

**MINUTES OF THE  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL**

**October 21, 2021**

A meeting of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council was held at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium and online via Zoom.

<p><b><u>Members Present</u></b>          Brian May, Chairman          Mitchell Bierman          Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, Second Vice Chair          Sandra Curbelo          Adolfo Henriques, Immediate Past Chair          Jorge Plasencia          Cheryl Rees          Janá Sigars-Malina, First Vice Chair          Rosa Sugrañes          Monty Trainer          Justin Trieger</p>	<p><b><u>Members Not Present</u></b>          Alejandro Aguirre</p> <p><b><u>Others Present</u></b>          Tiffany Crapp          Yvette Harris</p>
<p><b><u>Staff</u></b>          Michael Spring, Director          Marialaura Leslie, Deputy Director          Kelly Allocco          Francine Andersen          Patricia Arbelaez          Roxana Barba          Stefania Barigelli          Nikenna Benjamin          Ruby Brown          Tania Centeno          Mary-Margaret Dale          Marie Denis          Ivette Dominguez          Eric Fliss          Bianca Gonzalez          Olga Gonzalez          Teddy Harrell</p>	<p><b><u>Staff (continued)</u></b>          Liliana Hernandez-Constenla          Regla Lee          Gilda Mooney          Steven Padilla          Alex Peraza          Adriana Perez          Katherine Revell          Pablo Rincon          Alexia Robotham          Javier Siut          Christina Tassy-Beauvoir          Pamela Valles          Graham Winick</p>

Chairman Brian May called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

## **ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

### **Requests for Excused Absences for October 21, 2021**

A request for an excused absence was submitted by Councilor Alejandro Aguirre. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Sugrañes)

### **Approval of September 15, 2021 Minutes**

The minutes of the September 15, 2021, Council meeting were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

### **2021 Sunset Review of County Boards – Cultural Affairs Council**

Mr. Spring reported that the Department is finalizing the Sunset Review report of the Cultural Affairs Council. The report is an assessment and a requirement for the continued existence of the County boards. The recommendation to approve the Sunset Review report of the Cultural Affairs Council recommending the continuation of the board was approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Sugrañes)

## **REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Update on the FY 2021-2022 County Arts Budget**

Mr. Spring reported that the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners adopted Mayor Levine Cava's proposed FY 2021-2022 County budget and recommended renewal of funding for the Department of Cultural Affairs at the final budget hearing on September 28th. The recommendation includes the restoration of \$180,000 for the arts education programs including the All Kids Included programs that were reduced last year; \$25,000 for professional artist development programs; \$115,000 for Culture Shock Miami; and \$20,000 to support skill-building workshops and grants-writing assistance for small diverse arts groups. Other cultural funding managed by the Department includes \$500,000 to subsidize the operations of the Historic Hampton House and \$100,000 for activities and planning to the Miami Dade North Arts & Humanities Foundation Inc. for the Miami Museum of Contemporary Art of the African Diaspora (MoCAAD).

Mr. Spring reported the Commission took other actions including the allocation of \$100,000 to program the South Dade Black History Center at the Larcenia Bullard Plaza in Richmond Heights; an additional \$158,000 was allocated to the Black Affairs Advisory Board to hire two staff members to manage the work at the Plaza; and separately \$400,000 for cultural programming at Oak Grove Park. Oak Grove Park is managed by the Miami-Dade County's Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department and funding was allocated to that Department. The City of Miami Gardens Community Redevelopment Agency was allocated \$5,000,000 for a North Dade Cultural Center and \$800,000 was allocated to subsidize the operations of the Miami Military Museum to be managed by Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department. Two cultural non-profit organizations also received direct allocations including \$100,000 for MUCE (Miami Urban Contemporary Experience) for pre-Art Basel Week activities and \$25,000 to A Reflection of Me, Inc. for cultural programming.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Mr. Spring reported that the Florida Department of State has opened the African American Cultural and Historical Grants program and the Department is currently promoting this opportunity to Miami-Dade cultural groups. The application closes November 30<sup>th</sup>, and the purpose of the program is to provide funding for construction projects at facilities in Florida that highlight the contributions, culture, or history of African Americans. The maximum award amount organizations may request is up to \$500,000 with no matching funds required or up to \$1,000,000 with 50 percent matching funds from other sources. There is no minimum request amount. The Department is considering applying for funding for the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center.
- President Biden nominated a new Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, Maria Rosario Jackson. Ms. Jackson will be the first African American and Mexican American to be appointed as NEA Chair. She is a Professor in the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts (HIDA) at Arizona State University and in 2013, she was appointed to the National Council on the Arts by President Obama.
- Miami-Dade County Mayor Levine Cava and Commissioner Regalado joined the Department of Cultural Affairs and Arquitectonica on a Zoom community meeting that provided the latest updates on the Coconut Grove Playhouse to public held October 4<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was well attended, and staff has been thoroughly answering many follow-up questions submitted by the public.
- The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center received a CreArte (Pérez Family Foundation/Miami Foundation) \$200,000 award for its Cinema Arts Program. Tarrell Alvin McCraney has been a big proponent and supporter of this program which will teach youth filmmaking.

## Councilor Reports

- Mr. Bierman reported that he attended an event at the Fillmore Miami Beach. The venue's COVID protocols included proof of vaccination or test and he felt completely comfortable. GableStage is hosting its fundraising gala in the month of November.
- Chairman May stated that venues across the country are currently working on systems that request proof of vaccination as an online upload which are efficient to use.
- Ms. Sigars-Malina reported that the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden has family-friendly events happening at the garden including the Halloween Spooktacular.
- Mr. Trainer reported Dade Days will take place in February 2022.
- Mr. Trieger reported that the New World Symphony's protocols include proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test to attend. Audiences have been receptive, and few problems have occurred.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Liliana Hernandez-Constenla