



Requesting entity: Chapman Cultural Center in Spartanburg, SC—a 501(c)(3). Our mission is to provide cultural leadership for Greater Spartanburg by developing, strengthening, and promoting the scope, excellence, and educational role of the arts, humanities, and sciences and to further their significance in the life of our community.

Amount Requested: \$60,000

Request Needed/Event Date: Early 2023

Program Initiative: Chapman Cultural Center is a home for the arts and destination for both residents and visitors to Spartanburg. Our center was built in 2007 and **has been a game changer for our community** and is one of the few Local Arts Agencies in the country that includes arts and sciences in one space. As a community space that has welcomed over 3 million people since opening, we have arts and culture groups, community events, organizational partners, and programming that is free and affordable to residents of our community. Our request is for support to ensure that visitors and residents of our community can access our campus safely and easily.

This funding will allow us to reimagine and reinvigorate our space in 3 ways:

1. **Visibility:** Enhance the visibility of our buildings through signage, a exterior wash, and wayfinding. Our building is on a very busy street and as potential patrons pass our building, it can be difficult to see the name of the building or what it is. This program would allow us to replace signage that has been compromised by weather and time, as well as update existing signage to be more visible. Current signage and wayfinding has not changed since its installation 15 years ago and updated technology for signage would allow visitors of all abilities – visual or hearing impaired – and ages, to navigate our multi-building campus.
2. **Safety:** Increase lighting of the buildings, signage, enhancing the safety of our parking lots and building entrances. Our on-campus partners have classes and events for families and children throughout the year and often the evenings. Without proper lighting and signage, concerns and situations have arisen regarding the safety of patron, many of which are children, entering buildings/walking around our campus. We are working with partner arts organizations and local law enforcement to ensure that we have tools and resources to respond to safety concerns, but the lighting and signage of our space would allow for greater safety of visitors.
3. **Environmental Sustainability:** Impact the environmental sustainability of the grounds. Trees planted 15 years ago have overgrown and were not examined to ensure they were appropriate for the grounds and foundation of the building. This program would support work with an arborist to maintain the health of trees, grounds, and new planting of trees that will remain healthy in this environment and contribute to the greenspace of our Downtown.

Why support this project? As an arts organization, we value presence and impact, and know the wider impact supporting a non-profit or artist can have on the wider community. The physical space of our campus is crucial to the accessibility of Spartanburg residents of all ages to experience the impact of visual and performing arts, sciences, and community support.

The lasting impact of this project is that we will be able to continue providing programs, support to our on-campus partners, and increase visibility of our organization. As our organization evolves with our County, our space being reimaged needs to evolve as well. The lasting impact of this will be visual in that the building will be improved, the space will be more accessible to people of different physical abilities, ages, and demographics, and the ability for us to diversify campus programming will be enhanced through more open, well-lit spaces.