

# **SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION MEETING**

**JANUARY 29, 2025**



# MISSION AND VISION



## Our Mission:

Through innovative partnerships, comprehensive collections, and stimulating exhibitions and programs, the South Carolina State Museum provides educational environments that entertain, inspire imagination and creativity, and enrich the lives of visitors.

## Our Vision:

The South Carolina State Museum is an ever-changing, innovative institution reflecting the essence and diversity of South Carolina, a catalyst for the cultural and educational development of our state and a model among museums nationally.



## **CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



# FY26 BUDGET REQUEST OVERVIEW



## - B1 Recurring Asks:

- Rent enlargement to include DHEC wing - **\$1,705,362**
- Staff retention & recruitment support - **\$1,183,219**
- Technology Replacement and Upgrades - **\$40,000**

## - B2 One-Time Asks:

- Emergency Public Announcement and Wayfinding/Alarm System - **\$300,000**
- New Server - **\$100,000**

## - C1 Capital Funds

- *Reimagine the Experience* capital campaign - **\$20m**

(First request of 4 installments totaling \$50m – will request \$10m over the next 3 years following this initial allocation)

# FY26 BUDGET REQUEST OVERVIEW



## Governor's Budget Allocations:

**B1 Recurring: \$5 million** for "exhibits"

**B2 One-Time: \$300,000** for emergency wayfinding and public address system

**B2 One-Time: \$100,000** for a new server to support our digitization project

# FY26 BUDGET REQUEST OVERVIEW



## House Ways & Means Presentation

- Met immediately prior to our budget hearing with Representative Whitmire (Chairman, Ways & Means Public Education Budget Subcommittee)
  - Received Commissioner recommendation, Luther Lyle
- Positive reception to our presentation
- Emphasized growth in school group visitation in 2024 vs 2023
- Acknowledged Governor's budget allocations

## NEXT STEPS:

- Meet with Bruce Bannister, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee – February 11, 2025

# VACANT COMMISSION SEATS



- Strategy is to present a list of suggestions to the Governor for individuals to fill our open Commission seats. Current recommendations include:
- Dist. 3: Curtis D. White, PhD. Retired professor of Agriculture, Clemson
- Dist. 3: Luther Lyle, Director and Chief Curator, Museum of the Cherokee
- Dist. 6: OPEN
- Dist. 7: OPEN



# SAVE THE DATE

Legislative Night at the



Tuesday, February 25, 2025

5:30 - 8:00 p.m.





# FEDERAL GRANT UPDATE

Disbursement of federal grant funds (including IMLS funding) is paused as of 5pm on 1/28/25.

A Federal Judge has paused a suspension on "open grants" to 02/03/25.



## IMLS Grants Under Review

- 21st Century Museum Professional Program \$2 mil.
- American Latino Museum Internship and Fellowship Initiative \$4 mil.
- Grants to States \$180 mil.
- Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program \$10 mil.
- Museum Grants for African American History and Culture \$6 mil.
- Museum Grants for American Latino History and Culture None reported
- Museums for America \$30 mil.
- National Leadership Grants \$24 mil.
- Native American and Native Hawaiian Library Services \$6 mil.
- Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program \$4 mil.

State Museum Commission  
Summary Report  
YTD as of 12/31/24



# FINANCE UPDATE

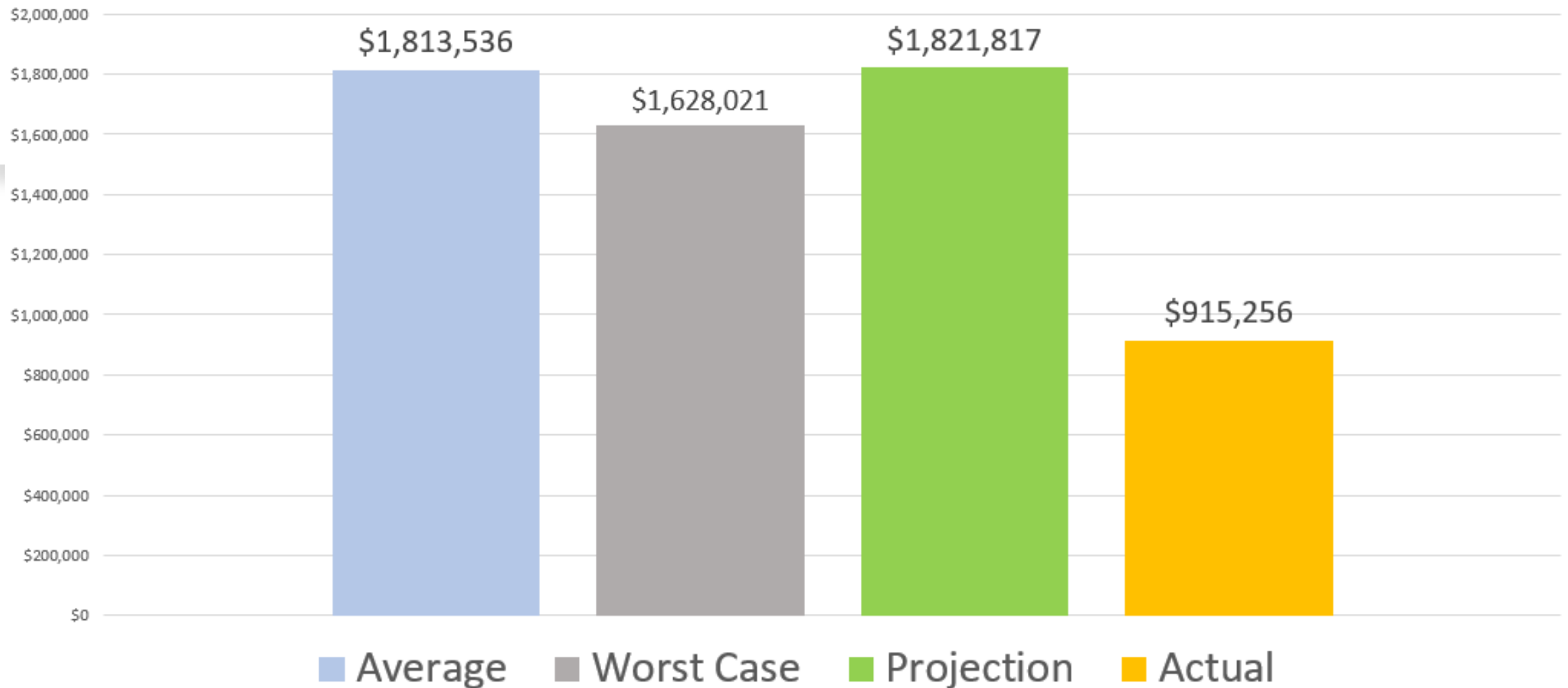
## Operating:

