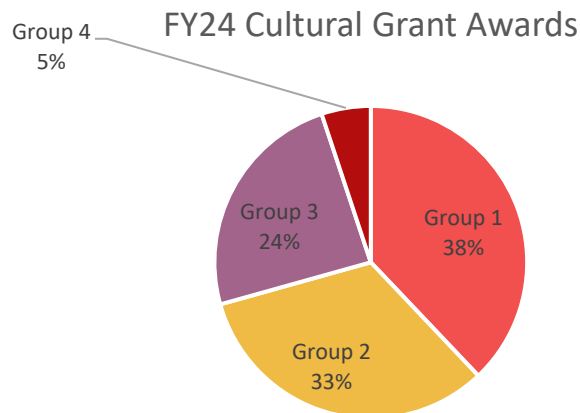
**Grant programs: Cultural Grant, Marketing Grant, Cultural Grant (Community)**

### Cultural Grant Program - Program Purpose

The mission of COCA’s Cultural Grant Program is to serve and support the community of non-profit arts and cultural organizations within Tallahassee and Leon County through program funding which enhances the quality of life as well as the tourism and economic development of our community. An applicant’s programming must contribute to the tourism development of Leon County in accordance with Florida Statute 125.0104.

*The grant program seeks to fund programming that offers a unique service in arts, culture and history not otherwise provided in the community; programs that provide distinctive arts, history, and cultural offerings; programs that highlight cultural diversity and/or access for persons with disabilities; programs that bring arts, cultural and historic exhibits, or events to underserved areas; programs which engage members of the community in the creative and/or artistic process.*

Application Summary	Award Summary		
32 applications received	Group 1	4 applicants	\$460,636
All applications reviewed by COCA Grants Manager and Executive Director	Group 2	5 applicants	\$397,649
Eligibility verified by Director of Tourism	Group 3	14 applicants	\$294,500
2 applications deemed ineligible for TDT funds; 1 application accepted with revisions; 1 application withdrawn	Group 4	8 applicants	\$61,860
31 eligible applications reviewed by panel	Total	31 applicants	\$1,214,645



**Cultural Grant**

Grant #	Organization	Group	Award
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<b>FY24CG-1</b>	<b>Ayoka Afrikan Drum and Dance, Inc.</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$14,000</b>
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*“It’s Ayoka for Me!” programming allows us to foster and promote a learning community around Afrikan traditions’ cultural values, principles, and customs throughout the year, creating spaces for artistic development and expression while establishing networks of learning and cultural exchange. Special emphasis on programs for children in underserved communities and elderly in community centers underscores our aim of fostering relationships and facilitating engagement.*

<b>FY24CG-2</b>	<b>Tallahassee Film Society</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>
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*The Tallahassee Film Society (TFS) celebrates film as a richly unique creative art by presenting high-quality works that entertain, educate, and inspire audience members. TFS believes in film’s unique power to share original stories, diverse perspectives, and rich emotional journeys. By welcoming different voices to the screen, TFS shows that we speak one language, which is film. TFS is excited to present “Reels on the Rails: Restart!” for FY24, which fulfills the mission of our organization. We are adding the word “Restart!” to our annual programming title to let the community know that in-person programming has resumed and to dovetail with the “Restart the Arts!” campaign being promoted in Tallahassee by COCA. Reels on the Rails describes TFS programming of excellent movies that may not otherwise be shown in Tallahassee, fostering greater awareness of film as a relevant art form, promoting cultural diversity with many different themes, and creating year-round programming for residents (and their guests when visitors come to town.)*

<b>FY24CG-3</b>	<b>Tallahassee Hispanic Theater</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
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*THT is requesting funds for the production of its Sixth Annual Micro Theater Festival in the Summer of 2024. This event, which involves the presentation of five Hispanic plays, and Hispanic music and food, demonstrates the core of the group’s mission: bringing Hispanic culture for the education and enrichment of the community while building cross-cultural awareness.*

<b>FY24CG-4</b>	<b>BIG BEND FILIPINO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION, INC.</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$1,260</b>
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*The Filipino Town Festival (also known as Pista sa Nayon) is a cultural event that showcases the Filipino culture. It hosted its 10th annual event last November 5, 2022. Each year, this event is sponsored by the Big Bend Filipino-American Association, Inc., which is a non-profit organization in the Big Bend area of Florida. This cultural event features Filipino culture and traditions, Filipino cuisine, music, and a fashion show demonstrating traditional attire from the Philippines. Local food vendors, such as Real Sarap, Filipiniana Philippine Cafe, and Chef Adobo, feature cuisine from the Philippines.*

<b>FY24CG-5</b>	<b>Tallahassee Civic Chorale, Inc,</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
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*Scheduled for 2023/24, the season represents a festival of composer/arranger Dan Forrest’s many contributions to the holiday song book, a celebration of women as composers and songwriters, and a music*

showcase featuring local talent. The appeal of this is very widespread, and is intended to continue Leon County's reputation as a regional destination for quality and popular music.

**FY24CG-6 Tallahassee Chapter, SPEBSQSA 4 \$9,000**

Our mission is to promote and encourage the unique art of barbershop harmony singing in Tallahassee, Leon County and the Big Bend-South Georgia region by presenting a performance year with Valentine Serenades on February 14th, elaborate annual shows in June Holiday shows in December and fresh gospel shows throughout the year.

**FY24CG-7 USA Dance, Inc 4 \$11,200**

The Florida Sunshine Dance, Symposium, and Challenge Competition (herein known as FL Sunshine Dance) for 2024, and a special Wine & Cheese Pair Social Dance Event. Both programs support the overall mission to promote and guide the growth of social ballroom dancing in the United States, by promoting healthful lifetime recreational activity, suitable for families and for those who are so inclined a progression to competitions are encouraged. USA Dance programs also include the support and establishment of chapters throughout the country, to educate, and provide training support at the regional and national levels.

**FY24CG-8 Embrace World Cultures Inc 4 \$2,400**

Fusion World Dance and Music Live Series VI is a unique theatrical program that embraces Embrace World Culture's mission of building and bridge of understanding and uniting nations through the arts. This ambitious project, culminating in mini shows, Masterclasses, workshops, a film, and a performance on August 10, 2024, at the TCC Auditorium, will involve months of careful planning and rehearsal. Beginning with auditions in early February 2024, followed by rigorous practice sessions and final technical rehearsals, the entire process ensures a high-quality, professional-level production. A professionally edited video of the performance will be released later for wider access and archival purposes.

**FY24CG-9 Mickee Faust Alternative Performance Club, Inc. 3 \$26,000**

Mickee Faust is requesting funding to support our 36th Season of original programming, more specifically, our Spring '24 cabaret, our month-long June Queer as Faust XVII Festival that culminates with a Cabaret, and our free writing and performing workshops which continue throughout the year. Faust cabarets and workshops serve our goals to: create original alternative theater arising from our local community; create a role model for disability aspiration in theater as we continue to practice our 36-year-old "ethic of accommodation"; serve those who are underserved or overlooked, including people with disabilities, LGBT+ and those in reduced economic circumstances; attract local and out-of-town audiences by providing a focal point of alternative community fun and celebration in an economically undeveloped area in Tallahassee's Southside.

**FY24CG-10 John Gilmore Riley Center/Museum for African American History and Culture Inc. 3 \$31,788**

The mission of the John Gilmore Riley Center Museum Inc. (JGRCM) is to preserve the Riley House, promote historical and cultural preservation, and enrich lives through education, outreach, and advocacy. The relevance of this 4-part exhibit series aligns with the museum's mission by: (1) building awareness of the many and significant contributions of African Americans to Florida's history, (2) promoting tourism, domestically and internationally, (3) uncovering and presenting the untold stories of our past, (4) developing programs,

initiatives, events and exhibits that both educate and inspire and (5) celebrating our shared/blended histories as Floridians. (b) We request funding for part three of a four-part Exhibit series project, "African Americans in Tallahassee - Part III: The World Wars and Post-War Life."

**FY24CG- Tallahassee Youth Orchestras Inc 3 \$26,818**  
**11**

*Tallahassee Youth Orchestras provides the only comprehensive pre-college orchestral experience within 150 miles of Tallahassee. Our program directors and coaches are experienced music educators and professional musicians. Through a wide range of programs, TYO significantly broadens the availability and quality of music education for young students. TYO ensures these opportunities are available to all students through a need-based scholarship program. TYO is also dedicated to serving the community and building future classical music audiences by providing 10 free high-quality musical performances each year. In 2022-2023, 23% of our audiences were from outside Leon County.*

**FY24CG- The Tallahassee Community Chorus, Inc. 3 \$24,000**  
**12**

*The Tallahassee Community Chorus is a volunteer non-auditioned, mixed choral ensemble of 200+ singers performing under the baton of Artistic Director, Dr. Michael Hanawalt. Chorus membership is diverse, ranging in age from high school to octogenarians, representing all ranges of musical ability and diversity and coming from all over the Big Bend area, South Georgia and South Alabama. The Chorus also performs nationally and internationally, having performed at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts, and in Beijing, Prague, Paris, Rome, the Vatican and Ireland. The Chorus has received national recognition for performance and arts marketing (2017 American Prize awards). The 2023-2024 concert season marks our 36th year of filling Tallahassee with song! Live programming is at the heart of our mission, which is to present residents of Leon and the surrounding counties with live concerts of choral masterworks of the highest caliber. The 2023-24 season will run from August 2023 to April 2024 and consists of three concerts, each featuring major choral works with orchestra. All three concerts will be performed in the Ruby Diamond Concert Hall at Florida State University. We will also continue our partnership with the choral department at the FSU College of Music for their annual Seasonal Celebration concert in December 2023.*

**FY24CG- The Artist Series of Tallahassee, Inc 3 \$22,000**  
**13**

*The Artist Series of Tallahassee is requesting funds for the 2023-24 concert season. We select world class, professional musicians to play our series so that Tallahassee and North Florida patrons get to experience excellent, classical chamber music that they might only be able to hear if they lived in larger cities such as San Francisco or New York City. Six public concerts, two Artist in Residence programs, eight elementary and middle schools, one retirement facility, and one master class with FSU/FAMU music students. All events and workshops held in conjunction with the Artist-in-Residence program are free.*

**FY24CG- Making Light Productions 3 \$40,000**  
**14**

*Making Light Productions' theatre program exemplifies Making Light's mission: To provide the highest quality performing arts education to kids of all abilities – and jobs to teens and adults with disabilities. MLP's theatre program has two distinct divisions: Our inclusive youth theatre education program, which represents the majority of our programming, and serves ages 4 to young adult, with seven different theatre groups.*

*Tallahassee Children’s Theatre at MLP, which stages productions exclusively for young audiences and provides jobs for teens and adults with disabilities.*

**FY24CG- Theater with a Mission Inc 3 \$15,680**  
**15**

*Florida's Capital has a secret that is way too well-kept: "Tallahassee turns 200 in 2024!" Theater with a Mission (TWAM) wants to bring this Bicentennial to life. We plan to blow the lid off the secret and get school kids, senior citizens, college students, history buffs, foodies, families, church groups, dance aficionados, festival lovers, and theater fans all actively involved in exploring Territorial Florida firsthand. Connecting people with Florida’s multicultural past can transform the way we live today. That transformation is our passion, our dramatic mission. So we are poised to create a pair of plays that turn this historic milestone into an artistic lodestone for attracting tourists, building civic pride, strengthening community connections, and involving a wide range of tourists and residents in Tallahassee’s Two-Hundredth.*

**FY24CG- Southern Shakespeare Company 3 \$40,000**  
**16**

*SSC is seeking support funding for a 2023 production of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare: Abridged (Cultural Grant from allocated county funds) and our 2024 Free Shakespeare in the Park Festival (Community Grant from allocated city funds). SSC offers signature events showcasing the world-renowned work of Shakespeare and we are excited for the opportunity to partner with COCA once again as we continue to uphold our mission and support the arts throughout Tallahassee.*

**FY24CG- Arts and Cultural Experiences at Railroad Square 3 \$8,460**  
**17**

*First Fridays is ACERS’ premier event that draws patronage to the creative small businesses within Railroad Square. Offering enjoyable experiences with open galleries and creative microbusinesses, live music and performances, family-focused crafting opportunities, and an ethnically diverse selection of food, this event offers a unique cultural experience while empowering small creative businesses and fostering a unique community of its own. The free media publicity this event attracts has helped to spread greater awareness of Railroad Square Art District and Southside Tallahassee in general, offering a positive and attractive opportunity to highlight this part of the City as a destination.*

**FY24CG- Choice Impact Community Development 3 \$2,700**  
**18 Corporation**

*The Arts-in-the-Heart concert season will include four concerts during the 2023-24 season. Inviting these to Tallahassee 4 artists allows students to see themselves as future Black classical artists. Additionally, in February 2024, Javacya alumni from around the United States will come home and play with the Javacya Elite Chamber Orchestra for our annual Black History concert. The event will be the first alumni gathering. The final concert is the 2024 Annual Music Fest.*

**FY24CG- The Tallahassee Bach Parley, Inc. 3 \$23,091**  
**19**

*The French word “parley” means discussion; a vital element of each concert is the commentary by our Music Director, which provides historical context for the composers and compositions and offers suggestions about*

*what to listen for in the music. These conversational remarks create a relaxed concert atmosphere and bridge the gap that often exists between the audience and the performers. Our enthusiasm for this repertoire is contagious and draws people in. The audience experience combines entertainment, education, and a family-like community. In the 2023–2024 season, we plan to present three main series performances with open dress rehearsals Saturdays and concerts on Sundays, both at 3:00 PM at St. John’s Episcopal Church, on these dates: November 11 & 12, 2023 February 3 & 4, 2024 June 1 & 2, 2024 We will also present twelve Friday noontime “Bach’s Lunch” concerts, a new program to encourage donations to our need-based scholarship fund for the Bach Parley String Academy.*

**FY24CG- Florida Litfest, Inc. 3 \$9,000**  
**20**

*The Florida Litfest Author Series is grounded in literature to our community and continuing to grow Tallahassee’s reputation as a hub of literary activity. The author series includes four author events planned to take place between October 2023 and September 2024. The current list of authors we plan to invite includes an African American fiction author, an LGBTQ-oriented author, and a woman author who writes about music.*

**FY24CG- 621 Gallery Inc. 3 \$11,549**  
**21**

*Funding is requested for the purchase of supplies needed to produce exhibitions, outside services, partnerships and printed material aimed at improving accessibility. This aid will promote and produce a high-quality Exhibition Season. Funds requested for marketing are specifically targeting populations inside Tallahassee. During the grant period 621 Gallery will produce 24 Exhibitions. Each month’s exhibition will be accompanied by a digital artist talk (interview) and a public opening. Advertisement and supportive exhibit material will be produced to aid in viewer experience. Each exhibition will also receive marketing both online and in print. We will continue our regular monthly programming and critical exhibition season. In August 2023, the board, staff, and members of the public will meet to decide on the upcoming exhibition artists.*

**FY24CG- EnhanceAbility 3 \$13,414**  
**22**

*As one of the largest spaces in Railroad Square with almost 2000 square feet, we act as an anchor attraction in the Railroad Square Art District. As such, we believe that we have the potential to have a greater impact on the community and tourism with improved programming, marketing, offerings, and manpower, but have been limited by funding. We are requesting funding for the marketing and implementation of workshops, events, and exhibitions that are designed to be accessible to people with disabilities and website rebuild. Our program is open daily to people of all ages and abilities and is free of charge.*

**FY24CG- Goodwood Museum and Gardens, Inc. 2 \$90,000**  
**23**

*As a museum without walls, Goodwood welcomes local, national, and international visitors to explore north Florida’s past and experience its present. Goodwood offers visitors a wide range opportunities to explore the grounds, tour the Main House, enjoy creative performances, participate in wellness and educational activities, and engage online. Funding for interpretation and wayfinding signage, stewardship of the historic property, staffing, artists, production expenses, and marketing will make it possible for Goodwood to continue to offer historical, educational, and cultural arts programming to visitors from near and far.*

<b>FY24CG- 24</b>	<b>The Tallahassee Ballet, Inc.</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>
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*TTB seeks funding to support its 2023-2024 Season performances and programming. TTB will develop and implement four productions with 14 performances, host auditions for national companies, and hold a Summer Intensive to attract tourists to Leon County.*

<b>FY24CG- 25</b>	<b>LeMoyne Art Foundation, Inc.</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$76,949</b>
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*A regular schedule of gallery exhibits and ancillary event programming is at the heart of LeMoyne Art Foundation’s mission. Programs promoting the exhibits include receptions and may also include related workshops, gallery talks, artist-led tours of their exhibits, and special performances. The gallery has extended hours on opening nights and for some of the supporting events. These activities promote education, participation and appreciation of the visual arts, while creating community through art.*

<b>FY24CG- 26</b>	<b>Tallahassee Little Theatre Inc</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$50,700</b>
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*Theatre Tallahassee’s production season is at the heart of the mission. Creating educational and inspiring productions is not only stated in the mission but fulfills the other objectives of the mission through the productions, providing experience for production teams and promoting an understanding of literary and dramatic arts. The 2023-24 Season will include six plays performed on the Mainstage and two in the Studio Theatre. The shows include classics to new releases.*

<b>FY24CG- 27</b>	<b>Young Actors Theatre of Tallahassee, Inc.</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>
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*Since 1975, Young Actors Theatre has been on a mission to inspire children and the greater community through the magic of the performing arts. The purpose of the organization is to provide excellent training in music, drama, and dance, as well as professional-quality theatrical performances, to audiences in Florida and beyond. Our proposal is critical to fulfilling our organizational mission. The scope of the program is the Mainstage season from November 2023-July 2024, as well as Touring Troupe rehearsals and performances from September 2023-July 2024. The productions and community performances will be professional-quality shows, performed by students of Young Actors.*

<b>FY24CG- 28</b>	<b>Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, Inc.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$156,636</b>
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*The TSO’s Concert Series consists of a wide variety of musical offerings, both classical and popular, in indoor and outdoor arenas, geared toward diverse audiences of adults, children, families, and curious experience-seekers. In the 2023-24 season we will present a minimum of 18 concerts. We seek COCA grant funding to support 17 of these events (we are omitting the one Harry Potter in Concert show that occurs on September 30, 2023). Among them are 5 Classics concerts (one of which is repeated), 2 Holiday Cirque de la Symphonie shows, 3 Young People’s Concerts, 2 performances of Handel’s Messiah, a free Halloween Spooktacular event, a Beatles Revival show titled “Classical Mystery Tour” in partnership with Opening Nights, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone in Concert (film with live orchestra playing the music score), and a Florida Emancipation Day concert. We also seek funding to support our educational and community engagement initiatives—our free*



after school string program at Sabal Palm Elementary School and the Mina String Quartet, who present STEAM-based educational programs in public schools.

**FY24CG- Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural 1 \$200,000**  
**29 Science, Inc.**

*Combined with the Museum's cooperative relationships and active leadership, this proposal will inspire people to transform their lives, community, and the world through an enhanced understanding of our region's natural and cultural environments. The scope of our program follows, and their timelines will occur continually over 362 days, seven days a week, and 8 hours/day. Many Museum programs now happen after the Museum's regular operating hours, with night-time activities such as tours, cultural events, sleepovers, and night zips. The Museum collects, preserves, and conserves historic artifacts, live animals, and natural science specimens. These collections are used to develop exhibits and programs, can be accessed online, and serve as invaluable resources for scholarly research in local, state, and regional natural and cultural history.*

**FY24CG- Florida State University 1 \$89,000**  
**30**

*The Challenger Learning Center has very limited space and ability to rotate new exhibits through our exhibit hall. Our main exhibit area currently includes a satellite map of Florida that is roughly 40 ft tall by 40 ft wide. The map was installed when the center opened more than 20 years ago. It is now faded and peeling – as well as the satellite image view of our state is no longer accurate and would be quite costly to replace with another static image that will soon become outdated again. We have an unique opportunity to convert this large, vertical exhibit space into a digital display of fresh, up to date STEAM content that can be updated as frequently as desired. This exhibit will be used to provide supplemental content and imagery to support our current educational offerings as well as creating new highly inspirational programming for both our students and the general public.*

**FY24CG- Opening Nights at Florida State University 1 \$15,000**  
**31**

*Opening Nights at Florida State University requests grant funds to support its 2023-2024 Season. As part of the 2023-2024 Season, Opening Nights will present 28 individual performances, beginning in October. These artists were selected to entertain, inspire, and to draw people to our community from all over the State of Florida and the surrounding region. The artists include Mary Chapin Carpenter and Shawn Colvin (Oct 1), Ranky Tanky (Oct 5), Adele Myers and Dancers (Oct 12), Gipsy Kings (Oct 20), Hot Club of Cowtown (Oct 26), Broadway's Next Hit Musical (Nov 1), Della Mae (Nov 7), MacMaster & Leahy Celtic Family Christmas (Dec 7), Elvis Costello (Jan 10), Jesse Cook (Jan 11), Musicum Delirium (Jan 18), Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson (Jan 24), Sons of Serendip (Feb 1), The Simon & Garfunkel Story (Feb 7), PRISM. (Feb 11), The Vienna Boys Choir (Feb 12), Complexions Contemporary Ballet (Feb 14), Classical Mystery Tour with TSO (Feb 17), Ruthie Foster (Feb 29), Pink Martini (Mar 4), Jazz at Lincoln Center (Mar 7), Mandy Patinkin (Mar 9), Jesmyn Ward (Mar 18), Damn Tall Buildings (Mar 21), Terence Blanchard and the E-Collective with Turtle Island Quartet (April 5), Dean Mitchell - LeMoyne Arts (April 18), Rising Appalachia (April 27), Indigo Girls (May 1).*

**Total \$1,214,645**

### Marketing Grant Program - Program Purpose

The Cultural Tourism Marketing Grant Program is designed to increase the visibility and awareness of Leon County’s arts and cultural organizations and their programming, to those outside of the County. Marketing initiatives should highlight our vibrant and diverse cultural community and seek to attract visitors. For the purposes of this grant, organizations will need to specify marketing and promotional initiatives which use media outlets or strategies that are not primarily focused on the local Tallahassee/Leon County market. Use of these grant funds should raise the overall awareness of Leon County as a desirable place to visit.

