



Assembly 2008 - Chattanooga, Tennessee

# Capital/Facilities

## AGENDA



### **THURSDAY, September 11 (3:00 – 5:00 pm)**

- I. **Welcome and Introductions**
- II. **Roundtable discussion on a variety of capital/facilities issues**

Discussion topics suggested by capital/facilities managers (see below)

### **SATURDAY, September 13 (8:30 – 10:30 am)**

- III. **Success stories, problem solving, what works for you, what doesn't**

#### **Discussion topics**

The following are general discussion topics suggested by capital/facilities managers. The topics are not all-inclusive, but intended to be a starting point for discussion. The questions are loosely grouped by topic. Please contact Don Blancett to add additional questions or topics of interest if you wish.

#### **The Planning Process**

- What suggestions would you offer a community in planning for arts facilities? When is an organization ready to hire an architect?
- Is there a “Best Practices” guide for arts facilities planning/construction/maintenance?
- How would you establish a strategic plan that addresses issues of sustainability for arts organizations?
- New construction vs. renovation vs. historic restoration: Where should you put your money? How do you balance support for new construction and at the same time provide renovation dollars for deteriorating buildings? Is there a plan for deferred maintenance?
- Explore “green” programs: rain gardens, green roofs, green parking lots, etc. Offering incentives above the normal award for those projects that include a green aspect.

- Explore the planning aspect of renovation/new construction, and “right-sizing” buildings. Planning for lost revenue during construction/renovation period and projecting increased operating costs for new facility.

#### Application Mechanics

- How do you solicit applications? How are applications reviewed and scored? How are grants prioritized for funding? Are grants managed by contract? What is the final report review process? What is the grant file closeout process?
- What is your application review panel process? Do you use out-of-state or in-state reviewers, or a combination of the two? Advantages/disadvantages.

#### Funding Resources and State Impact

- How can you show your financial backers the economic impact of a performing arts center?
- How do states politicize awards, especially non-competitive grants, AKA “pork barrel?”
- How do states meet the needs of a growing applicant pool with limited public resources?
- What funding sources are available for state grants outside of the legislative process? Does your agency help organizations leverage funds for the various phases of a building project?
- How can states assist underserved/rural areas that have only limited fundraising capacity?

**Coordinator:** Donald R. Blancett, Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs