



MICHIGAN SENATE

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

Date Submitted: 03/18/2026

1. Sponsoring legislator's full name:

Senator John N. Damoose

2. Cosponsoring legislators' names (if applicable):

N/A

3. Intended legislatively directed spending item recipient:

Traverse City Philharmonic

4. Physical address of legislatively directed spending item recipient and the intended location of the project or activity:

1724 S. Garfield Ave., Traverse City, MI 49686

5. The recipient's employer identification number:

382680276

6. Requested amount of the legislatively directed spending item:

\$3,000,000.00

7. What is the purpose and how does the legislatively directed spending item provide a public benefit that is an appropriate use of taxpayer money?

Traverse City Philharmonic requests a legislatively directed spending item to support the building of the TC Phil Center and Community Music School. This facility updated a long derelict former K-Mart building in a central business district of the region. The new TC Phil Center allows for expanded community outreach and educational programming, while also establishing the Community Music School serving Grand Traverse, Benzie, Leelanau, Kalkaska, and Antrim Counties. This newly constructed center serves more than 250 underserved children from this rural 5-county region per week. The center houses a recital venue, rehearsal spaces, classrooms, teaching studios, a music library, equipment and instrument storage, and administrative offices. The space is a regional community resource. The TC Phil Center is a place where our community gathers to experience great music, robust educational

opportunities, and accessible, welcoming cultural programs. Annually, over 3,000 community members benefit from no-cost programming, from pop-up concerts to free school programs for local students. Traverse City Philharmonic and Community Music School partners with other regional non-profit organizations to provide artistic support for everyone from infants to seniors, with additional programming with Traverse Area District Library and organizations serving neurodivergent students, in addition to others. Organizations from throughout Northern Michigan are now using the hall as a 200-seat venue with outstanding sound, accessibility, and parking—something our region has sorely needed. The Community Music School, housed within the TC Phil Center, was a primary driver for establishing a permanent home. The Community Music School is delivering services that did not exist in our region at the same scale before having the center, allowing the TC Phil to offer robust programming for learners of all ages, from growing our youth programs to adding options like a senior adult band. The facility is a cultural center, accessible source for music education, and employs 115 Michigan artists (70 core musicians) and 10 music instructors annually.

8. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received or been awarded any of the following types of funding in the past 5 years? If so, how much? Check all that apply:

N/A

Amount

N/A

9. Estimated time frame for completion of the legislatively directed spending item project:

December 31, 2026

10. Is the recipient a nonprofit corporation?

Yes

Additional Information for Nonprofit Corporations (if applicable)

The answer to questions 1 to 3 must be "Yes" for the nonprofit corporation to qualify for a legislatively directed spending item.

1. Has the nonprofit corporation continuously operated in this state for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

2. Has the nonprofit corporation had a physical office in this state for not less than the preceding 12 consecutive months?

Yes

3. Does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

4. List all of the officers and active members on the board of directors:

Officers: Sebastian Garbsch, President Paul Jarboe, Vice President Lindsey (Jonkhoff) Rogers, Secretary Andrew Buthker, Treasurer Susan Cogswell, Immediate Past President Additional Board Members: Dr. Suzanne Albrecht, Leelanau County Jeffrey Caviston, Grand Traverse County Dorothy Clore, Antrim County Sherri DeCamp, Antrim County Sandra Gray, Antrim County Janet Hessler, Benzie County David C. Johnson, Leelanau County Dr. Gerard Mahoney, Benzie County Mary Beth Milliken, Grand Traverse County Julius Moss, Grand Traverse County Dr. Lisa Musgrave, Benzie County Michael Musgrave, Benzie County Alexis Nink, Leelanau County Bob Streit, Antrim County Suzy Voltz, Benzie County Woody Wright, Antrim County

Certification By Sponsoring Legislator

"I certify that my immediate family members, legislative staff members, and I have no direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the requested legislatively directed spending item."

"I certify that the intended recipient of this legislatively directed spending item is not a for-profit entity."

"I certify that the information in this form is true to the best of my knowledge."

Senator John N. Damoose