	Year-to-Date as of 12/31/24	Projected 6/30/2024
<b>Beginning Cash</b>		
10 Percent Carryforward	-	-
Other Fund Cash	2,057,579	2,057,579
<b>Subtotal Beginning Cash</b>	<b>2,057,579</b>	<b>2,057,579</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Recurring State Appropriation	7,523,075	7,523,075
Bonus Allocation	-	-
Recurring Txfr from Dept of Ed	-	-
Museum Revenue	1,021,052	1,706,848
Federal Revenue (SVOG)	-	-
<b>Subtotal Revenue</b>	<b>8,544,127</b>	<b>9,229,923</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Payroll & Employer Contributions	2,139,425	5,428,176
Operating	1,959,817	4,085,243
Cash Carryover Spent	-	1,111,851
<b>Subtotal Expenditures</b>	<b>4,099,242</b>	<b>10,625,270</b>
<b>Ending Cash</b>		
Cash Adjusts (Payables/Receivables)	44,350	
Transfers In / (Out)	-	-
<b>Ending Cash</b>	<b>6,546,814</b>	<b>662,232</b>

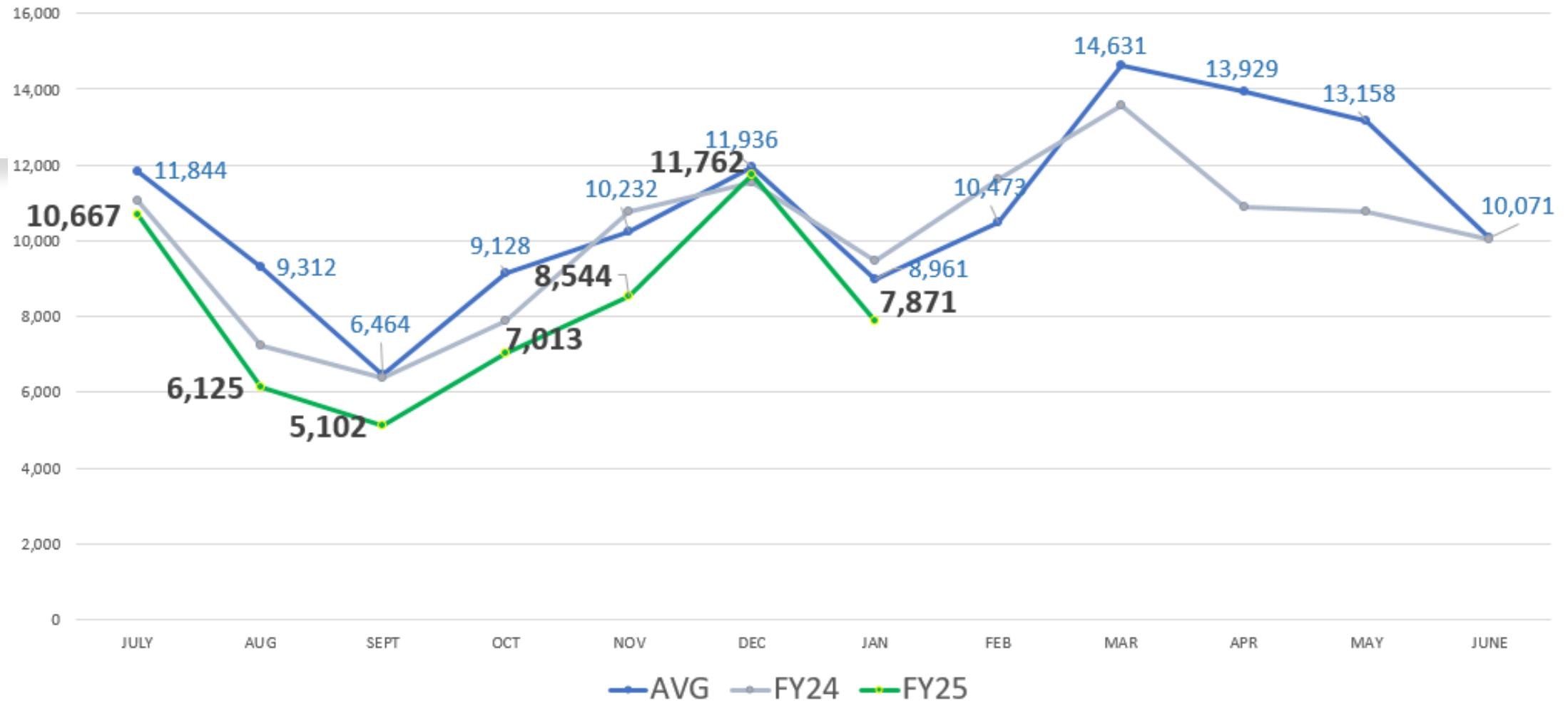
## Supplemental Funds:

Description	Balance as of 12/31/24
Security Camera System	550,000
Wi-fi Expansion & Firewall Replacement	251,172
Exhibit Renovations	8,047,023
Air Purfication System Upgrade for Workshop	200,000
Reimagine the Experience	4,255,465
<b>Ending Cash</b>	<b>13,303,660</b>

# REVENUE UPDATE



# ATTENDANCE UPDATE



# HIRING AND RECRUITMENT UPDATE



## New Hires:

- History Curator – 12/2
- Exhibit Fabrication Specialist – 12/2
- Graphic Design Asst. (PT) - 12/2
- Director of Finance- 2/3
- Procurement Manager – 2/3
- Associate Art Curator- 2/3
- Support Services Manager - 2/3
- Astronomy Educator (PT) – 2/3

## Upcoming Hires:

- Chief Engagement and Content Officer (Closed 1/24)
- Foundation Director (Closes 2/14)
- Public Program Assistant (PT)
- Education Assistant – Rev. War Traveling Trunk (PT, SC250 Grant with SC Historical Society)

## Hiring in Process:

- Curator of the American Revolution  
(2 yr. term position, RTE Funds/SC 250th Grant Match)
- Collections Manager
- Registration Assistant (PT)
- IT Security Specialist I
- Traveling Exhibitions Program (TEP) Outreach Assistant  
(PT, SC250 Grant with SC Historical Society)
- *Collections Digitization Asst. (Term FTE, IMLS Federal Grant)*
- *Collections Management Asst. (Term FTE, IMLS Federal Grant)*

# STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE



- **Consultant Pherabe Kolb (Reveillon Solutions) to project manage remainder of strategic planning process (*See her proposal in read-ahead document file*)**
- **Joint Commission/Foundation Board strategic planning retreat March 26th/27th**
  - **Dinner evening of March 26th (Location TBD)**
  - **Retreat morning of March 27th at the Museum**
- **Strategic Plan completed by July 1st (start of the new fiscal year)**

# EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT AND STRATEGY

- Consultant Pherabe Kolb (Reveillon Solutions) analyzed our stakeholder relationships and stewardship goals
- Pherabe developed a guide titled "Fundamentals of External Engagement" to help us achieve these goals (*See print out*)



