



THE SUNRISE CITY
FORT PIERCE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
AND CITY COMMISSION

Florida

May 6, 2024

Florida Division of Cultural Affairs
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Dear Florida Arts Council Members:

On behalf of the City of Ft. Pierce, please accept this letter of support for the grant application for General Programming Support for 2024-2025 submitted by Heathcote Botanical Gardens. One of the best returns that our community can receive is in its investment in the arts and culture. There is no denying the economic impact that organizations like Heathcote Botanical Gardens have on enriching and strengthening our city and county alike. Last year, 23,000 visitors enjoyed the Gardens, with almost half visiting during the six-week holiday festival of Garden of Lights!

As a heritage garden, Heathcote has been a vital partner in educating children and families for thirty-eight years with education and outreach programs such as Florida's Pioneer Days, Orchid Bee studies, varying conservation topics and the art of Bonsai. The City is proud to be a partner in their success and leverage the value-added services provided by close to 200 volunteers.

Your favorable consideration of this grant application is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Linda Hudson
Mayor