Application Summary	Award Summary
31 applications received	19 applicants funded at 100%
All applications reviewed by COCA Grants Manager and Executive Director	8 applicants funded at 90%
Eligibility verified by Director of Tourism	3 applicants funded at 80%
2 applications deemed ineligible for TDT funds; 1 application accepted with revisions; 1 application withdrawn	0 applicants not funded
30 eligible applications reviewed by panel	30 awards totalling 81,917

Marketing Grant			
#	Organization Name	Group	Amended Marketing Grant Request

**FY24CTMG-01 Ayoka Afrikan Drum and Dance, Inc. 4 \$3,000**

*“It’s Ayoka for Me!” programming allows us to foster and promote a learning community around Afrikan traditions’ cultural values, principles, and customs throughout the year, creating spaces for artistic development and expression while establishing networks of learning and cultural exchange. Special emphasis on programs for children in underserved communities and elderly in community centers underscores our aim of fostering relationships and facilitating engagement.*

**FY24CTMG-02 Tallahassee Film Society 4 \$3,000**

*The Tallahassee Film Society (TFS) celebrates film as a richly unique creative art by presenting high-quality works that entertain, educate, and inspire audience members. TFS believes in film’s unique power to share original stories, diverse perspectives, and rich emotional journeys. By welcoming different voices to the screen, TFS shows that we speak one language, which is film. TFS is excited to present “Reels on the Rails: Restart!” for FY24, which fulfills the mission of our organization. We are adding the word “Restart!” to our annual programming title to let the community know that in-person programming has resumed and to dovetail with the “Restart the Arts!” campaign being promoted in Tallahassee by COCA. Reels on the Rails describes TFS programming of excellent movies that may not otherwise be shown in Tallahassee, fostering greater awareness of film as a relevant art form, promoting cultural diversity with many different themes, and creating year-round programming for residents (and their guests when visitors come to town.)*

**FY24CTMG-03 Tallahassee Hispanic Theater 4 \$2,500**

*THT is requesting funds for the production of its Sixth Annual Micro Theater Festival in the Summer of 2024. This event, which involves the presentation of five Hispanic plays, and Hispanic music and food, demonstrates the core of the group's mission: bringing Hispanic culture for the education and enrichment of the community while building cross-cultural awareness.*

**FY24CTMG-04 BIG BEND FILIPINO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION, INC. 4 \$360**

*The Filipino Town Festival (also known as Pista sa Nayon) is a cultural event that showcases the Filipino culture. It hosted its 10th annual event last November 5, 2022. Each year, this event is sponsored by the Big Bend Filipino-American Association, Inc., which is a non-profit organization in the Big Bend area of Florida. This cultural event features Filipino culture and traditions, Filipino cuisine, music, and a fashion show demonstrating traditional attire from the Philippines. Local food vendors, such as Real Sarap, Filipiniana Philippine Cafe, and Chef Adobo, feature cuisine from the Philippines.*

**FY24CTMG-05 Tallahassee Civic Chorale, Inc, 4 \$2,700**

*Scheduled for 2023/24, the season represents a festival of composer/arranger Dan Forrest's many contributions to the holiday song book, a celebration of women as composers and songwriters, and a music showcase featuring local talent. The appeal of this is very widespread, and is intended to continue Leon County's reputation as a regional destination for quality and popular music.*

**FY24CTMG-06 Tallahassee Chapter, SPEBSQSA 4 \$2,700**

*Our mission is to promote and encourage the unique art of barbershop harmony singing in Tallahassee, Leon County and the Big Bend-South Georgia region by presenting a performance year with Valentine Serenades on February 14th, elaborate annual shows in June Holiday shows in December and fresh gospel shows throughout the year.*

**FY24CTMG-07 USA Dance, Inc 4 \$2,400**

*The Florida Sunshine Dance, Symposium, and Challenge Competition (herein known as FL Sunshine Dance) for 2024, and a special Wine & Cheese Pair Social Dance Event. Both programs support the overall mission to promote and guide the growth of social ballroom dancing in the United States, by promoting healthful lifetime recreational activity, suitable for families and for those who are so inclined a progression to competitions are encouraged. USA Dance programs also include the support and establishment of chapters throughout the country, to educate, and provide training support at the regional and national levels.*

**FY24CTMG-08 Embrace World Cultures Inc 4 \$2,400**

*Fusion World Dance and Music Live Series VI is a unique theatrical program that embraces Embrace World Culture's mission of building and bridge of understanding and uniting nations through the arts. This ambitious project, culminating in mini shows, Masterclasses, workshops, a film, and a performance on August 10, 2024, at the TCC Auditorium, will involve months of careful planning and rehearsal. Beginning with auditions in early February 2024, followed by rigorous practice sessions and final technical rehearsals, the entire process ensures*

*a high-quality, professional-level production. A professionally edited video of the performance will be released later for wider access and archival purposes.*

**FY24CTMG-09 Mickee Faust Alternative Performance Club, Inc. 3 \$3,000**

*Mickee Faust is requesting funding to support our 36th Season of original programming, more specifically, our Spring '24 cabaret, our month-long June Queer as Faust XVII Festival that culminates with a Cabaret, and our free writing and performing workshops which continue throughout the year. Faust cabarets and workshops serve our goals to: create original alternative theater arising from our local community; create a role model for disability aspiration in theater as we continue to practice our 36-year-old "ethic of accommodation"; serve those who are underserved or overlooked, including people with disabilities, LGBT+ and those in reduced economic circumstances; attract local and out-of-town audiences by providing a focal point of alternative community fun and celebration in an economically undeveloped area in Tallahassee's Southside.*

**FY24CTMG-10 John Gilmore Riley Center/Museum for African American History and Culture Inc. 3 \$2,888**

*The mission of the John Gilmore Riley Center Museum Inc. (JGRCM) is to preserve the Riley House, promote historical and cultural preservation, and enrich lives through education, outreach, and advocacy. The relevance of this 4-part exhibit series aligns with the museum's mission by: (1) building awareness of the many and significant contributions of African Americans to Florida's history, (2) promoting tourism, domestically and internationally, (3) uncovering and presenting the untold stories of our past, (4) developing programs, initiatives, events and exhibits that both educate and inspire and (5) celebrating our shared/blended histories as Floridians. (b) We request funding for part three of a four-part Exhibit series project, "African Americans in Tallahassee - Part III: The World Wars and Post-War Life."*

**FY24CTMG-11 Tallahassee Youth Orchestras Inc 3 \$3,000**

*Tallahassee Youth Orchestras provides the only comprehensive pre-college orchestral experience within 150 miles of Tallahassee. Our program directors and coaches are experienced music educators and professional musicians. Through a wide range of programs, TYO significantly broadens the availability and quality of music education for young students. TYO ensures these opportunities are available to all students through a need-based scholarship program. TYO is also dedicated to serving the community and building future classical music audiences by providing 10 free high-quality musical performances each year. In 2022-2023, 23% of our audiences were from outside Leon County.*

**FY24CTMG-12 The Tallahassee Community Chorus, Inc. 3 \$3,000**

*The Tallahassee Community Chorus is a volunteer non-auditioned, mixed choral ensemble of 200+ singers performing under the baton of Artistic Director, Dr. Michael Hanawalt. Chorus membership is diverse, ranging in age from high school to octogenarians, representing all ranges of musical ability and diversity and coming from all over the Big Bend area, South Georgia and South Alabama. The Chorus also performs nationally and internationally, having performed at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts, and in Beijing, Prague, Paris, Rome, the Vatican and Ireland. The Chorus has received national recognition for performance and arts marketing (2017 American Prize awards). The 2023-2024 concert season marks our 36th year of filling Tallahassee with song! Live programming is at the heart of our mission, which is to present residents of Leon and the surrounding counties with live concerts of choral masterworks of the highest caliber.*

The 2023-24 season will run from August 2023 to April 2024 and consists of three concerts, each featuring major choral works with orchestra. All three concerts will be performed in the Ruby Diamond Concert Hall at Florida State University. We will also continue our partnership with the choral department at the FSU College of Music for their annual Seasonal Celebration concert in December 2023.