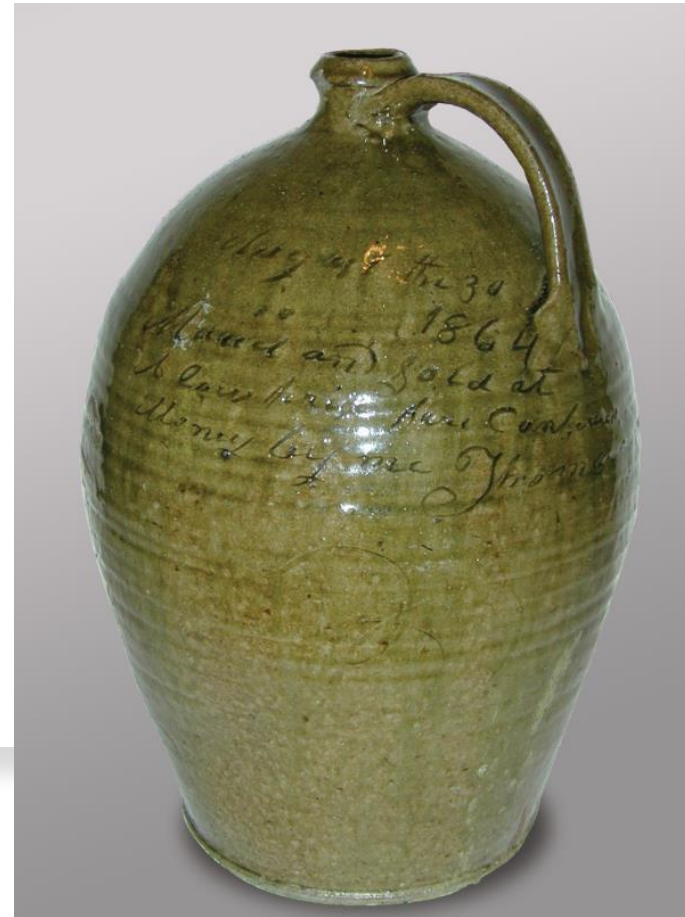


# REVOLUTIONARY WAR EXHIBITION UPDATE

- Proposal received from Gallagher and Associates to lead design and exhibition build (*See proposal in read-ahead documents*)
- 2nd round interviews for Curator of the American Revolution to take place in February
- Special event commemorating the bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour at the Museum on March 10th



# RECENT AND PENDING ACQUISITIONS



# 314 STORAGE UPDATE

- Items include Gibbes Planetarium & Aerial education material
- Some stored for nearly 30 years
- Area needed for RTE goals
- Items will either be distributed appropriately to educational entities or disposed
- Instruments and equipment not accessioned items



# UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS



February 2025 – February 2026

Matriarchs: Portraits of Gullah Chefs by Natalie Daise (Palmetto Courtyard)

May 2025 – October 2025

Heroes and Villains: The Art of the Disney Costume (Blockbuster)

September 2025 – September 2026

Unforgettable: The Unparalleled Photography of Cecil Williams (Timing TBD, Palmetto Gallery)

September 2025 – April 2026

As I See Myself: Natalie Daise Portrait Project (Final timing TBD in RAG)

July 2025- June 2026

From the Vault: An Exploration of the Museum's Art Collection (Lipscomb)

January – July 2026

International Bird Photography of the Year (Blockbuster) & South Carolina Bird Exhibition

June 2026 – June 2033

Revolutionary War Exhibition (Location TBD)

August 2026 – March 2027

Handmade in America – The Year of Craft (Lipscomb)

2027

Innovation Wing Opening

# PUBLIC PROGRAMS UPDATE



**23-Jan** Constellation Concerts: Danielle Howle  
**30-Jan** College Night at the Museum  
**8-Feb** Accessibility Morning  
**8-Feb** Harvesting Heritage: Lowcountry Legacy  
**12-Feb** Mayor's Collegiate Night  
**14-Feb** Douglass Day  
**23-Feb** Constellation Concerts: Death Ray Robin  
**8-Mar** Disability Celebration Day  
**18-Mar** Book Talk: Alexandria Russell (USC Partner)  
**20-Mar** Constellation Concerts: Cola Jazz  
**22-Mar** Harvesting Heritage: Pee Dee Palate  
**12-Apr** Accessibility Morning  
**17-Apr** Orange Road Quartet, USC School of Music  
**18-Apr** Orange Road Quartet, USC School of Music

**26-Apr** Intermezzo Orchestra, USC String Project  
**10-May** Accessibility Morning  
**10-May** Teacher Appreciation Day  
**17-May** Harvesting Heritage: Midlands Reunion  
**14-Jun** Accessibility Morning  
**12-Jul** Accessibility Morning  
**9-Aug** Accessibility Morning  
**2-Sep** VJ Day - After Action  
**13-Sep** Accessibility Morning  
**18-19-Sep** Artist Homecoming  
**11-Oct** Accessibility Morning  
**8-Nov** Accessibility Morning  
**4-Dec** Holiday Planetarium Lighting  
**13-Dec** Accessibility Morning



# HEROES & VILLAINS: PROGRAMS UPDATE



28-Apr

H&V Staff, Commission, and Board Preview

30-Apr

H&V Press Day and Friends of Finn Event

2-May

H&V Member Night

16-May

H&V Movie Night

20-Jun

H&V Movie Night

18-Jul

H&V Movie Night

15-Aug

H&V Movie Night

19-Sep

H&V Movie Night

20-Sep

H&V Theater Arts Design Day

4-Oct

H&V Costume 5K

18-Oct

H&V Costume Gala

# SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME UPDATE

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- MOU has been drafted and sent to SCAHoF for comments (*See read ahead document*)
- Their board met on Thursday, 1/23 to discuss and vote
- We will send comments from the Commission following this meeting
- We have updated Senator Peeler's office and Grant Gibson in the loop regarding the status of signing this MOU.



South Carolina  
Athletic Hall of Fame

# FOUNDATION REPORT – FINANCE UPDATE



YTD December 31 2024		FY24.25 Actual	FY 24.25 Budget
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Development Income</b>			
Annual Fund/Donations	\$	18,229.46	\$ 65,000.00
Board Gifts	\$	12,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Program Sponsorships	\$	28,803.73	\$ 175,000.00
Special Event Income	\$	16,269.69	
Community Partners	\$	10,500.00	\$ 70,000.00
<b>Total Development Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>85,802.88</b>	<b>\$ 335,000.00</b>
<b>Membership Income</b>			
Family Membership	\$	53,171.06	\$ 250,000.00
Payroll Deduct Membership	\$	7,205.73	\$ 25,000.00
Friends of Finn	\$	3,500.00	
<b>Total Membership Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>63,876.79</b>	<b>\$ 275,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>149,679.67</b>	<b>\$ 610,000.00</b>

<b>Expenses</b>	
<b>Development Expenses</b>	
Development Direct	\$ 113,352.89
Development Indirect	\$ 50,850.16
<b>Total Development Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 164,203.05</b>
<b>Membership Expenses</b>	
Membership Direct	\$ 77,332.69
Membership Indirect	\$ 33,233.04
<b>Total Membership Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 110,565.73</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 274,768.78</b>
<b>Income Less Expense</b>	<b>\$ (125,089.11)</b>



# FOUNDATION ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF 12/31/2024

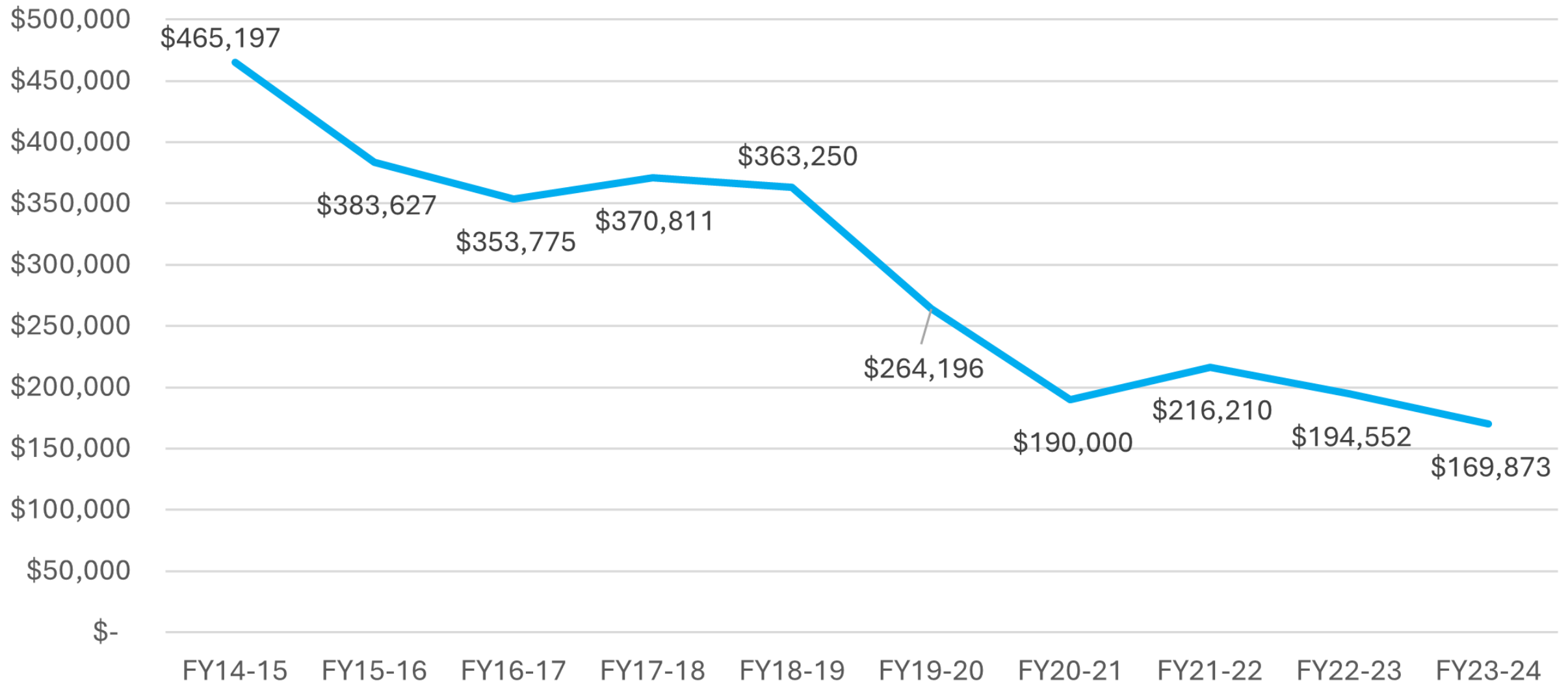
**First Citizens Checking Account: \$ 22,002**

