

State of Maryland

2007 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
2198	SB725	2967	HB484	Museum of Fine Arts
3. Senate Bill Sponsors			House Bill Sponsors	
Munson			Donoghue	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)			5. Requested Amount	
Washington			\$300,000	
6. Purpose of Bill				
Authorizing the creation of a State Debt to serve as a grant to the Board of Trustees of the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Inc. for the planning, design, construction, renovation and capital equipping of a courtyard and building for the Museum of Fine Arts.				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
The grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act.				
8. Special Provisions				
Requiring the grantee to grant and convey a certain easement to the Maryland Historic Trust.				
9. Contact Name and Title		Contact Phone		Email Address
Joe Ruzicka, Director		301-739-5727		jruzicka@wcmfa.org
10. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)				
<p>For three-quarters of a century, the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts (WCMFA) has been the premier cultural center for Western Maryland. The Museum's mission is "To collect, to preserve, to interpret, and to exhibit art of lasting quality for the citizens of Hagerstown and the surrounding region." More than 70,000 visitors come to the Museum each year to enjoy world-class exhibitions, concerts, lectures, and arts education classes. The Museum is an important economic driver for the region: our economic impact to the region is approximately \$5 million per year (calculated with the assistance of the Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau).</p> <p>WCMFA was a gift of Hagerstown native Anna Brugh Singer and her husband, noted American Impressionist painter William Henry Singer. In discussing the establishment of the Museum, Mrs. Singer explained that she hoped "to give the younger generation a fuller appreciation of joy and beauty than had been afforded me."</p> <p>The goal of the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts is to welcome all members of the community. In keeping with the wise wishes of the Museum's founders, WCMFA has never charged an admission fee. The Museum maintains close ties with the Washington County Public Schools, local non-profit groups and community service organizations. We are constantly searching for new, relevant collaborations and relationships.</p> <p>The Museum boasts an outstanding permanent collection consisting of 6,000 works of art. By adhering to the highest professional standards in collection, exhibition and interpretation, the Museum has earned accreditation by the American Association of Museums – a distinction earned by fewer than ten percent of America's museums.</p>				

11. Description and Purpose of Project (3000 characters maximum)

WCMFA is creating a master plan for its facilities. Construction will be phased over the next ten to fifteen years. The master plan will allow the Museum to rationally and prudently plan and finance its construction and increased operating costs.

Phase one of construction is the enclosure of the Museum’s central courtyard and this will begin as soon as construction documents are completed. Move-in date is anticipated to be January 2008.

Phase two is the renovation of the existing building and the creation of storage and other facilities so the Museum will be in compliance with the industry’s best practices.

Phase three will encompass the expansion of the building to better display the permanent collection and to enhance our visitors’ experience with improved and up-to-date visitor services.

Phase one of construction, enclosing the central courtyard (the largest room in the building) will provide a sculpture court for permanent collection and traveling shows. WCMFA has a major sculpture collection that belongs to the whole community and little room in which to show it. Sixty-five percent of the important large-scale sculptures in our collection are in storage due to the lack of exhibition space. The covered courtyard will allow us to display these works. From time to time, we could accommodate a traveling show of sculpture in this space because the new room will be climate controlled. This will enable us to be more flexible in our offerings to our audience, thus better serving them. For example, it will provide an additional venue in the building for lectures, music and other educational functions

Architecture also plays an important symbolic and emotional role in a community. The enclosed courtyard will provide the citizens of Hagerstown and Western Maryland with a free, accessible, uplifting public space. It will become a destination point in the area, and make people proud to be citizens of this community. This will add greatly to the quality of life of the community and will function as an important economic development tool.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 11 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 12 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	N/A
Design	600,000
Construction	1,000,000
Equipment	900,000
Total	\$2,500,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources – (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Source	Amount
Private donor (secured)	\$1,000,000
United States Government	\$1,000,000
Maryland Bond Bill	\$300,000
Appalachian Regional Commission	\$200,000

Total		\$2,500,000	
14. Project Schedule			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
March 2007	June 2007	June 2007	January 2008
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised as of January 2007	16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete	
\$1,000,000	75,000	90,000	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
1994	\$500,000	Construction of 5,000 square feet of gallery and other space in the Museum (completed 1995).	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Washington County Museum of Fine Arts P.O. Box 423 Hagerstown, MD 21740		Washington County Museum of Fine Arts 91 Key Street City Park Hagerstown, MD 21741	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located			
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check one)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Joseph Ruzicka	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	301-739-5727		N/A
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
Washington County Museum of Fine Arts P.O. Box 423 Hagerstown, MD 21740			
24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
9 full time and 8 part time	same	\$1,450,000	\$1,500,000
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond issuance purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			no
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			no
D. If property is owned by grantee and any space is to be leased, provide the following:			

Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
N/A			

E. If property is leased by grantee – Provide the following:

Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew
N/A		

26. Building Square Footage:

Current Space GSF	20,000
Space to Be Renovated GSF	3,000
New GSF	23,000

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion	1931, 1949, 1995
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28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)

WCMFA is regarded in the museum industry as one of the finest small art museums in the United States. The collection of more than 6,000 works of art is held in trust for all of the citizens of Maryland. Money from the State to create a master plan and to improve and expand the building will allow WCMFA to better safeguard these public treasures and to display more of them to the public, as always, free of an admission charge.

WCMFA rarely asks the Maryland State Government for large sums of money. The State Arts Council contributes to the Museum’s operating fund through the Grants for Organizations program (traditionally 5 to 10% of the operating budget, annually). However, most of our annual funding comes from local donors, local City and County governments, and endowment income. We are a fiscally responsible institution, and do not carry debt. Our annual operating budget is in the range of \$1 million to \$1.5 million, depending on special projects.