**FY24CTMG-13 The Artist Series of Tallahassee, Inc 3 \$3,000**

The Artist Series of Tallahassee is requesting funds for the 2023-24 concert season. We select world class, professional musicians to play our series so that Tallahassee and North Florida patrons get to experience excellent, classical chamber music that they might only be able to hear if they lived in larger cities such as San Francisco or New York City. Six public concerts, two Artist in Residence programs, eight elementary and middle schools, one retirement facility, and one master class with FSU/FAMU music students. All events and workshops held in conjunction with the Artist-in-Residence program are free.

**FY24CTMG-14 Theater with a Mission Inc 3 \$3,000**

Florida's Capital has a secret that is way too well-kept: "Tallahassee turns 200 in 2024!" Theater with a Mission (TWAM) wants to bring this Bicentennial to life. We plan to blow the lid off the secret and get school kids, senior citizens, college students, history buffs, foodies, families, church groups, dance aficionados, festival lovers, and theater fans all actively involved in exploring Territorial Florida firsthand. Connecting people with Florida's multicultural past can transform the way we live today. That transformation is our passion, our dramatic mission. So we are poised to create a pair of plays that turn this historic milestone into an artistic lodestone for attracting tourists, building civic pride, strengthening community connections, and involving a wide range of tourists and residents in Tallahassee's Two-Hundredth.

**FY24CTMG-15 Southern Shakespeare Company 3 \$3,000**

SSC is seeking support funding for a 2023 production of *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare: Abridged* (Cultural Grant from allocated county funds) and our 2024 *Free Shakespeare in the Park Festival* (Community Grant from allocated city funds). SSC offers signature events showcasing the world-renowned work of Shakespeare and we are excited for the opportunity to partner with COCA once again as we continue to uphold our mission and support the arts throughout Tallahassee.

**FY24CTMG-16 Arts and Cultural Experiences at Railroad Square 3 \$2,205**

First Fridays is ACERS' premier event that draws patronage to the creative small businesses within Railroad Square. Offering enjoyable experiences with open galleries and creative microbusinesses, live music and performances, family-focused crafting opportunities, and an ethnically diverse selection of food, this event offers a unique cultural experience while empowering small creative businesses and fostering a unique community of its own. The free media publicity this event attracts has helped to spread greater awareness of Railroad Square Art District and Southside Tallahassee in general, offering a positive and attractive opportunity to highlight this part of the City as a destination.

**FY24CTMG-17 Choice Impact Community Development Corporation 3 \$2,700**

The Arts-in-the-Heart concert season will include four concerts during the 2023-24 season. Inviting these to Tallahassee 4 artists allows students to see themselves as future Black classical artists. Additionally, in

February 2024, Javacya alumni from around the United States will come home and play with the Javacya Elite Chamber Orchestra for our annual Black History concert. The event will be the first alumni gathering. The final concert is the 2024 Annual Music Fest.

**FY24CTMG-18 The Tallahassee Bach Parley, Inc. 3 \$2,700**

The French word “parley” means discussion; a vital element of each concert is the commentary by our Music Director, which provides historical context for the composers and compositions and offers suggestions about what to listen for in the music. These conversational remarks create a relaxed concert atmosphere and bridge the gap that often exists between the audience and the performers. Our enthusiasm for this repertoire is contagious and draws people in. The audience experience combines entertainment, education, and a family-like community. In the 2023–2024 season, we plan to present three main series performances with open dress rehearsals Saturdays and concerts on Sundays, both at 3:00 PM at St. John’s Episcopal Church, on these dates: November 11 & 12, 2023 February 3 & 4, 2024 June 1 & 2, 2024 We will also present twelve Friday noontime “Bach’s Lunch” concerts, a new program to encourage donations to our need-based scholarship fund for the Bach Parley String Academy.

**FY24CTMG-19 621 Gallery Inc. 3 \$2,610**

Funding is requested for the purchase of supplies needed to produce exhibitions, outside services, partnerships and printed material aimed at improving accessibility. This aid will promote and produce a high-quality Exhibition Season. Funds requested for marketing are specifically targeting populations inside Tallahassee. During the grant period 621 Gallery will produce 24 Exhibitions. Each month's exhibition will be accompanied by a digital artist talk (interview) and a public opening. Advertisement and supportive exhibit material will be produced to aid in viewer experience. Each exhibition will also receive marketing both online and in print. We will continue our regular monthly programming and critical exhibition season. In August 2023, the board, staff, and members of the public will meet to decide on the upcoming exhibition artists.

**FY24CTMG-20 EnhanceAbility 3 \$2,700**

As one of the largest spaces in Railroad Square with almost 2000 square feet, we act as an anchor attraction in the Railroad Square Art District. As such, we believe that we have the potential to have a greater impact on the community and tourism with improved programming, marketing, offerings, and manpower, but have been limited by funding. We are requesting funding for the marketing and implementation of workshops, events, and exhibitions that are designed to be accessible to people with disabilities and website rebuild. Our program is open daily to people of all ages and abilities and is free of charge.

**FY24CTMG-21 Spring House Institute, Inc. 3 \$2,054**

Distribution of an attractive and informative brochure about Lewis Spring House at distinguished Frank Lloyd Wright-designed structures around the country will draw new visitors to Leon County and will increase income for and attention to the organizational mission of acquiring, preserving, and restoring the unique property. During the grant period Spring House Institute will acquire and mail 50 brochures, three times, to 40 Frank Lloyd Wright buildings in the United States that are open to the public.

**FY24CTMG-22 Goodwood Museum and Gardens, Inc. 2 \$3,000**

As a museum without walls, Goodwood welcomes local, national, and international visitors to explore north Florida’s past and experience its present. Goodwood offers visitors a wide range opportunities to explore the

grounds, tour the Main House, enjoy creative performances, participate in wellness and educational activities, and engage online. Funding for interpretation and wayfinding signage, stewardship of the historic property, staffing, artists, production expenses, and marketing will make it possible for Goodwood to continue to offer historical, educational, and cultural arts programming to visitors from near and far.

**FY24CTMG-23 The Tallahassee Ballet, Inc. 2 \$3,000**

*TTB seeks funding to support its 2023-2024 Season performances and programming. TTB will develop and implement four productions with 14 performances, host auditions for national companies, and hold a Summer Intensive to attract tourists to Leon County.*

**FY24CTMG-24 LeMoyne Art Foundation, Inc. 2 \$3,000**

*A regular schedule of gallery exhibits and ancillary event programming is at the heart of LeMoyne Art Foundation’s mission. Programs promoting the exhibits include receptions and may also include related workshops, gallery talks, artist-led tours of their exhibits, and special performances. The gallery has extended hours on opening nights and for some of the supporting events. These activities promote education, participation and appreciation of the visual arts, while creating community through art.*

**FY24CTMG-25 Tallahassee Little Theatre Inc 2 \$3,000**

*Theatre Tallahassee’s production season is at the heart of the mission. Creating educational and inspiring productions is not only stated in the mission but fulfills the other objectives of the mission through the productions, providing experience for production teams and promoting an understanding of literary and dramatic arts. The 2023-24 Season will include six plays performed on the Mainstage and two in the Studio Theatre. The shows include classics to new releases.*

**FY24CTMG-26 Young Actors Theatre of Tallahassee, Inc. 2 \$3,000**

*Since 1975, Young Actors Theatre has been on a mission to inspire children and the greater community through the magic of the performing arts. The purpose of the organization is to provide excellent training in music, drama, and dance, as well as professional-quality theatrical performances, to audiences in Florida and beyond. Our proposal is critical to fulfilling our organizational mission. The scope of the program is the Mainstage season from November 2023-July 2024, as well as Touring Troupe rehearsals and performances from September 2023-July 2024. The productions and community performances will be professional-quality shows, performed by students of Young Actors.*

