

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

July 17, 2019

A meeting of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council was held at the 6th Floor Conference Room, Stephen P. Clark Government Center, and 111 N.W. 1st Street, Miami, Florida.

<p><u>Members Present</u> Xavier Cortada, Chair Janá Sigars-Malina, Vice Chair Alejandro Aguirre Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez Denise Gerson Susana Ibarguen Brian May Cheryl Rees</p>	<p><u>Members Not Present</u> Mitchell Bierman Sandra Curbelo Adolfo Henriques Phyllis Simpkins Rosa Sugrañes Monty Trainer Justin Trieger</p> <p><u>Others Present:</u> John Copeland</p>
<p><u>Staff</u> Michael Spring, Director Marialaura Leslie, Deputy Director Kelly Allocco Francine Andersen Roxana Barba Stefania Barigelli Sue Camp Nicole Chaplin Mary-Margaret Dale Eric Fliss Olga Gonzalez Liliana Hernandez-Constenla</p>	<p><u>Staff (continued)</u> Regla Lee Amanda Sanfilippo Long Gilda Mooney Steven Padilla Alex Peraza Adriana Perez Melanie Rodriguez Pamela Valles Graham Winick</p>

Chairman Xavier Cortada called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m. and thanked Vice Chair Janá Sigars-Malina for chairing the Cultural Affairs Council June meeting in his absence. Mr. Cortada welcomed John Copeland, Director of Cultural Tourism at the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Requests for Excused Absences for July 17, 2019

Requests for excused absences for Mitchell Bierman, Sandra Curbelo, Adolfo Henriques, Phyllis Simpkins, Rosa Sugrañes, Monty Trainer and Justin Trieger were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

Approval of June 19, 2019 Minutes

The minutes of the June 19, 2019 Council meeting were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

FY 2019-2020 Capital Development (CAP) Grants Program Panel Recommendations

Ms. Kelly Allocco reported that the FY 2019-2020 Capital Development Grants Program Panel met on Friday, June 28, 2019. Ms. Allocco thanked Councilor Sandra Curbelo for her participation in the panel. The primary objective of the program is to provide funding support to nonprofit cultural organizations for capital improvement projects that are designed to expand, renovate, construct and/or equip cultural facilities located within Miami-Dade County. Twelve organizations submitted applications to the program requesting a total of \$249,014 in cultural facility improvement support funds. The panel reviewed and recommended funding all twelve grant applications. Awards will be determined in conjunction with the budget process.

The following Council members declared conflicts of interest and abstained from voting on the following:
Xavier Cortada – City of Miami, Florida International University Board of Trustees for the benefit of Jewish Museum of Florida; Village of Pinecrest
Cheryl Rees - Florida International University Board of Trustees for the benefit of Jewish Museum of Florida

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Brian May; seconded by Ms. Janá Sigars-Malina)

Actors' Playhouse Productions, Inc.
Bakehouse Art Complex, Inc.
City of Miami Beach
Coral Gables Cinemateque, Inc.
Fantasy Theatre Factory, Inc.
Friends of the Bass Museum, Inc.
The Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center, Inc.
The Miami Children's Museum, Inc.
The Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, Inc.

The Panel's recommendations to fund the organizations for which there were the above-mentioned Councilor conflicts of interest and abstentions were voted on and passed unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Alejandro Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Janá Sigars-Malina)

City of Miami
Florida International University Board of Trustees for the benefit of Jewish Museum of Florida
Village of Pinecrest

FY 2019-2020 Dance Miami Choreographers' (DMC) Grants Program Panel Recommendations

Ms. Adriana Perez reported that the FY 2019-2020 Dance Miami Choreographers Program Panel of national experts convened on June 24, 2019 for 11 hours to review submissions. The program supports the artistic development of Miami-Dade County-based choreographers for the creation of new work in all dance forms, including contemporary, classical and traditional dance. Awards are being recommended to continue at the same funding level as in FY 2018-2019, allowing for five choreographers to be awarded. A sixth and seventh choreographer were recommended by the Panel to receive an award in the event of additional funds becoming available.

