Tuesday, November 18, 2025

FY 2025

Ivins City Arts Commission RAP Funds Application

Request for excess Ivins City RAP Funds Designated for the Arts

In 2024, Washington County voters renewed a 10-year County-wide Recreation, Arts and Parks ("RAP") tax imposed as a one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) sales tax. By Resolution 2015-03R, Ivins City Council determined that the City's share of the County RAP tax revenues would be distributed in equal one-third shares between recreation, arts, and parks. Tax-exempt organizations located in Ivins City, or those that contribute significant tax revenue to the City, are eligible to apply for the excess RAP tax funds for arts-related projects taking place within Ivins City.

To apply to the City for these RAP tax funds for the arts, an eligible applicant must complete and submit this application, including all attachments, to Ivins City Arts Commission 85 North Main Street, Ivins, Utah 84738 by the last Friday in December of each year.

Questions: Contact the Ivins City Arts Commission (ICAC) at IvinsArtsCommission@IvinsUtah.gov

Applicant/Organization	Tuacahn Center for the Arts
Physical Address:	Ivins, UT, 84738
Mailing Address:	Ivins, UT, 84738

Contact's Name: Lindsay Garfias

Contact's Title

Contact's Phone Number

Contact's Email Address

Organization Website: www.tuacahn.org

How long has applicant been in existence? Since 1995

Total amount of RAP tax funds requested: $20,000

Total amount of Project Budget: $1,027,000

Board Information (Executive Officers Only)

	Name	Title	Phone Number	Email	Years Served
Member	Jonathan Hafen	Board Chair			31
Member	Stacie Shurtliff	Vice Board Chair			6
Member	Sue Cox	Executive Committee Member			20
Member					
Member					

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Proposed use of RAP funds: Capital

1. Describe the project (i.e., "proposed project") for which RAP tax funds are requested.

Tuacahn Center for the Arts is requesting $20,000 in RAP Tax funding from Ivins City to help improve the backstage areas that make our productions possible. The project will focus on two main needs: updating our stage lighting and creating better spaces for scenic storage and set changes.

Our current lighting system includes fixtures that are aging and unreliable. By adding new outdoor moving lights, modern wash fixtures, and upgraded projection equipment, we'll improve the quality and consistency of every performance while using less energy. These updates will help Tuacahn continue delivering the stunning visual experiences our audiences have come to expect.

We'll also be building new covered scenic storage areas on both sides of the Amphitheatre stage. With three large outdoor productions running in rotation each summer, we need organized, weather-protected space to safely store and move scenery and props. These improvements will make backstage operations smoother, safer, and more efficient for our crews.

Together, these upgrades will strengthen the foundation of Tuacahn's productions—supporting the creativity, craftsmanship, and magic that bring hundreds of thousands of people to Ivins each year.

2. Describe the proposed qualified project expenses to be paid for with RAP tax funds.

The $20,000 we're requesting from Ivins City will help purchase SGM Moving Lights, which are a key part of the backstage upgrades we're working toward. These lights are built to hold up in our desert environment and will give our productions the kind of color, movement, and consistency that really bring the stage to life.

Right now, many of our older fixtures are becoming difficult—and expensive—to maintain. Adding these new SGM units will not only improve the look and feel of our shows, but also make our technical work much more reliable night after night. It's a practical improvement that also makes a big artistic difference.

The RAP funds will go specifically toward:

- Buying the new outdoor-rated SGM Moving Lights
- The equipment and hardware needed to integrate them into our current system

While this upgrade is part of a larger long-term plan, Ivins City's support fills an important gap and helps ensure we can move forward with this lighting improvement. It's a meaningful step that strengthens the quality of our productions and supports the work our team does behind the scenes every single day.

3. If applicant has received RAP tax funds within the past three years, provide an accounting of how prior RAP tax funds were spent. (NOTE: You must also complete the RAP Grant Reporting Form).