**FY24CTMG-27 Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, Inc. 1 \$3,000**

*The TSO’s Concert Series consists of a wide variety of musical offerings, both classical and popular, in indoor and outdoor arenas, geared toward diverse audiences of adults, children, families, and curious experience-seekers. In the 2023-24 season we will present a minimum of 18 concerts. We seek COCA grant funding to support 17 of these events (we are omitting the one Harry Potter in Concert show that occurs on September 30, 2023). Among them are 5 Classics concerts (one of which is repeated), 2 Holiday Cirque de la Symphonie shows, 3 Young People’s Concerts, 2 performances of Handel’s Messiah, a free Halloween Spooktacular event, a Beatles Revival show titled “Classical Mystery Tour” in partnership with Opening Nights, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone in Concert (film with live orchestra playing the music score), and a Florida Emancipation Day concert. We also seek funding to support our educational and community engagement initiatives—our free*

after school string program at Sabal Palm Elementary School and the Mina String Quartet, who present STEAM-based educational programs in public schools.

**FY24CTMG-28 Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural Science, Inc. 1 \$3,000**

Combined with the Museum's cooperative relationships and active leadership, this proposal will inspire people to transform their lives, community, and the world through an enhanced understanding of our region's natural and cultural environments. The scope of our program follows, and their timelines will occur continually over 362 days, seven days a week, and 8 hours/day. Many Museum programs now happen after the Museum's regular operating hours, with night-time activities such as tours, cultural events, sleepovers, and night zips. The Museum collects, preserves, and conserves historic artifacts, live animals, and natural science specimens. These collections are used to develop exhibits and programs, can be accessed online, and serve as invaluable resources for scholarly research in local, state, and regional natural and cultural history.

**FY24CTMG-29 Florida State University 1 \$3,000**

The Challenger Learning Center has very limited space and ability to rotate new exhibits through our exhibit hall. Our main exhibit area currently includes a satellite map of Florida that is roughly 40 ft tall by 40 ft wide. The map was installed when the center opened more than 20 years ago. It is now faded and peeling – as well as the satellite image view of our state is no longer accurate and would be quite costly to replace with another static image that will soon become outdated again. We have an unique opportunity to convert this large, vertical exhibit space into a digital display of fresh, up to date STEAM content that can be updated as frequently as desired. This exhibit will be used to provide supplemental content and imagery to support our current educational offerings as well as creating new highly inspirational programming for both our students and the general public.

**FY24CTMG-30 Opening Nights at Florida State University 1 \$3,000**

Opening Nights at Florida State University requests grant funds to support its 2023-2024 Season. As part of the 2023-2024 Season, Opening Nights will present 28 individual performances, beginning in October. These artists were selected to entertain, inspire, and to draw people to our community from all over the State of Florida and the surrounding region. The artists include Mary Chapin Carpenter and Shawn Colvin (Oct 1), Ranky Tanky (Oct 5), Adele Myers and Dancers (Oct 12), Gipsy Kings (Oct 20), Hot Club of Cowtown (Oct 26), Broadway's Next Hit Musical (Nov 1), Della Mae (Nov 7), MacMaster & Leahy Celtic Family Christmas (Dec 7), Elvis Costello (Jan 10), Jesse Cook (Jan 11), Musicum Delirium (Jan 18), Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson (Jan 24), Sons of Serendip (Feb 1), The Simon & Garfunkel Story (Feb 7), PRISM. (Feb 11), The Vienna Boys Choir (Feb 12), Complexions Contemporary Ballet (Feb 14), Classical Mystery Tour with TSO (Feb 17), Ruthie Foster (Feb 29), Pink Martini (Mar 4), Jazz at Lincoln Center (Mar 7), Mandy Patinkin (Mar 9), Jesmyn Ward (Mar 18), Damn Tall Buildings (Mar 21), Terence Blanchard and the E-Collective with Turtle Island Quartet (April 5), Dean Mitchell - LeMoyne Arts (April 18), Rising Appalachia (April 27), Indigo Girls (May 1).

**Total \$81,917**



**Cultural Grant (Community) Program - Program Purpose**

COCA (Council on Culture & Arts) was appropriated a \$300,000 investment in the Cultural Grant Program from the City of Tallahassee for FY23. Until 2016, COCA received funding from the city for their Cultural Grant program. Since 2016, COCA’s grant awards have been funded exclusively through the Tourist Development Tax (TDT). Funding restrictions on TDT funds have excluded community-based arts and cultural programs. The appropriation from the city was made in September of 2022, after the Cultural Grant Program awards had been finalized. COCA continues to work with the City of Tallahassee to determine was funds, if any, will be available for the FY24 City Grant requests.

Application Summary	Award Summary
28 applications received	15 applicants funded at 100%
All applications reviewed by COCA Grants Manager and Executive Director	10 applicants funded at 90%
1 application deemed ineligible for COCA funds and withdrawn	2 applicants funded at 80%
27 eligible applications reviewed by panel	0 applicants not funded
	27 awards totalling 237,800

City Grant			
#	Organization Name	City Priority	Award

<b>FY24CG2-01</b>	<b>Tallahassee Youth Orchestras Inc</b>	<b>Underserved</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
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*Tallahassee Youth Orchestras provides the only comprehensive pre-college orchestral experience within 150 miles of Tallahassee. Our program directors and coaches are experienced music educators and professional musicians. Through a wide range of programs, TYO significantly broadens the availability and quality of music education for young students. TYO ensures these opportunities are available to all students through a need-based scholarship program. TYO is also dedicated to serving the community and building future classical music audiences by providing 10 free high-quality musical performances each year. In 2022-2023, 23% of our audiences were from outside Leon County.*

<b>FY24CG2-02</b>	<b>The Tallahassee Community Chorus, Inc.</b>	<b>Underserved</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
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*The Tallahassee Community Chorus is a volunteer non-auditioned, mixed choral ensemble of 200+ singers performing under the baton of Artistic Director, Dr. Michael Hanawalt. Chorus membership is diverse, ranging in age from high school to octogenarians, representing all ranges of musical ability and diversity and coming from all over the Big Bend area, South Georgia and South Alabama. The Chorus also performs nationally and internationally, having performed at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts, and in Beijing, Prague, Paris, Rome, the Vatican and Ireland. The Chorus has received national recognition for performance and arts marketing (2017 American Prize awards). The 2023-2024 concert season marks our 36th year of filling Tallahassee with song! Live programming is at the heart of our mission, which is to present residents of Leon and the surrounding counties with live concerts of choral masterworks of the highest caliber.*

The 2023-24 season will run from August 2023 to April 2024 and consists of three concerts, each featuring major choral works with orchestra. All three concerts will be performed in the Ruby Diamond Concert Hall at Florida State University. We will also continue our partnership with the choral department at the FSU College of Music for their annual Seasonal Celebration concert in December 2023.

**FY24CG2- PAS DE VIE, INC.+ TDT-ineligible, Underserved \$10,000  
03**

*In order to present noteworthy performances, Pas de Vie must ensure that our performance venue, lighting and sets are of the highest quality. This will allow students to present their best performances that will expose the community to the art of dance and inspire current and future dancers. Reimbursement of the requested expenses associated with rental of Lee Hall Auditorium for The Nutcracker will enable Pas de Vie to expand its offerings to reintroduce events and performances that have not be possible due to the losses incurred as a result of the pandemic. Pas de Vie plans to resume joint performances of Peter and the Wolf with the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, introducing local children and families to both ballet and symphonic performances.*

**FY24CG2- Ayoka Afrikan Drum and Dance, Inc.\* Underserved \$10,000  
04**

*“It’s Ayoka for Me!” programming allows us to foster and promote a learning community around Afrikan traditions’ cultural values, principles, and customs throughout the year, creating spaces for artistic development and expression while establishing networks of learning and cultural exchange. Special emphasis on programs for children in underserved communities and elderly in community centers underscores our aim of fostering relationships and facilitating engagement.*

**FY24CG2- The Artist Series of Tallahassee, Inc Underserved \$10,000  
05**

*The Artist Series of Tallahassee is requesting funds for the 2023-24 concert season. We select world class, professional musicians to play our series so that Tallahassee and North Florida patrons get to experience excellent, classical chamber music that they might only be able to hear if they lived in larger cities such as San Francisco or New York City. Six public concerts, two Artist in Residence programs, eight elementary and middle schools, one retirement facility, and one master class with FSU/FAMU music students. All events and workshops held in conjunction with the Artist-in-Residence program are free.*

**FY24CG2- Tallahassee Film Society Underserved \$10,000  
06**

*The Tallahassee Film Society (TFS) celebrates film as a richly unique creative art by presenting high-quality works that entertain, educate, and inspire audience members. TFS believes in film’s unique power to share original stories, diverse perspectives, and rich emotional journeys. By welcoming different voices to the screen, TFS shows that we speak one language, which is film. TFS is excited to present “Reels on the Rails: Restart!” for FY24, which fulfills the mission of our organization. We are adding the word “Restart!” to our annual programming title to let the community know that in-person programming has resumed and to dovetail with the “Restart the Arts!” campaign being promoted in Tallahassee by COCA. Reels on the Rails describes TFS programming of excellent movies that may not otherwise be shown in Tallahassee, fostering greater*

awareness of film as a relevant art form, promoting cultural diversity with many different themes, and creating year-round programming for residents (and their guests when visitors come to town.)

**FY24CG2- Tallahassee Hispanic Theater\* BIPOC, Underserved \$5,000  
07**

*THT is requesting funds for the production of its Sixth Annual Micro Theater Festival in the Summer of 2024. This event, which involves the presentation of five Hispanic plays, and Hispanic music and food, demonstrates the core of the group's mission: bringing Hispanic culture for the education and enrichment of the community while building cross-cultural awareness.*

**FY24CG2- Theater with a Mission Inc Underserved \$10,000  
08**

*Florida's Capital has a secret that is way too well-kept: "Tallahassee turns 200 in 2024!" Theater with a Mission (TWAM) wants to bring this Bicentennial to life. We plan to blow the lid off the secret and get school kids, senior citizens, college students, history buffs, foodies, families, church groups, dance aficionados, festival lovers, and theater fans all actively involved in exploring Territorial Florida firsthand. Connecting people with Florida's multicultural past can transform the way we live today. That transformation is our passion, our dramatic mission. So we are poised to create a pair of plays that turn this historic milestone into an artistic lodestone for attracting tourists, building civic pride, strengthening community connections, and involving a wide range of tourists and residents in Tallahassee's Two-Hundredth.*

**FY24CG2- Arts and Cultural Experiences at Railroad Square Underserved \$9,000  
09**

*First Fridays is ACERS' premier event that draws patronage to the creative small businesses within Railroad Square. Offering enjoyable experiences with open galleries and creative microbusinesses, live music and performances, family-focused crafting opportunities, and an ethnically diverse selection of food, this event offers a unique cultural experience while empowering small creative businesses and fostering a unique community of its own. The free media publicity this event attracts has helped to spread greater awareness of Railroad Square Art District and Southside Tallahassee in general, offering a positive and attractive opportunity to highlight this part of the City as a destination.*

**FY24CG2- BIG BEND FILIPINO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION, INC.\* BIPOC, Underserved \$9,000  
10**

*The Filipino Town Festival (also known as Pista sa Nayon) is a cultural event that showcases the Filipino culture. It hosted its 10th annual event last November 5, 2022. Each year, this event is sponsored by the Big Bend Filipino-American Association, Inc., which is a non-profit organization in the Big Bend area of Florida. This cultural event features Filipino culture and traditions, Filipino cuisine, music, and a fashion show demonstrating traditional attire from the Philippines. Local food vendors, such as Real Sarap, Filipiniana Philippine Cafe, and Chef Adobo, feature cuisine from the Philippines.*

**FY24CG2- Choice Impact Community Development BIPOC, Underserved \$9,000  
11 Corporation \***

*The Arts-in-the-Heart concert season will include four concerts during the 2023-24 season. Inviting these to Tallahassee 4 artists allows students to see themselves as future Black classical artists. Additionally, in*

February 2024, Javacya alumni from around the United States will come home and play with the Javacya Elite Chamber Orchestra for our annual Black History concert. The event will be the first alumni gathering. The final concert is the 2024 Annual Music Fest.

**FY24CG2- The Tallahassee Bach Parley, Inc. Underserved \$9,000**  
**12**

The French word “parley” means discussion; a vital element of each concert is the commentary by our Music Director, which provides historical context for the composers and compositions and offers suggestions about what to listen for in the music. These conversational remarks create a relaxed concert atmosphere and bridge the gap that often exists between the audience and the performers. Our enthusiasm for this repertoire is contagious and draws people in. The audience experience combines entertainment, education, and a family-like community. In the 2023–2024 season, we plan to present three main series performances with open dress rehearsals Saturdays and concerts on Sundays, both at 3:00 PM at St. John’s Episcopal Church, on these dates: November 11 & 12, 2023 February 3 & 4, 2024 June 1 & 2, 2024 We will also present twelve Friday noontime “Bach’s Lunch” concerts, a new program to encourage donations to our need-based scholarship fund for the Bach Parley String Academy.

**FY24CG2- 621 Gallery Inc.\* BIPOC, Underserved \$9,000**  
**13**

Funding is requested for the purchase of supplies needed to produce exhibitions, outside services, partnerships and printed material aimed at improving accessibility. This aid will promote and produce a high-quality Exhibition Season. Funds requested for marketing are specifically targeting populations inside Tallahassee. During the grant period 621 Gallery will produce 24 Exhibitions. Each month's exhibition will be accompanied by a digital artist talk (interview) and a public opening. Advertisement and supportive exhibit material will be produced to aid in viewer experience. Each exhibition will also receive marketing both online and in print. We will continue our regular monthly programming and critical exhibition season. In August 2023, the board, staff, and members of the public will meet to decide on the upcoming exhibition artists.

**FY24CG2- Enhance Ability ^ Underserved \$9,000**  
**14**

As one of the largest spaces in Railroad Square with almost 2000 square feet, we act as an anchor attraction in the Railroad Square Art District. As such, we believe that we have the potential to have a greater impact on the community and tourism with improved programming, marketing, offerings, and manpower, but have been limited by funding. We are requesting funding for the marketing and implementation of workshops, events, and exhibitions that are designed to be accessible to people with disabilities and website rebuild. Our program is open daily to people of all ages and abilities and is free of charge.

**FY24CG2- Tallahassee Civic Chorale, Inc, Underserved \$9,000**  
**15**

Scheduled for 2023/24, the season represents a festival of composer/arranger Dan Forrest's many contributions to the holiday song book, a celebration of women as composers and songwriters, and a music showcase featuring local talent. The appeal of this is very widespread, and is intended to continue Leon County's reputation as a regional destination for quality and popular music.

<b>FY24CG2- 16</b>	<b>Cool Breeze Art and Smooth Jazz Festival Railroad Square, Inc.*</b>	<b>BIPOC, TDT-ineligible, Underserved</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
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*The program is a series of Music Enrichment Cultural Workshops held in conjunction with Teenpreneur Foundation designed to afford inner-city youth instruction and participatory experience in instrumental music theory, composition, business ownership, and performance, instilling personal cultural pride through music enrichment and jazz appreciation. The scope or planned program activities consists of yearly youth music clinic/workshops focusing on American music history and the evolution of music from the past to today with a core skills set focus on the business of music and entrepreneurship.*

<b>FY24CG2- 17</b>	<b>Florida State Fiddlers Association</b>	<b>TDT-ineligible, Underserved</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
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*The Florida Youth Jam initiative is central to our mission of promoting traditional fiddle music in Florida. The Tallahassee Youth Jam is serving as a pilot program for this project which we hope will eventually be offered across the entire state of Florida. The Tallahassee Youth Jam will offer free bi-weekly workshops, teaching traditional music associated with our region (old time, bluegrass and Celtic music) to area youth. Instructors will be recognized tradition bearers and trained educators.*

<b>FY24CG2- 18</b>	<b>USA Dance, Inc</b>	<b>Underserved</b>	<b>\$6,800</b>
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*The Florida Sunshine Dance, Symposium, and Challenge Competition (herein known as FL Sunshine Dance) for 2024, and a special Wine & Cheese Pair Social Dance Event. Both programs support the overall mission to promote and guide the growth of social ballroom dancing in the United States, by promoting healthful lifetime recreational activity, suitable for families and for those who are so inclined a progression to competitions are encouraged. USA Dance programs also include the support and establishment of chapters throughout the country, to educate, and provide training support at the regional and national levels.*

<b>FY24CG2- 19</b>	<b>Embrace World Cultures Inc+</b>	<b>Underserved</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
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*Fusion World Dance and Music Live Series VI is a unique theatrical program that embraces Embrace World Culture's mission of building and bridge of understanding and uniting nations through the arts. This ambitious project, culminating in mini shows, Masterclasses, workshops, a film, and a performance on August 10, 2024, at the TCC Auditorium, will involve months of careful planning and rehearsal. Beginning with auditions in early February 2024, followed by rigorous practice sessions and final technical rehearsals, the entire process ensures a high-quality, professional-level production. A professionally edited video of the performance will be released later for wider access and archival purposes.*

<b>FY24CG2- 20</b>	<b>Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, Inc.</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
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*The TSO's Concert Series consists of a wide variety of musical offerings, both classical and popular, in indoor and outdoor arenas, geared toward diverse audiences of adults, children, families, and curious experience-seekers. In the 2023-24 season we will present a minimum of 18 concerts. We seek COCA grant funding to support 17 of these events (we are omitting the one Harry Potter in Concert show that occurs on September 30, 2023). Among them are 5 Classics concerts (one of which is repeated), 2 Holiday Cirque de la Symphonie shows, 3 Young People's Concerts, 2 performances of Handel's Messiah, a free Halloween Spooktacular event,*

a Beatles Revival show titled “Classical Mystery Tour” in partnership with Opening Nights, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone in Concert (film with live orchestra playing the music score), and a Florida Emancipation Day concert. We also seek funding to support our educational and community engagement initiatives—our free after school string program at Sabal Palm Elementary School and the Mina String Quartet, who present STEAM-based educational programs in public schools.

**FY24CG2- Goodwood Museum and Gardens, Inc. No \$10,000**  
**21**

*As a museum without walls, Goodwood welcomes local, national, and international visitors to explore north Florida’s past and experience its present. Goodwood offers visitors a wide range opportunities to explore the grounds, tour the Main House, enjoy creative performances, participate in wellness and educational activities, and engage online. Funding for interpretation and wayfinding signage, stewardship of the historic property, staffing, artists, production expenses, and marketing will make it possible for Goodwood to continue to offer historical, educational, and cultural arts programming to visitors from near and far.*

**FY24CG2- The Tallahassee Ballet, Inc. No \$10,000**  
**22**

*TTB seeks funding to support its 2023-2024 Season performances and programming. TTB will develop and implement four productions with 14 performances, host auditions for national companies, and hold a Summer Intensive to attract tourists to Leon County.*

**FY24CG2- Tallahassee Little Theatre Inc No \$10,000**  
**23**

*Theatre Tallahassee’s production season is at the heart of the mission. Creating educational and inspiring productions is not only stated in the mission but fulfills the other objectives of the mission through the productions, providing experience for production teams and promoting an understanding of literary and dramatic arts. The 2023-24 Season will include six plays performed on the Mainstage and two in the Studio Theatre. The shows include classics to new releases.*

**FY24CG2- Young Actors Theatre of Tallahassee, Inc. No \$10,000**  
**24**

*Since 1975, Young Actors Theatre has been on a mission to inspire children and the greater community through the magic of the performing arts. The purpose of the organization is to provide excellent training in music, drama, and dance, as well as professional-quality theatrical performances, to audiences in Florida and beyond. Our proposal is critical to fulfilling our organizational mission. The scope of the program is the Mainstage season from November 2023-July 2024, as well as Touring Troupe rehearsals and performances from September 2023-July 2024. The productions and community performances will be professional-quality shows, performed by students of Young Actors.*

**FY24CG2- Opening Nights at Florida State University No \$10,000**  
**25**

*Opening Nights at Florida State University requests grant funds to support its 2023-2024 Season. As part of the 2023-2024 Season, Opening Nights will present 28 individual performances, beginning in October. These artists were selected to entertain, inspire, and to draw people to our community from all over the State of*

Florida and the surrounding region. The artists include Mary Chapin Carpenter and Shawn Colvin (Oct 1), Ranky Tanky (Oct 5), Adele Myers and Dancers (Oct 12), Gipsy Kings (Oct 20), Hot Club of Cowtown (Oct 26), Broadway's Next Hit Musical (Nov 1), Della Mae (Nov 7), MacMaster & Leahy Celtic Family Christmas (Dec 7), Elvis Costello (Jan 10), Jesse Cook (Jan 11), Musicum Delirium (Jan 18), Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson (Jan 24), Sons of Serendip (Feb 1), The Simon & Garfunkel Story (Feb 7), PRISM. (Feb 11), The Vienna Boys Choir (Feb 12), Complexions Contemporary Ballet (Feb 14), Classical Mystery Tour with TSO (Feb 17), Ruthie Foster (Feb 29), Pink Martini (Mar 4), Jazz at Lincoln Center (Mar 7), Mandy Patinkin (Mar 9), Jesmyn Ward (Mar 18), Damn Tall Buildings (Mar 21), Terence Blanchard and the E-Collective with Turtle Island Quartet (April 5), Dean Mitchell - LeMoyne Arts (April 18), Rising Appalachia (April 27), Indigo Girls (May 1).

<b>FY24CG2- 26</b>	<b>Southern Shakespeare Company</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
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SSC is seeking support funding for a 2023 production of *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare: Abridged* (Cultural Grant from allocated county funds) and our 2024 *Free Shakespeare in the Park Festival* (Community Grant from allocated city funds). SSC offers signature events showcasing the world-renowned work of Shakespeare and we are excited for the opportunity to partner with COCA once again as we continue to uphold our mission and support the arts throughout Tallahassee.

<b>FY24CG2- 27</b>	<b>Florida Litfest, Inc.</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
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The Florida Litfest Author Series is grounded in literature to our community and continuing to grow Tallahassee's reputation as a hub of literary activity. The author series includes four author events planned to take place between October 2023 and September 2024. The current list of authors we plan to invite includes an African American fiction author, an LGBTQ-oriented author, and a woman author who writes about music.

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$237,800</b>
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