**Merrill Lynch: \$5,906,457**

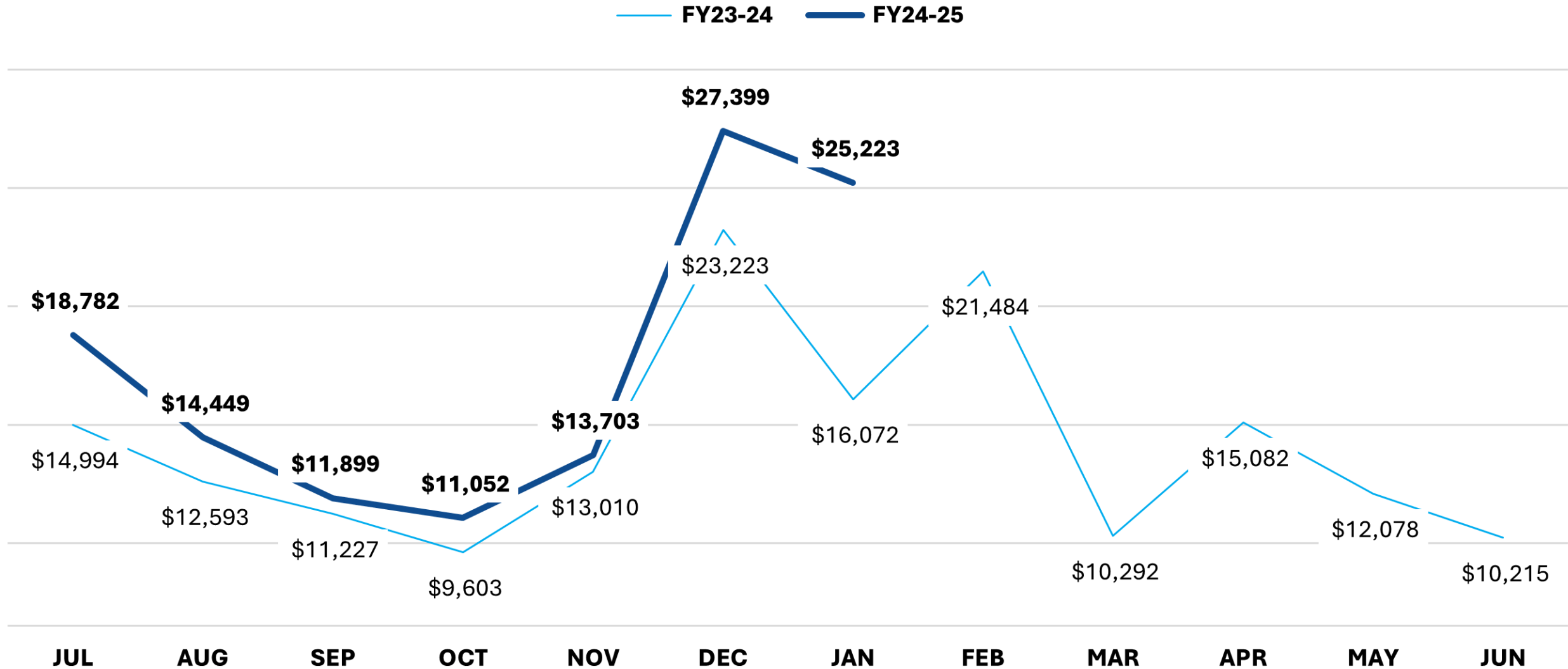
- **Museum Endowment \$ 254,693 (\$158,866.50 Corpus)**
- **Capital Campaign: \$2,679,351 (\$1.6 mil. Unrestricted)**
- **Boeing: \$91,993**
- **Acquisitions/Conservation: \$1,894,066**
- **Donor Restricted: \$506,641**
- **Membership Restricted: \$28,511**
- **Board Designated: \$451,203**

