



May 15, 2017

To: Joint Ways and Means Committee Members & Sub-Committee on Capital Construction

From: Oregon Coast Council for the Arts (OCCA) Board of Directors

Re: Supporting SB 5530 Lottery Bond Funding for Cultural Capital Construction
at the Newport Performing Arts Center, Newport, Oregon

We the officers and directors of the Oregon Coast Council for the Arts, (OCCA), based in rural Lincoln County in Newport, request your support of our Newport Performing Arts Center (PAC) "Entertain the Future" capital campaign request for lottery funding in SB 5530 for Cultural Capital Construction.

Let us tell you about the PAC - the building is 28 years young. Twelve resident artist teams call the PAC home - 4 theatre companies, 3 dance companies, one symphony orchestra, 2 choral groups, an international film series, and the Oregon Music Teachers Association. The OCCA also presents the international Oregon Coast Jazz Party, Met Opera Live in HD, National Theatre London Live in HD and other performances.

Throughout the year, the PAC is also the site of many other events from community college graduations to celebrations of life; from business and community meetings to fundraisers; from weddings to statewide band festivals; from Newport Reads author lectures to youth symphony performances; from country and comedy to Theatre Camps and Shakespeare Camp for youth. And much more.

We on the OCCA Board support Cultural Capital Construction projects around the state, including: Benton County Historical Society and Museum; Cottage Theatre; Eugene Ballet Company; Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau; High Desert Museum; Portland Institute of Contemporary Art; Portland Art Museum and, of course, the Newport Performing Arts Center.

Our request of \$600,000 out of an estimated cost of \$2.9M goes to support Phases 7 and 8 to expand the Studio Theatre's capacity from 80-150 seats and expand the support spaces including green room, dressing rooms, restrooms and kitchen. The final phase will build out the backstage piano and rehearsal spaces that can serve both the larger Silverman Theatre and the Studio Theatre.

This project is part of a multi-year capital campaign to strengthen and enhance this regional resource on the Central Oregon Coast with an eight-phase capital campaign. Through substantial community support, the first 6 phases have been completed. The economic impact of expanded audience levels for the 30-year user-life of the project will be \$7.4M of economic impact in the Central Oregon Coast.



On behalf of Oregon Coast Council for the Arts we want to thank you for your support of OCCA's 'Entertain the Future!' capital campaign.

Capital construction funding is a good investment. It supports Oregon's cultural brand nationally, builds capacity in the cultural sector, adds jobs in rural and remote regions and underserved neighborhoods while investing in the values that connect us, move us forward and honor our past.

Sincerely,

Sandi Williams, President
Wayne Belmont, Secretary
Cathleen Donnellan, Treasurer
Mark Farley
Jody Hanna
David M Jones
Randy Madnick
Akia Woods

Performing Arts Center (PAC) Highlights – FY 15-16

- In use **350** day per year
- **Economic Impact** for Cultural Tourism = **\$806,108** (excluding ticket sales)
- Attendance **19,535 (ticketed)**
- Over **12,500 (non-ticketed)** attendance – school shows, misc performances, meetings/seminars, state band and music festivals, graduations, celebrations of life, rehearsals, weddings and more.
- One of only 10 venues in Oregon to feature Met Opera Live in HD.
- One of only 16 venues in Oregon to feature National Theatre London Live in HD.
- A **creative incubator/construction collaborative** (music, dance, drama, costume, set design)
- A **youth learning laboratory** (staging, lights, sound)
- A **fulfillment center** (box office, event and tourist information)
- Only building on Oregon coast conceived, designed, built and managed in a public/private partnership, with urban renewal funds, to be a performing arts center.