



ILLINOIS
ARTS
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Bruce Rauner
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Shirley R. Madigan
Chairman

Joshua Davis
Executive Director

July 3, 2018
DeKalb City Council
200 South Fourth Street
DeKalb, Illinois, 60115

Dear DeKalb City Council members,

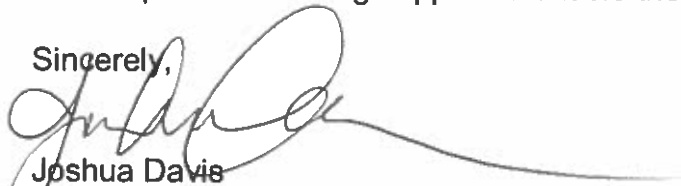
The Illinois Arts Council Agency (IACA) supports the efforts of the Preservation of Egyptian Theatre Inc. to remain open year round and increase their programming in providing quality events and presentations for DeKalb and its surrounding communities.

The Egyptian Theatre has a long history of continued support from the IACA. Their most recent application for a Program Grant was reviewed by a panel of statewide experts and received a high ranking. The Egyptian Theatre has a proven track record of organizational good practices, increased programming and community wide partnerships.

The Egyptian Theatre generates well over \$2 million dollars of financial activity in the city of DeKalb annually, despite being able to operate only 7 months of the year. A recent study by the Americans for the Arts finds that the nation's nonprofit arts and culture industry generated \$166.3 billion in economic activity in 2015—\$63.8 billion in spending by arts and cultural organizations and an additional \$102.5 billion in event-related spending by their audiences.

The IACA holds the Egyptian Theatre as an example of how cultural arts groups can add to the vibrancy and economic health of their communities. We strongly support their request for funding support to enable them to offer programming year round.

Sincerely,



Joshua Davis
Executive Director,
Illinois Arts Council Agency