

**The White Family Foundation  
Grant Request #764  
Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts  
June 7, 2022**

<b>Date of grant proposal submission</b>	Tuesday, June 7, 2022
<b>Are you an IRS compliant 501(c)3 public charity/ nonprofit?</b>	Yes
<b>Legal name of organization</b>	Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts
<b>Address</b>	400 First Street SE St. Petersburg, FL 33701 United States
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://billedwardsfoundationforthearts.org/">https://billedwardsfoundationforthearts.org/</a>
<b>Telephone</b>	727.308.5100
<b>Organization Director/ Title</b>	President
<b>Contact Person/Title</b>	Amy Miller
<b>Contact Person's Telephone</b>	727-892-5706
<b>Contact Person's Email</b>	<a href="mailto:amiller@billedwardsfoundationforthearts.org">amiller@billedwardsfoundationforthearts.org</a>
<b>Grant Request Amount</b>	\$20,000.00

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**Please provide us with a brief description of your organization (no more than 500 words).**

The mission of Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts is to educate, engage and entertain everyone in our community through the performing arts, with an emphasis on culturally diverse programming. Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts is a 501(c)3 public charity that promotes the importance of the performing arts in our world and acts as a champion for arts education. Our sole purpose is to support programming at the Duke Energy Center for the Arts – Mahaffey Theater. In addition to dance performances, concerts, lectures, comedy and family programs, we provide community outreach events, intern collaborations, and volunteer opportunities.

Class Acts Educational Youth Performance Series, an impactful initiative of Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts is in its twenty-eighth season. Working in conjunction with the Duke Energy Center for the Arts – Mahaffey Theater, Class Acts serves over 25,000 students per season through performing arts programming. Through a variety of international, national, and regional performances students are introduced to Florida core curriculum standards.

Marketed directly to educators, Class Acts reaches public, private and homeschoolers from VPK to twelfth grade throughout six counties. Strategically written Teacher Resource Guides, with pre- and post performance classroom activities, complete with direct links to the FLA Educational Standards are distributed to educators for each performance. In addition to our main stage live performances, Class Acts also provides virtual OnDemand performances that teachers can access and show in their classroom. This year we also gifted the virtual programming to Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital so their patients could view the performance in their rooms.

Class Acts also works in the community, offering in-school workshops and artist residencies to further integrate the arts and education. Through our Literacy Link program, students choose a book to take home

and grow their learning and literacy. Teachers are also provided copies of titles to build out their classroom library. Interactive workshops at the Mahaffey Theater, from puppeteering to drum circles, are another way Class Acts engages students to learn through hands-on performing arts activities.

Approximately one third of our attendees receive complimentary admission and transportation to attend a Class Acts performance through Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts scholarships. To date, the foundation scholarship has provided over \$50,000 to local schools, making it possible for over 16,000 students to attend a live theater program.

**Grant Purpose (one paragraph)**

Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts is requesting funding for our Class Acts Educational Youth Performance Series, specifically to serve Title I schools across the Tampa Bay region. The White Family Foundation Grant would help cover the cost of admission and transportation from schools to the Mahaffey Theater for field trips, creation and distribution of teacher study guides, and artist fees. Class Acts performances correlate with the state of Florida’s core curriculum initiatives and use live theater to teach the values of character, critical thinking, creativity, respect, world culture and discipline.

**Annual Project/Program Budget (if request is for a specific project)**      \$200,000.00

**Annual Organization Budget**      \$4,530,853.00