



SOUTH CAROLINA ENTERTAINMENT &
MUSIC HALL OF FAME
3504 Hwy. 153
Suite 358
Greenville, SC 29611
(888)411-FAME

To whom it may concern,

We would like to put forth our utmost gratitude to Representative Davey Hiott, The SC House Ways and Means Committee and Governor McMaster for the consideration of funding from this state we so adore. Our mission is to ensure the rich entertainment history of South Carolina is preserved for residents and visitors alike to be able to recognize and enjoy our rich heritage of entertainment.

The South Carolina Entertainment and Music Hall of Fame was founded in 1989 by the State of SC Entertainment and Music Commissioner Dr. David Godbold and SC Secretary of State Jim Miles. Originally housed in different venues across the state (such as the Florence Center) the SC Entertainment and Music HOF found a permanent home in Georgetown, SC at 725 Front Street. In September of 2013 a fire that engulfed seven buildings, burned most of the contents and memorabilia belonging to the organization. With this devastating blow and an aging board, the SCEMHOF went into hibernation.

In 2018, Justin Ray Williams was recruited to be the next Executive Director to rebuild the organization and in 2020, two new artists, Zack Turner, and Greg Rowles, were inducted at the House of Blues Myrtle Beach during the South Carolina Country Music Awards. In March of the same year Covid restrictions created another unexpected hiatus for the organization. In November of 2022, a group of new board members were asked to once again rebuild the SCEMHOF, and they inducted Mark Herndon, drummer of the music group Alabama in January of 2023. To date, 64 music and entertainment celebrities have been inducted into this Hall of Fame. On June 3rd of this year, the SCEMHOF will be holding an induction gala at the Greenville Convention Center for our next inductees: Dr. Mac Arnold, Dixiana, Bill Ellis, Bob Hooper, Kerry Marx, and Sec. State Jim Miles.

In a struggle to rebuild our once thriving organization, funds from the state will be used to enable the board to raise additional funding with the specific intent of:

- Securing venues allowing us to induct future members.
- Rebuilding our physical inventory of memorabilia for visitors to see.
- Obtaining a permanent location in one of South Carolina's prominent cities such as Greenville, Columbia, Charleston, or Myrtle Beach.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Executive Director Justin Ray Williams
314 W Main Street, Liberty, SC 29657
864-345-3017