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Break-Dancers Break Down Boundaries in Empowering Performance: “A New Definition of Dance” featuring ILL-ABILITIES

Performance presented by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with Arts4All Florida

Miami (Oct. 30, 2018) The **Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs** joins forces with Arts4All Florida to challenge society’s view of disabilities, as they present international break-dance crew, **ILL-ABILITIES**. The group is comprised of an all-star team of differently-able dancers whose goal is to show the world that anything is possible. Titled “Dis-Connect,” the public performance will take place on Friday, November 9, at 8 p.m. at Miami-Dade County Auditorium (MDCA). An after-party jam and reception with the artists immediately following the performance is included with admission.

“A New Definition of Dance” featuring ILL-ABILITIES, a program of Arts4All Florida, is being presented in partnership with the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs’ All Kids Included and Culture Shock Miami initiatives, and its storied facility, the Miami-Dade County Auditorium in Little Havana. This is the second time the program is presented in Miami-Dade County.

ILL-ABILITIES was formed in 2007 by Luca “Lazylegz” Patuelli, a Montreal-based performer and motivational speaker. Their name comes from a custom in hip-hop culture where negative terms are used to refer to something positive. The “ill” in ILL-ABILITIES refers to their talent as they show the world that anything is possible. Since 2007, ILL-ABILITIES has performed on an array of international stages and was nominated for an Olivier Award in the category “Outstanding Achievement in Dance.”

In addition to the Friday night’s performance on November 9, ILL-ABILITIES will also be participating in a series of community events:

- In-school masterclass – at the New World School of the Arts
- Free dance workshop with PATH: Preserving, Archiving & Teaching Hip Hop and Catalyst Hip Hop which are open to public – Thursday, November 8 at 6:30 p.m. at MDCA. [RSVP at: https://bit.ly/2xNpsQ7](https://bit.ly/2xNpsQ7)

- Miami-Dade County Public Schools “Cultural Passport” performance for local students
- After party jam session (open to patrons with show admission only) – Friday, November 9 at 9 p.m. at MDCA

Tickets prices are \$20 for regular admission and \$5 through the Culture Shock Miami student program, which provides teens and young adults (ages 13-22) with \$5 tickets to performances, museums and cultural attractions around Miami-Dade County. For each ticket purchased for a teen or young adult within the eligible age range (13-22), a second ticket may be purchased for someone of any age to join them. Culture Shock Miami tickets are only available online at CultureShockMiami.com. Regular-priced and discount tickets for groups and patrons with disabilities may be purchased at MiamiDadeCountyAuditorium.org.

Patrons are also invited to share their experiences using the hashtag, #MiamiDadeArts, and to follow the programs and organizations on their respective social media handles.

The November 9 public performance will be presented with American Sign Language and Audio Description. Miami-Dade County Auditorium is an accessible facility and assistive listening devices are available. To request materials in accessible format, and/or any accommodation, please contact Javier Siut, (305) 547-5414, SiutJ@MiamiDade.gov at least 5 days in advance to initiate request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service).

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About Culture Shock Miami

Culture Shock Miami, the young audience development program of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, is designed to introduce the next generation of audience members to live arts and cultural experiences at the age when they are beginning to make their own entertainment decisions. Based on research that shows most people begin their appreciation for the arts at a young age, Culture Shock Miami is founded on the premise that when teens and young adults make the arts a regular entertainment choice, they are more likely to become full-price ticket buyers and subscribers in the future. Through its website, CultureShockMiami.com, the program offers teens and young adults (ages 13-22), \$5 tickets to top music, theatre, and dance performances, as well as admission to museums, landmarks, and cultural destinations in and around Miami-Dade County. With the purchase of one \$5 ticket for a 13-to-22-year-old, a second \$5 ticket can be purchased for someone of any age to accompany them. *Culture Shock Miami Presents* has been recognized with a 2018 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo). For more information about this exciting program, call 305-375-1949 or contact Christina Tassy-Beauvoir at Christina.Tassy-Beauvoir@miamidade.gov or Mary-Margaret Dale at Mary-Margaret.Dale@miamidade.gov, or follow the program on social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).)

About All Kids Included

All Kids Included (AKI) promotes inclusive arts and cultural programs in school settings and throughout the community, enabling kids of all abilities and their families to participate fully in the arts. All Kids Included continually raises the bar with excellence in programming that demonstrates and promotes the benefit and importance of inclusionary arts and cultural programs for children and youth. All Kids Included is an initiative of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, made possible with the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, and in part through grant funding provided by The Children’s Trust. The Children’s Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County. For more information about AKI and its programs, visit www.AllKidsIncludedMiami.org.

About ARTS4ALL FLORIDA

A private not-for-profit organization, Arts4All Florida (formerly VSA Florida) conducts art education programs in schools, Department of Juvenile Justice facilities, and community centers; promotes the accomplishments of artists with disabilities through our artist registry, exhibitions, and performances; and increases access to the arts through professional development workshops. The mission of Arts4All Florida is to provide, support and champion arts education and cultural experiences for and by people with disabilities. Their vision is to create a world in which the arts are universally accessible. For more information, follow the organization on social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).)

About Miami-Dade County Auditorium

Miami-Dade County Auditorium opened its doors in 1951. It has a splendid history as one of South Florida's premiere performing arts center. Over the years it has hosted countless numbers of operas, symphonies, theatre presentations, ballets, concerts, lectures, presidential candidates, graduations, naturalization services and a host of other programs of great community interest. This popular multipurpose theatre features Art Deco Revival décor. Recently renovated, this state-of-the-art facility has for decades served as the center for showcasing the diversity of our cultural life and celebrating the Hispanic arts community. The operation of Miami-Dade County Auditorium was transferred to the Department of Cultural Affairs in January 2012; the Department has a track record and reputation for innovation and artistic excellence. The Auditorium is managed by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs (www.miamidadearts.org), with funding support from the office of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.

About Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council develop cultural excellence, diversity and participation throughout Miami-Dade County by strategically creating and promoting opportunities for artists and cultural organizations, and our residents and visitors who are their audiences. Through staff, board and programmatic resources, the Department, the Council and the Trust promote, coordinate and support Miami-Dade County's more than 1,000 not-for-profit cultural organizations as well as thousands of resident artists through grants, technical assistance, public information and interactive community planning. The Department receives funding through the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children's Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida through the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Other support and services are provided by TicketWeb for the Culture Shock Miami program, the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the South Florida Cultural Consortium and the Tourist Development Council. For more information, follow the department on social media ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).)