Over the past three years, Ivins City RAP Tax support has helped Tuacahn complete several important improvements. In 2024, RAP funds supported the construction of brand-new restrooms for our Ambassador Club donors and our actors. In 2023, funding contributed to the Amphitheatre's seating expansion along with front- and backstage improvements. And in 2022, RAP funds helped us purchase new wireless microphones for our performers. Each of these projects has strengthened the experience for both our audiences and the artists who bring our productions to life.

4. Provide a brief description of the applicant organization with examples of arts projects the applicant has organized/conducted that are substantially similar in nature to the proposed project:

Tuacahn Center for the Arts is a nonprofit professional theatre that has called Ivins home for more than 30 years. Set against the red rock cliffs, we welcome over 360,000 guests each year to our 2,500-seat outdoor Amphitheatre, sharing family-friendly musical entertainment that brings Broadway-quality storytelling to Southern Utah. Just last year, we added about 500 new seats to meet the growing demand from our community and beyond.

We've completed many similar backstage and technical upgrades over the years—improvements to lighting, sound, projection, and other production systems that keep our shows running smoothly. This

proposed project continues that same commitment to giving our artists the tools they need and ensuring audiences enjoy the high-quality experience Tuacahn is known for.

5. Timeline for completion of the proposed project.

Start Date: November 25, 2025
Completion Date: February 26, 2026

The project will be completed in time for Tuacahn's 2026 Spring Concert series and 2026 summer season, fully supporting both current productions and future growth in artistic offerings.

6. What, if any, maintenance, will the completed proposed project require and who will be responsible?

We hope that with the new equipment, there will be little maintenance required; however, any needed maintenance will be managed by our Technical Director, Jeff Miller, and his production team.

7. How will the public benefit from the completed proposed project?

The improvements supported by this project will benefit the entire community—both the people who create the work onstage and the hundreds of thousands who come to experience it each year. More than 360,000 patrons, from young children to seniors in their 90s, visit Tuacahn annually. Many are local families, and even more travel from across Utah, the country, and abroad to be part of the magic in Ivins.

Upgrading our backstage spaces and modernizing our lighting will directly support the performers, technicians, and creative teams who bring each production to life. When they have reliable, modern tools, they can focus fully on their craft, and the artistic quality of every show rises.

For audiences, these improvements translate into a richer, more immersive experience—clearer storytelling, more dynamic visuals, and performances that feel alive in ways only great live theatre can offer. It also strengthens safety, accessibility, and the long-term sustainability of the venue, ensuring that Tuacahn can continue welcoming multigenerational audiences for years to come.

By investing in this project, the community helps protect and nurture a cultural treasure in Ivins—one that inspires imagination, brings people together, and continues to shine as a source of pride for Southern Utah.

8. Will your organization collaborate with any other Ivins City cultural or arts organizations? If so, please explain.

This project does not involve direct collaboration with other Ivins arts organizations, but Tuacahn remains committed to supporting and contributing to the overall cultural life of the community.

9. How/where will your organization recognize Ivins City RAP Tax funding, if funded? Where will the ICAC RAP tax logo appear?

If funded, Tuacahn will proudly recognize Ivins City RAP Tax support by displaying the ICAC RAP Tax logo on our website, in all seasonal playbills, and within the Amphitheatre. Each year, more than 360,000 playbills are printed for our patrons, and our website receives over one million visits annually, ensuring strong and meaningful visibility for Ivins City's support.

Submit the following as part of this application:

- Attach a Project Budget including detailed costs of proposed project and include other source of funding for project
- Attach proof of applicant's tax-exempt status (i.e., IRS Letter)
- Applicant's financial statement (i.e., a profit and loss statement) for its prior fiscal year of operation

NOTES: Applicants are invited to attend the Arts Commission's first meeting in January at which it will

discuss each application. Public notice of this meeting will be done in accordance with the City's usual and customary procedures. This will be an opportunity for each applicant to answer questions from the Arts Commission. In consideration of time and fairness, no presentations by applicants will be allowed during this meeting.

Applications that are complete, concise, and clear will receive priority review from the Ivins City Arts Commission.

As used in this form, "RAP tax funds" or "RAP tax" refers only to the portion of City RAP taxes Ivins City Council has designated for the arts.

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PDF 2024 Financial Statements.pdf

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