The Panel's recommendations to fund 5 choreographers and 2 choreographers in the event additional funding is available were approved unanimously, as listed below. (Motion by Mr. Alejandro Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Susana Ibarguen)

Karen Peterson	\$10,000
Elise George a/k/a Ilisa Rosal	\$10,000
Alexey Taran	\$10,000
Randolph Ward	\$10,000
Pioneer Winter	\$10,000
Omayra Amaya	\$10,000
Marissa Alma Nick	\$10,000

FY 2019-2020 International Cultural Partnerships (ICP) Grants Program Panel Recommendations

Ms. Roxana Barba reported the FY 2019-2020 International Cultural Partnerships Program Panel, chaired by Rosa Sugrañes, convened on June 27, 2019 to review 12 applications requesting a total of \$345,000. The Panel recommended funding 12 applications. The International Cultural Partnerships Program is designed to provide grants to professional Miami-Dade County based cultural organizations to support significant artistic partnerships or collaborations with artists, arts professionals and/or organizations abroad. Awards will be determined in conjunction with the budget process.

The following Council members declared conflicts of interest and abstained from voting on the following:

Brian May – Area Stage Company
Janá Sigars-Malina - The Dance Now Ensemble

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Brian May; seconded by Ms. Janá Sigars-Malina)

Arca Images
Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc
Ballet Flamenco La Rosa Inc.
Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator
Edge Zones
El Ingenio
FUNDarte
PAXy
Peter London Global Dance Company
University of Wynwood

The Panel's recommendations to fund the organizations for which there were the above-mentioned Councilor conflicts of interest and abstentions were voted on and passed unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Alejandro Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Cheryl Rees)

Area Stage Company
The Dance Now! Ensemble

Youth Arts Enrichment (YEP) Grants Program Panel Recommendations

Ms. Dana Pezoldt reported that the FY 2019-2020 Youth Arts Enrichment Program (YEP) Grants Panel, chaired by Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez convened on July 11, 2019 to review 32 applications requesting a total of \$633,330. The Panel recommended funding 31 applications for a total of \$500,000. One application scored below the threshold established by the Panel and was not recommended for funding. The YEP program was created as a joint initiative of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and The Children's Trust. The program's objective is to enrich the lives of children through the arts by making the arts available to more children and families throughout Miami-Dade County. Ms. Pezoldt added that Bevone Ritchie served on the Panel and represented The Children's Trust.

The following Council members declared conflicts of interest and abstained from voting on the following:

Xavier Cortada - Jorge M. Pérez Art Museum of Miami-Dade County, Inc., Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Inc., The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.

Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez - Jorge M. Pérez Art Museum of Miami-Dade County, Inc.

Susana Ibarгүйen - Jorge M. Pérez Art Museum of Miami-Dade County, Inc.

Janá Sigars-Malina - The Dance Now Ensemble

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Brian May; seconded by Ms. Janá Sigars-Malina)

Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc.	\$19,721.00
ArtSouth, A Not-For-Profit Corporation	\$27,000.00
Brazilian Voices Inc.	\$20,000.00
City Theatre, Inc.	\$10,000.00
Coral Gables Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), Inc.	\$30,000.00
El Ingenio Inc.	\$12,507.00
Friends of South Florida Music, Inc.	\$19,756.00
Friends of the Bass Museum, Inc.	\$7,179.00
Friendship Circle of Miami, Inc.	\$17,800.00
GableStage, Inc.	\$10,000.00
M Ensemble Company, Inc.	\$9,420.00
Mahogany Youth Corporation	\$10,000.00
Miami City Ballet, Inc.	\$27,000.00
Miami Light Project, Inc.	\$10,000.00
Miami New Drama, Inc.	\$10,000.00
Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center, Inc.	\$10,000.00
Museum of Contemporary Art, Inc.	\$18,406.00
New World Symphony, Inc.	\$15,220.00
Orchestra Miami, Inc.	\$10,000.00
Saint Martha Concerts and Cultural Affairs, Inc.	\$13,200.00
Seraphic Fire, Inc.	\$19,507.00
South Florida Symphony Orchestra, Inc.	\$10,000.00
The Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center, Inc.	\$10,000.00
The Miami Children's Museum, Inc.	\$30,000.00
The Murray Dranoff Foundation, Inc.	\$10,000.00
The Opera Atelier, Inc.	\$18,974.00
University of Wynwood, Inc.	\$19,579.00

The Panel's recommendations to fund the organizations for which there were the above-mentioned Councilor conflicts of interest and abstentions were voted on and passed unanimously.

The Dance NOW! Ensemble, Inc. \$19,756

(Motion by Mr. Alejandro Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Cheryl Rees)

The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc. \$27,000

(Motion by Mr. Brian May; seconded by Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez)

Jorge M. Pérez Art Museum of Miami-Dade County, Inc. \$17,975

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Inc. \$10,000

(Motion by Mr. Brian May; seconded by Denise Gerson)

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update on the FY 2019-2020 County Arts Budget

Mr. Spring reported that the Mayor's budget recommendations include an additional \$2.5 million for the Departmental grants budget. Staff is currently analyzing how the grants will be positively affected by the additional funding. Before the next Council meeting staff will share the proposed list showing the enhancements to grants and the use of the additional funds. The budget recommendation also includes half a million dollars to build out a café at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center. In addition, there is an additional \$30,000 for the operation of the Sandrell Rivers Theatre, managed by Fantasy Theater Factory. Two additional Maintenance Supervisor positions have been approved for the Department directly related to the improvements and upgrades currently happening at Miami-Dade County Auditorium and the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center. The Department's goal is to ensure staff is prepared to operate and proactively care for the buildings at the highest possible level. Mr. Spring added that Mayor Gimenez's budget recommendations must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners through the budget process. The County Commission will meet to set the upper limit of the millage rate on July 18th. The Mayor is recommending no rate increase for the 2019-2020 County Budget. In September the Miami-Dade County Commission holds two public budget hearings to review the Mayor's recommendations and adopt the FY 2019-2020 County Budget.

Update on the FY 2019-2020 State Arts Budget

Mr. Spring reported the Florida Governor signed the State budget. The State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs grants budget was recommended to increase from \$2.6 million in 2018-2019 to \$21.2 million in 2019-2020. Mr. Spring thanked Councilors for the support and advocacy at the State level. The State cultural budget impacts 144 cultural organizations in Miami-Dade County which makes up 20% of the State arts budget. The Council discussed the importance maintaining bipartisan support for the arts and thanking legislators for their support.

Council Motion

Chairman Cortada recommended the Cultural Affairs Council formally thank Governor DeSantis and State of Florida legislators for their support of cultural arts funding. The motion was approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Brian May; seconded by Mr. Alejandro Aguirre)

Update on the FY 2019-2020 Federal Arts Budget

Mr. Spring reported that the Administration has recommended the elimination of the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) for the third consecutive year. Congress has responded in a bipartisan manner and has increased the NEA and NEH budget recommendations to \$155 million each. The NEA administers thousands of arts grants and 40% of the overall funding is directed to State Arts Councils. Staff met Maryann Carter, the Acting Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts at the Americans for the Arts Conference. She is a Floridian, very supportive of the agency and is interested in moving it forward.

Culture Shock Miami - Discount Tickets for Youth Program

Ms. Christina Tassy-Beauvoir reported that *Culture Shock Miami* sold 878 tickets for the month of July. The program is collaborating with the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center to sponsor Dimensions Dance Theater of Miami's "An Evening of Premiere Ballets" camp performances. Ms. Tassy-Beauvoir reported that *Culture Shock Presents* 2019-2020 will feature spoken-word artist Shane Koyczan, illusionist Jason Bishop, "Turning 15 On the Road to Freedom," *enra*, "The Real James Bond Was Dominican" and the Hiplet Ballerinas. Ms. Tassy-Beauvoir reported that staff is working with Miami-Dade County Public Schools to inform educators about the program and is working to identify a mechanism to inform charter schools.

