



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1580

1. Project Title
2. Senate Sponsor
3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

DANB will break ground on a new center for the arts in late summer 2024 on a 5.61-acre parcel of vacant land centrally located in Alachua County northwest of downtown Gainesville, within easy access to I-75. The facility will allow for dance and music to flourish and grow in the North Central region of Florida by providing a new performance venue and music and dance studios for professional and student artists and musicians. The anticipated completion date is summer 2026.

Level Architecture + Design has designed a building with an enclosed footprint of 22,422 square feet that will include: 3 dance studios; 3 music rooms for teaching and rehearsing; a 200-seat black box theater; dressing rooms and a green room; set and costume storage; an art gallery corridor; physical therapy (PT) room; and bathrooms and offices.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	7,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	7,000,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	7,000,000	88%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	1,000,000	12%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	8,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? No
- a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Florida Cares - \$2,056 used for general program support (operations)
 Florida ARP - \$4,300 used for general program support (operations)
 Paycheck Protection Program - \$168,220 for employee salaries during COVID-related closures and business loss.
 Employee retention credit - \$36,365 for retaining employees during COVID-related business loss.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. 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?

12. 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.

Dance Alive, Inc. d/b/a Dance Alive National Ballet is the owner of the facility and the entity submitting the Local Funding Initiative Request.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Dance Alive Ballet Center for the Arts, a 22,000 sq. ft. building designed by Architect James Blythe of Level Designs will house 3 dance studios, 3 music studios, an art gallery, sculpture area, a black box theatre, and the necessary support spaces.	7,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		7,000,000

14. Program Performance



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

The specific purpose of the requested funds is to construct a center for the arts in North Central Florida. To accommodate the area's growing needs, the center will increase capacity for music and dance instruction and serve as a new performance and event venue. It will be a place for aspiring musicians and dancers to receive high quality professional level instruction in a supportive and encouraging environment, regardless of economic or social condition.

The center will have an enclosed footprint of 22,422 square feet that includes: 3 dance studios; 3 music rooms for teaching and rehearsing; a 200-seat black box theater; dressing rooms and a green room; set and costume storage; an art gallery corridor; physical therapy (PT) room; and bathrooms and offices.

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

Activities include training and rehearsing of both professional ballet dancers and expansion of educational programming for dance and music for students between the ages of 3 and 18. This includes private and small group music lessons, large and small group and private dance instruction, rehearsals, and public performances. Dance, music and other artistic presentations, including related conventions, can be held. Event rental space for small businesses will also be available.

Dance Alive will offer 3 - 4 ticketed studio performances each year, and the space will be available for other performing arts groups to rent for ticketed performances and events. The goal is to have 6 to 8 performance weekends (2 - 3 shows/weekend) in the first year, including DANB's. This is expected to double as operational capacity increases. Works from local and regional visual artists as well as nationally and internationally renowned visual artists will be displayed in the art gallery throughout the year.

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

Direct services include providing music studios for private and small group music lessons, dance studios for dance instruction, and rehearsal space for performance groups. The 200-seat black box theater will provide a venue for performing arts of all types, including musical acts, dance, theater, and miscellaneous activities such as poetry readings, literary conventions, and lectures/presentations on various subjects. Additionally, the art gallery will provide space for local artists to display their work for sale.

As a result of the enhanced performance and community activities, the Arts and Economic Prosperity Calculator estimates that this new facility will provide over \$3million in economic benefit to the North Central Florida region during its first full year of operations. This will in turn will provide the means to offer student scholarships to families and low-cost access to professional-level performances, thereby introducing the world of music and dance to a wider audience.

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

There are three target populations served by this project:

1. Families with children who would like to participate in dance and music instruction;
2. Audiences who enjoy attending performances of dance, music, theater, and other performing arts; and
3. Small performing arts organizations, groups, and individuals who will use the space for performances and presentations. Once fully operational, DANB will reach an estimated 12,000 individuals annually in the new facility. Roughly 75% of this will be from performance attendance, 15%-20% from outside performers, and 5%-10% students. This is in addition to the 30,000 currently served through performances at the Phillips Center, touring performances, and educational outreach.

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

The new black box theater will provide new and much needed performance space not only for DANB but other performance groups that seek smaller audience capacity at an affordable price. DANB will be able to provide dance instruction to twice as many students, offer scholarships for underserved youth to attend classes, and host more out-of-town students for two-week intensives. The increased revenue base will allow DANB to expand outreach efforts to underserved and poor youth to all North Central FL counties. There will also be economic benefit from ticket sales, tourism, and events. Based on forecasted expenses a year after opening, the Arts & Economic Prosperity Calculator estimates over \$3 million in an additional economic activity that will generate over \$2 million in additional household income, and over \$300,000 in local and state government revenue.

Ticket sales, audience and class sizes, and use by other groups will be the primary measures of successful outcomes.



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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 the contract?

Forfeiture of funds received and one year of ineligibility to receive grants from the contracting agency.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

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

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number