**Investment Income YTD: \$218,216 (included in above #s)**

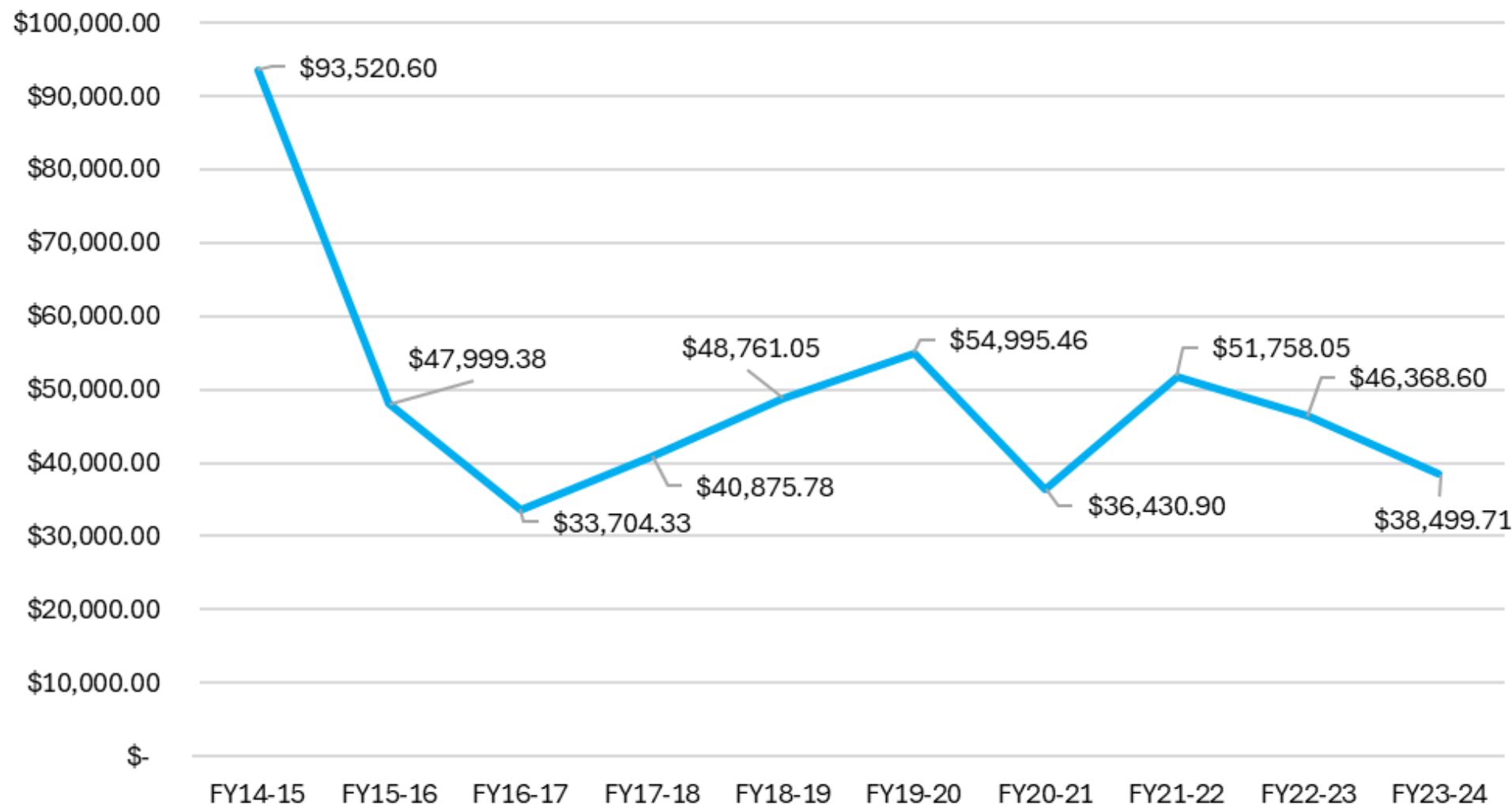
# MEMBERSHIP: HISTORIC REVENUE



# MEMBERSHIP: YTD REVENUE



# ANNUAL FUND/DONATIONS: HISTORIC REVENUE



# ANNUAL FUND/DONATIONS: YTD REVENUE



**FY23-24: \$19,396.88**  
**FY24-25: \$25,018.11**

# FOUNDATION REPORT – COMMUNITY PARTNER UPDATE



## **\$5,000 Level**

- AgFirst Farm Credit Bank
- Aflac
- BCBS
- Boeing
- Colonial Life
- Dominion Energy
- First Citizens
- Palmetto Citizens
- Prisma Health
- UBS

## **\$2,500 Level**

- Elliot Davis
- Budweiser of Spartanburg
- Publix

## **\$1,000 Level**

- Abacus
- Al Saad
- Ambient Media
- Baker and Baker
- BPS
- Burr, Forman, McNair
- Columbia Craft
- DPP
- The Hobbs Group
- Kinardee Communications
- Merrill Lynch
- Parker Poe Consulting
- Sojourner, Caughman & Thomas
- Sound and Images
- TM Floyd
- Wilson Kibler

# FOUNDATION REPORT – SPONSORSHIP UPDATE



## Current Program Sponsorships

- Educational Outreach \$50,000 - Boeing
- Dollar Sundays \$25,000 - Blue Cross Blue Shield
- SCSM Summer Camps \$30,000 – Aflac (Received Jan. 2025)
- Harvesting Heritage \$2,500 (Single Event) - AgFirst
- Accessibility Mornings & Disability Day \$25,000 (Possible Pending)

## Available Sponsorships

- Virtual Content \$50,000
- Educational Programs \$40,000
- Museum Wayfinding & Gallery Guides \$30,000
- Museums for All \$25,000
- Planetarium Shows \$10,000
- 4D Theater Shows \$10,000
- Technology Sponsor \$15,000

# DISNEY SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

## Contacted:

- Aflac
- Bank of America
- Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Bojangles
- Clayton Homes
- Colliers International
- Colonial Life
- Columbia Metropolitan Airport
- Continental Tire of the Americas
- Dick Dyer
- Dominion
- First Citizens
- Jim Hudson
- Michelin North America
- MUSC
- Novant Health
- Truist Bank
- Walter P. Rawl & Son
- Scout Motors
- South State Bank
- Synovus
- UBS





# FOUNDATION REPORT – RTE UPDATE



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GIFTS AND COMMITMENTS TO DATE: \$18,858,465

### STATE FUNDING: \$15,055,465

- \$14,255,465 million SC State Legislature (State Appropriation)
- \$800,000 SC 250th Commission Grant for Revolutionary War Exhibition

### CORPORATIONS: \$1,600,000

- \$1 million Southeastern Freight Lines (3-year commitment)
- \$250,000 Boeing
- \$200,000 Aflac- Sponsorship of Accessible Rest Rooms & Wellness Room
- \$150,000 Dominion Energy (Invitation to ask again next year)

### PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS: \$420,000

- \$250,000 Workman Family Charitable Trust (4 of 5 received)
- \$60,000 Lillian Smith Foundation (2 of 3 received)
- \$50,000 Arnold Foundation (Paid)
- \$35,000 Dorothy Smith Foundation (Paid)
- \$25,000 Bill Duke Foundation (Paid)

