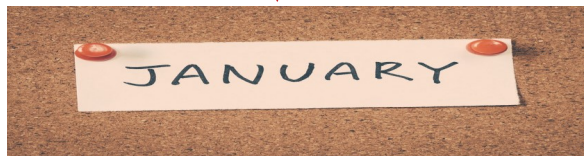


Suggested Action Steps for Florida Arts & Culture Advocates

throughout November 2018 — May 2019

Please pay

Attention Communicate Tell Your Stories



- 1 Review [effective ways to communicate](#) and build stronger relationships with [policymakers who represent your county's](#) interests at the local, state, and federal levels; work to secure their support for our industry's local, state, and federal funding needs and other policy issues;
- 2 Add your local state and federal policymakers ([Excel file](#) of all Florida Senators' and Representatives' contact information) and their spouses/partners and staff members to your address books: their emails, district and Capitol mailing addresses, Twitter handles, and other social media information;
- 3 Learn about your county's policymakers by visiting their websites ([linked here](#)) to review their backgrounds, professions, interests, committee assignments, etc.; [follow them on social media](#) and [sign up for their newsletters](#); do any of them serve on the [TED appropriations' subcommittees](#) in 2019 (deal with DCA funding)?
- 4 Send [congratulatory letters](#) to your county-based newly elected and returning state and federal policymakers and [invite](#) them, their spouses/partners, and staff to local arts, arts education, and cultural events throughout the year;
- 5 Collaborate and strategically plan with your [local arts agency](#) and other local arts and culture colleagues the best strategies to educate [local state legislators](#) about the LOCAL IMPACT that
 - [state-matching-grant cuts](#) of the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs' (DCA) have had within your county and region — [infographics](#) for your use;
 - the four state [2019-20 DCA appropriation-investment asks](#) — if provided by the state — will provide 664 competitively evaluated and recommended matching grants throughout Florida that will leverage over \$1 billion in matching dollars;

and collaborate and strategically plan with local colleagues

 - a. to research to cast the [appropriate messengers](#) who know and have access to our legislators — who knows whom and [who supported their campaigns](#) and share this information;
 - b. [a presentation at one of the local-county delegation meetings](#) where a well-known and respected spokesperson speaks on behalf of all the county's arts, arts education, and culture industry; however, a large group of advocates should attend to visually demonstrate support for the funding & other issue/s;
 - c. to schedule [face-to-face DISTRICT meetings](#) with local state legislators and their staff around their interim Tallahassee [committee meetings](#) and prior to the 2019 Florida Legislative session from [March 5 – May 3](#); ask policymakers what matters to them and [prepare, share, and align some facts](#) about our industry with their interests and assigned committee work; and say and follow up with a thank you to them and their staff for their time and any additional information they request;
 - d. to secure [endorsements of support from local business groups, and governments](#) — ask city and county governments to include the DCA and NEA asks in their 2019-2020 Legislative and Congressional platforms and request their assistance;
- 6 Use — in communications with state policymakers and their staff — the [2019 Match for More Impact Appropriation-Investment Asks](#) needed to fully fund the four DCA matching-grant line items and your [specific county 2019-2020 DCA recommended matching-grants](#);
- 7 Email info@FLCA.net to be added to the FCA monthly advocacy and information-to-use statewide conference call registration email list. Register and participate in these monthly FCA statewide calls to review and discuss the latest state and federal issues and actions needed that impact our industry;
- 8 Please pay attention and stay engaged throughout the year in local, state, and federal [advocacy issues](#); and please
- 9 Follow up in a timely manner on all [action alerts](#) sent to you;
- 10 [Participate in Arts & Culture Day](#) in Tallahassee March 13, 2019, and in National Arts Advocacy Days on March 4 & 5, 2019, in DC.