Department Facilities Updates

Caleb Auditorium

Ms. Pamela Vales reported that the Caleb Cultural Passport is currently being programed at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium. Programming is expected to continue there for the next two years. Over 23,000 students are receiving services through the program. The Caleb Auditorium is currently closed for outside rentals and open only for internal programming, such as the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center's Summer Camp.

South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center

Mr. Eric Fliss reported the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center had a successful season with increased revenues. In the summer season Miami Lyric Opera presented Cinderella and the Center was able to provide discounts for children. Through the partnership with Culture Shock and Dimensions Dance Theatre the Center increased access to camp and school performances. In August the Center presents the popular Classic Albums Live series featuring Rolling Stones - Let it Bleed, which will include activation of the lobby as a kick-off party. Sinatra to Soul - The Chris Rollins Band will feature an intimate experience with semi-reduced seating.

Coconut Grove Playhouse

Mr. Spring reported Miami-Dade County submitted a petition to the Appellate Division of the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit on June 16, 2019, appealing the City of Miami Mayor's veto of the County's application for a final Certificate of Appropriateness for the Coconut Grove Playhouse project, along with a motion to expedite the briefing and oral argument to resolve the final approval and to move forward with the project. The City of Miami has opposed the County's request to expedite the briefing. The Court has given the City of Miami until September 8, 2019 to file its response to the County's appeal. The appeal document is posted on the Department of Cultural Affairs website. Mr. Spring commended the team in the County Attorney's Office and lead attorney Eddie Kirtley for a superb job with the appeal.

Art in Public Places Update

Ms. Amanda Sanfilippo Long provided recent highlights of work. She reported that in 2017-2019 Art in Public Places Program (APP) has completed 11 restorations, 25 projects in the planning phase, 75 commissions in production and 3 temporary commissions in process. On July 18 APP is hosting an artist workshop for public art opportunities at the Liberty Square Redevelopment project. In 2019-2020 the program will establish an Artwork for Interior Spaces purchase fund for Liberty Square project to acquire framed two-dimensional artworks or wall-based installations for the building interiors. It is intended that this fund highlight work by local artists. Other opportunities part of Liberty Square project include wayfinding, the community pool, free standing artworks and the central community park. The following artists were short-listed to present full proposals for the Father Marquess-Barry public housing development: Marielle Plaisir, Sergio Vega, Carola Bravo, Nicole Salcedo, Morel Doucet and Tonya Vega.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

- Mr. Spring announced Department of Cultural Affairs staff will participate in the Countywide Census 2020 effort. Liliana Hernandez-Constenla, Graham Winick and Deputy Director Marialaura Leslie will be part of the Miami-Dade County Census working group and speakers' bureau.
- Mr. Spring announced Miami-Dade County Auditorium was awarded a \$45,000 grant from the State of Florida.
- Mr. Spring reminded the Council of the Financial Disclosure submission deadline which was July 1, 2019.
- Mr. Spring noted there will be no Cultural Affairs Council meeting for the month of August.

COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez enjoyed her panel work and thanked Mr. Spring for his leadership.
- Ms. Susana Ibarguen noted the economic impact arts and culture, which has a percentage of GDP larger than transportation and warehousing, travel and tourism and agriculture at the national level.
- Ms. Sigars-Malina reported Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden hosted the Mango Festival July 12 to 14, 2019. The event was well-attended.
- Ms. Denise Gerson congratulated Director Spring on the featured article in Miami Today.

Ms. Marialaura Leslie introduced Sarly Joseph, a rising tenth-grader, member of the National Honor Society and student from Miami Edison Senior High. Ms. Joseph participated in Miami-Dade County's five-week Summer Internship program.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Liliana Hernandez-Constenla