### INDIVIDUAL DONORS: \$183,000

- Board: \$50,000 Roger & Barbara Blau (2 of 3 received)
- Board: \$50,000 Geoffrey & Meg Hardee (2 of 4 received)
- Board: \$25,000 Bill & Lib Quattlebaum (Paid)
- Board: \$25,000 Nonie Price (1 of 5 received)
- Board: \$10,000 Rita Caughman (3-year commitment)
- Board: \$3,000 Jan & Carey Shackelford (Paid)
- Commission: \$10,000 John McCabe (Paid)
- Commission: \$10,000 Dr. Patrick (Paid)

### 2018-2022: \$1,600,000

- Museum Sponsorships and Membership funds put towards the Capital Campaign over five years

# FOUNDATION DIRECTOR – HIRING UPDATE



## Locations Currently Posted:

- SC Works
- NeoGov/SC Careers
- ZipRecruiter
- Indeed.com
- SCSM Webpage
- Columbia Chamber of Commerce
- Social Media (LinkedIn)
- Work for Good Job Board
- Idealist.com Job Board
- American Alliance of Museums Job Board
- Southeastern Museums Conference Job Board
- South Carolina Federation of Museums Job Board
- Chronicle of Philanthropy Job Board
- Philanthropy News Digest Job Board
- Association of Fundraising Professionals Job Board
- Outreach to influencers/contacts in philanthropy from all our networks to share/repost

# FOUNDATION DIRECTOR – HIRING UPDATE



- **Hiring committee to include Rita Bragg Caughman, Sharon Bryant, Geoffrey Hardee, John F. McCabe, Philip Simoneaux, and Margaret Wallace**
- **Staff will include: Amy Bartow-Melia, Sonja Bradford, and Emily Gallo**
- **Position closes 2/14**

# FOUNDATION REPORT – CONTRACTOR PROPOSALS



## Stephanie Schwartz

- DC-based consultant ([littlebeangroup.com](http://littlebeangroup.com))
- Expertise in museum-focused fundraising
- Conduct Foundation operational assessment and fundraising strategy
- Audit current Foundation practices, support new director onboarding, and make recommendations for long term success

## June Bradham

- Charleston-based consultant ([changedevelopmove.com](http://changedevelopmove.com))
- Conduct capital campaign feasibility study
- Specific focus on SC network of high-net-worth donors and influencers, SC corporate support

# UPCOMING STEWARDSHIP



- February 8: Harvesting Heritage Lowcountry @ the Penn Center
  - Mayor of Beaufort, Mayor Cromer
  - President/CEO IAAM, Dr. Tonya Matthews
  - Dennis and Fran Nolan
- February 11th : Friends of Finn 10th Anniversary Celebration (rescheduled from January because of weather)
- February 12th; Meeting with Judge Gergel (Author of *Unexampled Courage: The Blinding of Sgt. Isaac Woodard and the Awakening of President Harry S. Truman and Judge J. Waite Waring*)
  - Jed, Amy, Emily, Paul, and Ramon traveling to Charleston

# INNOVATION WING TASK FORCE



Introductory meeting held at the home of Jerry Barber in Greenville on January 21.

## Participants for Initial Meeting:

- Tom Falvey, Director of Innovation Experiences
- Bill Masters, Engineer, Inventor, Designer, Entrepreneur
  - Served on over 25 boards including South Carolina Research Authority (Chair), SC Council on Competitiveness, Liberty Fellows, SC Launch, & Furman.
  - Has 29 patents, primarily for kayak design and equipment
  - Received first patents for 3D printing
  - Started Perception Kayaks
- Gerry Barber
  - Bachelor's degree in physics, chemistry, & comprehensive sciences
  - Received over 70 patents
  - Operated the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest amusement park ride manufacturing company in the US
  - Invented over 33 patents for amusement park rides, include the Drop Tower (or Free Fall).
  - Created "Reefball" artificial coral reef
  - Currently working on new wind turbine design
  - Awarded the Dr. Charles Townes Individual Achievement Award for lifetime achievement in innovation, science, & technology
- John Hardway
  - Lawyer with Nexsen Pruet working in Business & Corporate Law, Environmental & Natural Resources, & International Law
  - Member of Thomas Green Clemson Academy of Engineers and Scientists
  - Worked on and received approval for approximately 2500 patents in his career.

# INNOVATION WING TASK FORCE



## Goals

Identify members of a task force who will:

- **Contribute to content development**
- **Consider aspects of design elements**
- **Identify potential artifacts for display & design, (e.g., patents & models for patents, known historical objects)**
- **Identification of potential partners, including individuals and organizations**
- **Identification of potential funding sources and organizations**

Future task force member options:

- **Jim Stritzinger, Broadband Director, Office of Regulatory Staff (Columbia)**
- **Mark Richards, Entrepreneur (Charleston)**
- **Considering someone working in Artificial Intelligence**
- **Professor and/or students working in history of science & technology in South Carolina**

Working on meeting schedule as corps group is identified along with service terms/length

# OLD & NEW BUSINESS

- CRM



# ADJOURNMENT



SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM