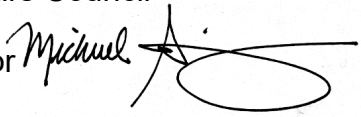


# Memorandum



**Date:** October 21, 2020

**To:** Members, Cultural Affairs Council

**From:** Michael Spring, Director 

**Subject:** Culture Shock Miami (CSM) – Discount Tickets for Youth Program

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## **Culture Shock Miami (CSM)**

- [Courageous Creatives](#) (Update) – The 24 socially-minded young artists (ages 16-22) who participated in this summer’s Courageous Creatives premiered their short-film, [Take Back Time](#), on September 16. Hosted on Zoom and live-streamed via YouTube, the event drew more than 195 attendees. Coordinated to be part of Americans for the Arts’ *National Arts in Education Week* (September 13 -19), the virtual event included a moderator-led panel discussion featuring members of the Courageous Creatives cohort and seasoned leaders of Miami-Dade’s civic and cultural organizations, including Cultural Affairs Council Chair, Xavier Cortada, and Department Director, Michael Spring. Courageous Creatives is a five-week project launched as a virtual safe space for young artists and future leaders to participate in complex discussions about social justice and to reimagine change through arts activism. As the project evolves, details will be provided at upcoming Cultural Affairs Council meetings.

Courageous Creatives applied to and has been selected by the Creative Youth Development National Partnership (CYDNP) to present the project at their upcoming virtual *National Youth Arts Summit* (NYAS) from November 6-8, 2020. Designed and led by young people, NYAS serves as a creative space for young artists from a range of artistic disciplines (ages 13-20) to connect, create, celebrate, and encourage artistic youth-led activism. In partnership with more than 650 national cross-sector stakeholders, CYDNP advocates for young people to have equitable access to opportunities to: 1) realize their creative potential; 2) live richer, fuller lives; and 3) develop leadership skills to become active contributors in their communities. An update of the NYA Summit will be provided at the November Cultural Affairs Council meeting.

- CSM joined The Adrienne Arsht Center’s Education and Community Engagement team, Miami Theater Center (MTC), and the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center’s (SMDCAC) Education and Outreach Division to form the Miami-Dade Arts Education Collective. This group of South Florida Presenters came together to identify and pool resources to meet the arts education needs of school-aged children, grades K-12, during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Collective seeks to support Miami-Dade schools, including Miami-Dade County Public Schools’ (MDCPS) *Cultural Passport Program*, by providing diverse and high-quality virtual programming to students. Performances and/or arts activities will be made available to schools on an on-demand basis and will be accessible during school hours. The group’s first planned collaboration will bring to students a virtual performance of *Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom* (Theater - Grades 6-12), a play about Lynda Blackmon Lowery, one of the youngest person to participate in the Selma to Montgomery *Voting Rights March* of 1965. Other virtual performances being negotiated include *A Kid’s Play About Racism* (Theater - Grades K-5), *Air Play* (STEAM-based curriculum, Acrobatics - Grades K-8), *Ballet Hispanico* (Dance - Grades K-12), *Black Violin* (Music – Grades K-12), *Emil and The Detectives* (Theater - Grades 3-6), *Hip Hop Nutcracker* (Dance - Grades K-12), and *Inez Barlatier* (Storyteller – Grades K-3).

- 2020/21 Season – Staff continues to work with artist representatives and venues to reschedule performances from the program’s 2019/20 season. The presentation of three (3) performances originally scheduled to take place between April and August 2020 are being renegotiated as artists re-evaluate their routing plans for the 2020/21 season. In addition to the virtual performances planned in collaboration with the Miami-Dade Arts Education Collective, CSM staff is considering other performances this season including a collaboration with Miami Dade College’s *Live Arts* to co-present multi-media, animation performance artist, Miwa Matreyek.
- CSM staff attended the Florida Professional Presenters Consortium’s (FPPC) Virtual Fall Summit last month (September 21-25). Following SouthArts’ decision to sunset their annual *Performing Arts Exchange* Conference in 2019, the summit was organized to provide its members the opportunity to interact with fellow members, participate in pitching sessions conducted by agents, and engage in a virtual marketplace setting with agencies to attend agent-meetings and review rosters.
- As reported last month, CSM staff reactivated the program’s Student Advisory Council last month and held their second virtual meeting on October 7. Staff will continue to work with council members to encourage involvement in all aspects of decision making, launch new virtual initiatives to encourage participation in the arts amongst their peers, and serve as ambassadors for the arts in their respective schools.
- Vizcaya Museum and Gardens continues to provide a monthly allotment of 50 tickets via the program’s website. The \$5 CSM tickets have been selling out since the museum re-opened its grounds in May.

Please be sure to visit *Online Experiences* at [www.CultureShockMiami.com](http://www.CultureShockMiami.com).