

ADVOCACY ALERT

Funding for Division of Cultural Affairs is Reinstated

Latest news from Sherron Long at the Florida Cultural Alliance is that the **arts, cultural and historical grant lines are back in the budget, even though severely cut**. This funding will help preserve the Division of Cultural Affairs and our state's commitment to arts and culture. Please take the time to thank the legislators listed below - your voices were heard!

From Sherron Long:

As you know, both the Senate and the House had recommended zero funding last night for arts and cultural grants. They changed their minds this evening. The House Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Budget Conference members changed its zero recommendation from last night to:

*\$1 million for Cultural & Museum Grants
\$200,000 for Historical Preservation Grants.*

This evening, the Senate also agreed to accept these budget recommendations for the state's FY 2009-2010 budget.

Even though these are modest amounts, we're still in the state budget. We can build from these amounts in the future when the economy begins to turn around. Many people, including you, have worked hard to keep arts, cultural, humanities, and historical grants funding in the state budget -- THANK YOU.

Please take some time now to quickly e-mail the members of the Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Budget

Conference a thank you for keeping these line items funded in the state's FY 2009-2010 state budget. The members are listed below.

The legislature is working now to finalize the FY 2009-2010 state budget, and it should be available for your review this coming Monday or Tuesday. We'll let you know when it is posted on the Web and if there are changes you need to be aware of that deal with our issues.

We'll send you an update on Monday, May 4, with greater details about the state budget and the bills we're tracking.

Again, many thanks to all of you for your tireless advocacy efforts.

Members of the Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Budget Conference Committee:

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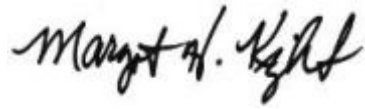
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Thank you for your advocacy efforts.
Your voice *does* make a difference.



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