

DIRECT FUNDING FOR THE ILLINOIS MUSEUM COMMUNITY

1. **Public Museum Operating Grants Program** (17 IL Admin Code Sec. 3200, Title 23: Education and Cultural Resources, Subtitle B: Cultural Resources, Chapter II: Department Of Natural Resources, Part 3200, Subpart B: Public Museum Operating Grants Program). Funding operating grants for public museums is vital to ensuring sustainable business models for museums and equitable access to visitors. This program’s lack of funding since 2002 has placed a severe strain on the revenue streams of public museums, which are still required of offer free days. Operating support that subsidizing operating income such as admission and gate fees, will ease the costs of museum free days as mandated. **FY21 Funding Request: \$25 million**
2. **Public Museum Capital Grants Program** (17 IL Admin Code Sec. 3200, Title 23: Education and Cultural Resources, Subtitle B: Cultural Resources, Chapter II: Department Of Natural Resources, Part 3200, Subpart B: Public Museum Operating Grants Program). The Public Museum Capital Grants Program is designed to help public museums in Illinois expand and upgrade facilities and create new exhibits and other physical facilities to enhance public museums' abilities to meet their mission. **FY21 Funding Request: \$25 million**
3. **Illinois Association of Museums** Reinstate the operating funding for IAM to allow for a broader impact on the Illinois museum community to inform on best practices and provide professional services and training. **Funding Request: \$250,000 FY21**

SUPPORT FOR FULL FUNDING OF RELATED AGENCIES

- **State-operated museums: Illinois State Museum and Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum:** We encourage and support full funding for the Illinois State Museum System including its facilities and historic sites so they maintain their access to visitors and programming. We encourage and support full funding for the ALPLM and the Illinois History Conference and related programming.
- **Illinois Arts Council:** Every dollar invested in the Illinois Arts Council Agency supports arts and cultural organizations – including museums – and artists across the state, and drives money directly back into the Illinois economy.
- **Illinois Office of Tourism:** Tourism is critical to Illinois’ economy, and museums are a key component of Illinois’ tourism resources. Tourism grants help to keep attractions viable by providing highly needed promotional support.

COVID and the Illinois Museum Community

Pre-COVID facts	Post-COVID considerations
<p>From AAM’s IL Economic Engine Profile:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illinois museums have a total financial impact of \$2.66 billion on the Illinois economy • \$1.8b income: Museums provide substantial wages and other income to the state's residents annually • Over 38,524 jobs are supported by the museum community each year <p>From Economic Impact of Illinois Tourism:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the last 10 years, the number of visitors to Illinois has increased by more than 26 million, with tourism becoming one of the state’s leading industries. This marks the 8th consecutive year of record tourism growth in Illinois. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lift restrictions on the matching requirements (if any). • Extend application deadlines for IDNR grants to June 15. • Convert capital grant programs to operating grant programs. <p>Data from Forefront’s Nonprofit Needs During COVID:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 93.67% organizations had cancellation of programs or events • 79.27% will have budgetary implications related to strains on the economy • With regard to grant funding: “More than one-third of respondents (37%) requested unrestricted funding for general operations. The overwhelming majority referred to their need to pay staff and keep people employed. Many also referenced the severity of income loss felt by cultural organizations (museums, theatres, and art galleries) whose income is largely derived from social activities.”