

**CITY OF OELWEIN
HOTEL AND MOTEL TAX FUNDING APPLICATION
(TOURISM, COMMUNITY CULTURE AND EDUCATION,
AND COMMUNITY RECREATION AND EVENTS)**

Application Deadlines

September 1 – December 1

March 1 – June 1

Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date. All areas of the applications must be completed and typed. Each application will be afforded the opportunity to attend a brief question and answer session with the Advisory Board.

Organization Name: Williams Center for the Arts
(Williams Center, INC.)

Contact Name: Linda Murphy & Sandie Graff, Co-Directors

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 636

City, State, and Zip: Oelwein, IA 50662-0636

Phone: 319-283-6616 **FAX:** 319-283-4497

Email Address: director@williamscenterforthearts.com

Total Project Cost: \$17,958

Amount requested from the Hotel/Motel Tax Funds is \$1500.

Please indicate which category you are applying for funds:

- _____Primary
- Community Culture and Education
- Community Recreation and Events
- _____New and Emerging Organization and Events

Please sign and date this application. Your signature below certifies that you have read and understand the guidelines for this funding program. You further understand that you will be required to submit a summary of expenses at the end of the project and if any funds are not expended or are found to be outside the scope of the grant made by the City Council you will be required to reimburse/return these funds to the City of Oelwein.

Applicant:

By Linda Murphy March 1, 2023

Linda Murphy
(Printed name)

CITY OF OELWEIN
HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUNDING APPLICATIONM
(Tourism, Community Culture and Education, and Community Recreation and Events.)

Project Identification:

1. **What is the title of your project?**
2. ***The Rocket Man Show – A Tribute to Elton John***: Williams Center for the Arts stage.

Provide a brief description of your project. Attach Additional pages if needed.

This is the official description of the show to be presented at the Williams Center for the Arts:

This is Elton! Rus Anders is Elton John's official body double for Elton's "Farewell Yellow Brick Road." Anders was used in the world tour launch promo video and photos. Picked by Elton John himself, Rus performs as a young Elton John in "The Rocket Man Show." The show is a driving night of Elton's greatest hits, with spot on vocals & fierce piano playing. Rus painstakingly recreates an early Elton concert with gorgeous, colorful & flamboyant costumes actually worn by Elton – including boots, glasses & jumpsuits from 1973, as well as his sparkle tuxedo from 1984! With all the classic young Elton antics, audiences are in for a night of nostalgia, singing, laughing and participation.

3. **Hotel and Motel Tax Funds must be used to fund projects that promote and/or expand tourism activity in Oelwein. How will your project help to realize this goal?**

The Williams Center for the Arts is one of the top destinations of choice for the arts in the four county area of northeast Iowa. Almost 1/3 of our audiences come from communities other than Oelwein. We have had concert attendees from over 40 area communities.

Some of the locations which our patrons come from include: Spencer, IA, Marion, IA, Waverly, IA, Des Moines, IA, Minneapolis, MN, Rochester, MN, Galena, IL, Dubuque, IA, as well as the Oelwein area.

People coming to Oelwein for programs at the Williams Center for the Arts not only come to the programs but also spend money with our local businesses such as restaurants, convenience stores and motel/hotels.

During the 2022-23 concert year the Williams Center for the Arts will spend more than \$8,000 in hotel costs at Cornerstone Inn and Suites. An additional \$5,000 is spent for meals, and an additional \$1,500 for hospitality, which is a required part of each contracted event.

3. Project Evaluation:

A. Targeted Population

1.) Hotel/Motel guests generated by this project.

a. Number of guests.

The number of guests generated by this project is approximately 75+. This includes the performers as well as members of the audience needing housing.

b. How will hotel/motel guests be tracked?

We ask for information from Cornerstone Inn and Suites as to the number of rooms used and how many guests were housed in those rooms per evening.

2.) Number of adults the project will reach.

The total number of visitors to the Williams Center for the Arts Artist Series is 7,625 persons per year. Total number of persons using the Williams Center for the Arts during a calendar year is over 75,000. This includes the Artist Series, City of Oelwein, Mercy Hospital, NICC use, school use, district and state music associations, the State of Iowa, and the Federal Government.

The total number of adults this project will reach is 700 persons.

The Williams Center for the Arts provides residents with special needs the opportunity to attend the events at the center. Groups with special needs using the Williams Center for the Arts include: Mercy Living Plus, the two Alternative Living Homes in Oelwein, Full Circle Services, Grandview Nursing Home, Oelwein Care Nursing Home, and ABCM facilities in Independence, IA. These residents are admitted to the Artist Series event at a reduced ticket price.

3.) Number of youth the project will reach.

Approximately 300 youth will be reached by this project and over 10,000 youth will be served for the entire 2022-23 performance year. (This number includes all usage.) Every Oelwein School student (K-12) is admitted at no charge.

C. Volunteers

1) Number of volunteers

Based on past experience we will have over 25 volunteers

2.) Number of volunteer hours

We anticipated volunteers contributing 50 hours.

D. Attendance of event previous year(s)

The total number of visitors to the Williams Center for the Arts Artist Series is approximately 75,000 persons. (This includes the Williams Center for the Arts Artist Series, Northeast Iowa Honor Bands and Honor Choirs, Pre-All State High School Vocal Workshop, Programs and Concerts from the Oelwein Community Schools, Gallagher-Bluedorn children's plays, and various Community usages, as well as the State of Iowa, and the Federal Government.

E. Day open to the public or performances(s)?

The Williams Center for the Arts Artist Series begins in mid-August and runs through April, 2023. The Ultimate Garth Brooks Tribute was the first show in the series. It was held on August 20, 2022.

The show cited for this grant will be Saturday, April 29, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

4. Project Budget:

A. Please provide a project budget and schedule of completion including all expenses. If desired, the project budget may be attached to the application. If exact costs are not known please attach estimates to the application, which should be identified as such. Cost estimates are included at the conclusion of this grant request form in this application. Date of cost completion should be February 25, 2023.

B. List sources of matching funds obtained below. Funding requests are eligible up to 100% funding, but priority will be given to projects with additional sources of funding, including in-kind donations.

Matching funds:

Northeast Iowa Charitable Foundation, In-Kind donations,
Memorials, Ticket Sales, Local Business Sponsorships (program
ads)

The Williams Center for the Arts is hoping for a \$1,500 grant to help cover part of the cost of **The Rocket Man Show – A Tribute to Elton John**

C. Is this application “seed money” for a new? Project? If yes, Please explain.

It is not “seed” money.

D. Is this application for the expansion of an existing project/program? If yes, please explain.

This application helps to fund the existing 2022-23 Artist Series at the Williams Center for the Arts.

E. Have you ever received Hotel/Motel funding? From the City of Oelwein in the past?

Yes: X No: _____

If you answered yes, please answer the

following: (attach additional pages if needed)

Amount of Funding: The Williams Center Artist Series has received \$6,000 each year for the past several years. Prior to 2017, the City of Oelwein was able to assist the Williams Center Artist series in the amount of \$10,000 yearly. We are hoping for a \$1,500 grant.

Completion Date is April 29, 2023

BUDGET FOR: *The Rocket Man Show – A Tribute to Elton John*

Artist fee - \$12,000

\$1,000 retainer paid February 25, 2022 + \$5,000 due on or before February 15, 2023; \$6,000 due on day of performance

Housing \$940

Meals: TBD (estimated at \$300.00+)

Sound and Lights: \$2,500

Advertising: \$743.00

Programs and posters: \$675.00

Hospitality: \$100.00

Transportation: \$700.00

Total Projected Costs: \$17,958