



Post Arts Veto Advocacy Sample Letter

Please feel free to use this letter to advocate for the restoration of art funding in the 2025 Florida state budget.

We have inserted a link allowing you to find your state representatives so that you can send the letter directly to them.

Use these tips to ensure your letter will be read:

1. Personalize your letter for the most impact and persuasion. Explain how the issue affects you, your organization, or your community. Include specific examples, such as: *We are now cutting an education position and are unable to offer arts education to children from Community Elementary.*
2. Please maintain respect and civility in your communications. We all respond best when we are treated with courtesy and respect.
3. Personalize your relationship: Indicate if you have ever voted for them, met them, supported their election campaign, etc. The letter may be more effective if the politician feels closer to you.
4. If you are emailing this letter, please cc their aides, as well. (Emails for all linked [here](#)).

Contact Your State Representatives (House and Senate):

Inform them about the importance of arts funding for you and your community. Share your personal experiences with your organization. Find your representative [here](#).

402 South Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear

I'm writing to you as a citizen and supporter of the arts, and as a voter living in

As such, I am asking you to support continued appropriations for the Arts and Culture grant funding through the Department of State in the 2026 state budget.

Our nonprofit arts and cultural community relies on State funding to thrive and continue supporting the wellbeing, education, and civic engagement of our patrons. The pandemic devastated the arts community, leading to the loss of arts activities for families, students, and community members across all ages and socio-economic levels. Three years later, these opportunities to engage with the arts to enrich our lives are slowly, but have not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels. Thousands of people in my community remain unable to enjoy the arts because of these cuts, I ask that you reinstate full funding to the Arts and Cultural line items.

Impact of the vetoes on your life as an arts advocate or artist

In Pinellas County, the arts and cultural sector generated \$294.7 million in economic activity during 2022, supported 4,528 jobs, provided \$185.3 million in personal income to residents, and generated **\$58.9 million in tax revenue to local, state, and federal governments.**

- The arts improve academic performance: Students engaged in art activities report higher grades and engagement.
- The arts improve healthcare: Nearly one-half of our nation's healthcare facilities include the arts as part of their healing process.
- The arts drive tourism: Nearly 1 in 4 visitors to Pinellas County participate in an arts experience while they are here.

I ask that you vote for future arts funding for Pinellas County's cultural institutions in the 2026 budget.

To fully fund Pinellas County's Culture Builds Florida Grant at the 2024 level, \$4,030,098 must be appropriated.

To fully fund Pinellas County's Cultural Facilities Grant at the 2024 level, \$14,095,214 must be appropriated.

To fully fund Pinellas County's Cultural Endowment at the 2024 level, \$960,000 must be appropriated.

I ask that you stand strong to represent our arts and cultural community in Pinellas County. Arts and culture is more than food for the soul. It also puts food on the table, attracts new businesses, brings in tourism revenue (1 in 4 visitors enjoys an arts experience during their visit) , encourages residential growth, and contributes to the expansion of our County's economy.

While I am focused primarily on Pinellas County, I ask that you look at how the arts uplifts the entire state's growth, and vow to continue funding the 864 statewide arts and cultural organizations whose recommended funding was vetoed.

I ask that you join our community in advocating for the upcoming Division of Arts and Culture funding request.

Thank you for your past and continued support.

Sincerely,

Name