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May 29, 2018

Ms. Sandy Shaughnessy
Division of Cultural Affairs
R.A. Gray Building, 3rd Floor
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Ms. Shaughnessy,

On behalf of Florida Studio Theatre, I am pleased to submit this request for funding from the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs for the 19-20 General Support Program. FST appreciates your continued support of our six main program areas: Mainstage, Cabaret, Stage III, New Play Development, Education, and Children's Theatre.

FST is dedicated to producing the most culturally diverse and cutting-edge work of any theatre in the region. FST strongly believes the arts are a vital part of human life and makes an intense effort to provide affordable, quality theatre programming that reflects the diversity of the world. We believe that if you put the world on the stage, you will find the world in your audience. As a result, we have grown the largest audience in the region.

The 2017/2018 season was an exciting one for Florida Studio Theatre. *Blue Suede Shoes* became the longest running show in FST history while FST's subscription base continues to grow. We now have over 13,500 Winter Mainstage Subscribers and over 12,800 Winter Cabaret Subscribers. Stage III subscriptions increased by over 1,500 this year and Children's Theatre Ticket purchases tripled. The WRITE A PLAY Program continues to inspire over 47,000 students each year to write plays.

Thank you again for your past support and for your commitment to the arts in Florida. To that end, we respectfully request that the Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs consider supporting our proposal for the 2019-2020 season in order for Florida Studio Theatre to continue elevating and expanding contemporary, challenging art and ensure our work continues long into the future.

Sincerely,



Richard Hopkins
Producing Artistic Director

Richard Hopkins
Producing Artistic Director

Rebecca Hopkins
Managing Director