



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 127**  
**Maryland Arts and Culture Capital Grant Program**

The Lyric Foundation thanks you for consideration of HB127. This legislation creates the Maryland Arts and Culture Capital Grant Program, a new capital grant fund that will be administered by the Maryland State Arts Council. The Program has two components - a competitive grant program for large institutions (\$3 m+ budgets) and another one for mid-size to small institutions that is open to both arts supported through the Maryland State Arts Council.

The Modell Lyric is celebrating 125 years of continuously offering world class entertainment in a world class venue enjoyed by people throughout Maryland. We offer diverse presentations with performances in various musical genres, comedy, dance, theater, children's programming and live performances of popular television shows. Our calendar appeals to people of all ages and backgrounds.

The mission of preserving Maryland's architectural and cultural past by maintaining this historic building is part of the Lyric Foundation's mission. This offers challenges that are not faced by modern venues and cannot be achieved without government support. Passing this legislation demonstrates the Maryland General Assembly's commitment to support the artistic and cultural history of our state.

The Maryland Arts and Culture (MACC) program also represents an important statement by the Maryland General Assembly regarding the valuable role arts and culture organizations play in the economic and social fabric of our state. The ability of our state to provide the quality of life that citizens desire when choosing where to live, work and raise a family and employers seek when determining where to locate a business.

**For these reasons, I ask for a FAVORABLE REPORT on HB 127.**

his bill creates the Maryland Arts and Culture Capital Grant (MACC) program, and allocates \$10 million to the program every year from 2022 through 2027.

Sincerely,

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