

FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUMS OF FLORIDA HISTORY, INC.

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www.museumoffloridahistory.com

FY 2024-2025 REPORT

I. Statutory Authority or Executive Order Creating Organization

Section 267.0721, Florida Statutes provides statutory authority for the organization.

II. Mission and Results Obtained

Mission:

The mission of Friends of the Museums of Florida History, Inc., (FMFH) is to enhance and perpetuate programs of the Museum of Florida History and the Knott House Museum.

Results Obtained:

FMFH board members accomplish this through financial support for Museum exhibitions, programs, and facilities and promote benefits of Museum membership throughout the state. Board members also serve as advocates for the Museum and encourage public involvement and access to Museum resources. Board members also manage all FMFH business, property, and affairs, including mission-related retail operations at Museum sites. Specific Board goals and objectives are established annually through a Letter of Agreement with the Department of State. They are:

- MUSEUM GIFT SHOPS. The Corporation shall manage *Florida's History Shops* at the Museum of Florida History, the Capitol, the Historic Capitol, and other locations as deemed appropriate by the parties.
- The Corporation shall collect proceeds related to *Florida History Day and the Museum Traveling Exhibits (TRES) Program*.
- SPONSORSHIP. The Corporation agrees to sponsor the museum programs and events, subject to adequate resources being available, including but not limited to:
 - Florida History Day
 - Annual Children's Day
 - Florida heritage activities
 - Knott House Emancipation Day and other educational programs

- Traveling Exhibits Program (TREX)
 - Museum exhibits programming
 - Volunteer Development and Recognition Program
- **ENDOWMENTS.** The Corporation shall manage the John Charles Knott Endowment and the James R. Knott Endowment for the Knott House Museum and administer the same for purposes consistent with all applicable laws, the testamentary intent, respective bequests and the Articles of Friends of the Museums of Florida History, Inc., including the interpretation, educational programming, maintenance and upkeep of the Knott House Museum. The Corporation shall manage the State of Florida Cultural Endowment Fund and administer the same for purposes consistent with the agreement between the Division of Historical Resources and the Friends of the Museums of Florida History, Inc., including day-to-day expenses related to museum programming. An endowment committee established in by-laws will oversee management and use of the three endowments.
 - **FOOD SERVICE TO MUSEUM OF FLORIDA HISTORY.** The Corporation is authorized to utilize Room G22 of the R.A. Gray Building to provide food service to the visitors of the Museum of Florida History. All monies generated from this activity shall be deposited into the Corporation's account and used only for programs of the Museum of Florida History.
 - FMFH develops and maintains general membership support for the purposes of the organization.

III. Three Year Plan

Approved by the Board of Directors on June 10, 2024, is as follows:

The Friends of the Museums of Florida History Inc., supports the annual programs and exhibits of the Museum and the Knott House, including Florida History Day and 20th of May Emancipation Celebration. The FMFH successfully implemented several aspects of the plan for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The CSO supported the TREX program, Florida History Day, 20th of May Emancipation Celebration, and regular monthly programming. The overall three-year plan for the Friends is to continue to increase non-state funding and expand awareness of the Museum statewide as well as to continue updating traveling exhibits to make them more marketable to museums throughout the state.

Fiscal year 2024-25

1. Continue to support educational programming and outreach
2. Continue to support monthly and annual programs of the Museum per the Letter of Agreement with the Department of State.
3. Continue to promote the Director's Society membership program.
4. Expand corporate sponsorship of Museum of Florida History and Knott House Museum programs.
5. Enhance Traveling Exhibits (TREX) program by refurbishing or adding one new exhibit.
6. Provide financial support to help plan, renovate and update permanent exhibits.

Fiscal year 2025-26

1. Continue to support educational programming and outreach
2. Continue to support monthly and annual programs of the Museum per the Letter of Agreement with the Department of State.
3. Continue to promote the Director's Society membership program.
4. Expand corporate sponsorship of Museum of Florida History and Knott House Museum programs.
5. Continue to enhance Traveling Exhibits (TRES) program.
6. Fundraise for updated permanent exhibits

Fiscal year 2026-27

1. Continue to support educational programming and outreach
2. Continue to support monthly and annual programs of the Museum per the Letter of Agreement with the Department of State.
3. Continue to promote the Director's Society membership program.
4. Expand corporate sponsorship of Museum of Florida History and Knott House Museum programs.
5. Continue to enhance the Traveling Exhibits (TRES) program.
6. Fundraise for updated permanent exhibits

IV. Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics of Friends of the Museums of Florida History, Inc., approved by the Board of Directors on June 10, 2024, is as follows:

PREAMBLE

(1) It is essential to the proper conduct and operation of Friends of the Museums of Florida History, Inc. (herein "CSO") that its board members, officers, and employees be independent and impartial and that their position not be used for private gain. Therefore, the Florida Legislature in Section 112.3251, Florida Statutes, requires that the law protect against any conflict of interest and establish standards for the conduct of CSO board members, officers, and employees in situations where conflicts may exist.

(2) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state that no CSO board member, officer, or employee shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or incur any obligation of any nature which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties for the CSO. To implement this policy and strengthen the faith and confidence of the people in Citizen Support Organizations, there is enacted a code of ethics setting forth standards of conduct required of Friends of the Museums of Florida History, Inc., board members, officers, and employees in the performance of their official duties.

STANDARDS

The following standards of conduct are enumerated in Chapter 112, Fla. Stat., and are required by Section 112.3251, Florida Statutes, to be observed by CSO board members, officers, and employees.

1. Prohibition of Solicitation or Acceptance of Gifts

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall solicit or accept anything of value to the recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the CSO board member, officer, or employee would be influenced thereby.

2. Prohibition of Accepting Compensation Given to Influence a Vote

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall accept any compensation, payment, or thing of value when the person knows, or, with reasonable care, should know that it was given to influence a vote or other action in which the CSO board member, officer, or employee was expected to participate in his or her official capacity.

3. Salary and Expenses

No CSO board member or officer shall be prohibited from voting on a matter affecting his or her salary, expenses, or other compensation as a CSO board member or officer, as provided by law.

4. Prohibition of Misuse of Position

A CSO board member, officer, or employee shall not corruptly use or attempt to use one's official position or any property or resource which may be within one's trust, or perform official duties, to secure a special privilege, benefit, or exemption.

5. Prohibition of Misuse of Privileged Information

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall disclose or use information not available to members of the general public and gained by reason of one's official position for one's own personal gain or benefit or for the personal gain or benefit of any other person or business entity.

6. Post-Office/Employment Restrictions

A person who has been elected to any CSO board or office or who is employed by a CSO may not personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the governing body of the CSO of which he or she was a board member, officer, or employee for a period of two years after he or she vacates that office or employment position.

7. Prohibition of Employees Holding Office

No person may be, at one time, both a CSO employee and a CSO board member at the same time.

8. Requirements to Abstain From Voting

A CSO board member or officer shall not vote in official capacity upon any measure which would affect his or her special private gain or loss, or which he or she knows would affect the special gain or any principal by whom the board member or officer is retained. When abstaining, the CSO board member or officer, prior to the vote being taken, shall make every reasonable effort to disclose the nature of his or her interest as a public record in a memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes. If it is not possible for the CSO board member or officer to file a memorandum before the vote, the memorandum must be filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting no later than 15 days after the vote.

9. Failure to Observe CSO Code of Ethics

Failure of a CSO board member, officer, or employee to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the removal of that person from their position. Further, failure of the CSO to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the Florida Department of State terminating its Agreement with the CSO.

V. Current Federal Internal Revenue Service Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax form(Form 990)