

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

November 20, 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 Alejandro Aguirre Mitchell Bierman Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez Sandra Curbelo Denise Gerson Adolfo Henriques Janá Sigars-Malina, Vice Chair Monty Trainer Justin Trieger</p>	<p><u>Members Not Present</u> Brian May Cheryl Rees Phyllis Simpkins Rosa Sugrañes</p> <p><u>Others Present:</u> Valerie Riles Sandra St. Hilaire Galen Treuer Johann Zietsman</p>
<p><u>Staff</u> Michael Spring, Director Marialaura Leslie, Deputy Director Kelly Allocco Roxana Barba Stefania Barigelli Sue Camp Tania Centeno Mary-Margaret Dale Marshall Davis David Martinez-Delgado Olga Gonzalez Teddy Harrell</p>	<p><u>Staff (continued)</u> Liliana Hernandez-Constenla Annie Hoffman 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 12:07 p.m. Mr. Cortada recognized and welcomed Johann Zietsman, CEO and President, of the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Zietsman commended that Cultural Affairs Council and Director Spring for their leadership in transforming the community through the arts. Mr. Zietsman believes Miami is a city of the future, and the Adrienne Arsht Center's programming, now celebrating its 14th season, will reflect that with more activities that reflect that community and take risks, telling diverse local stories. Through a "listening tour" across all the 13 County Commission districts, he found immense public pride in the Adrienne Arsht Center and a desire for programming where people can connect and see themselves.

Mr. Zietsman reported that the Arsht Center team has been working with the County to look at and plan for the lifecycle and maintenance needs of the building in the future. Mr. Spring added that Miami-Dade County's Community Infrastructure Investment Program was launched to begin to address the maintenance costs of County buildings across all County departments. Cultural Affairs will be the beneficiary of funds coming from the program for its cultural facilities. The Adrienne Arsht Center, a county-owned facility, will now be part of the program.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Requests for Excused Absences for November 20, 2019

Requests for excused absences for Brian May, Cheryl Rees and Rosa Sagrañes were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

Approval of October 16, 2019 Minutes

The minutes of the October 16, 2019 Council meeting were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

FY 2019-2020 Community Grants (GC) Program Panel Recommendations – Second Quarter

Mr. Graham Winick reported that the FY 2019-2020 Community Grants program panel chaired by Janá Sigars-Malina convened on November 7, 2019 to review 28 applications requesting \$232,500.00 for the Second Quarter of the program. The Panel recommended funding all 28 applicants for a total of \$190,000.00. The Community Grants Program is responsive on a quarterly basis to organizations, which develop small and large-scale community-based programs, projects, events, and publications.

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

Mitchell Bierman – Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of Miami Beach Urban Studios, Village of Pinecrest

Xavier Cortada - Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of Miami Beach Urban Studios, Village of Pinecrest

Sandra Curbelo - The Dance NOW! Ensemble, Inc. a/f/a Miami Dance Hub, Inc.

Adolfo Henriques - Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of Miami Beach Urban Studios

Monty Trainer - Rotary Foundation of South Miami, Inc.

Janá Sigars-Malina - The Dance NOW! Ensemble, Inc. a/f/a Miami Dance Hub, Inc.

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations were approved unanimously.

(Motion by Mr. Bierman; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

4Ward Miami, Inc. d/b/a Gay8 Festival	\$ 6,306.00
AYUDA, Inc. a/f/a Sunflower Society, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
Brazilian Voices, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education, Inc.	\$ 12,613.00

Dimensions Variable, Inc.	\$ 5,887.00
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Parade and Festivities Committee, Inc.	\$ 8,410.00
Florida Shakespeare Theater, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
France-Florida Foundation for the Arts, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
Girasol Foundation Inc	\$ 6,306.00
Global Arts Project, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
Haitian American Youth Organization, Inc.	\$ 3,751.00
Illuminarts, Inc. a/f/a Juraj Kojs	\$ 6,306.00
Kaleidoscope MusArt, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
Miami-Dade County Black Affairs Advisory Board	\$ 6,306.00
Miami International Ballet Competition Inc.	\$ 5,046.00
Miami International Jazz Fest, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
Miami Shores Village	\$ 6,306.00
Miami Wind Symphony, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
Path: Preserving Archiving & Teaching Hiphop, Inc. a/f/a Spoken Soul Festival	\$ 6,306.00
Power Access, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
Rise Kern Cultural Productions, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
St. Patrick's Day Committee, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00
St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Community	\$ 8,410.00
United Jewish Generations, Inc.	\$ 6,306.00

The Panel's recommendation to fund the following organizations, for which there were the above-mentioned Councilor conflicts of interest and abstentions were voted on and passed unanimously as follows:

Rotary Foundation of South Miami, Inc.	\$ 12,613.00
The Dance NOW! Ensemble, Inc. a/f/a Miami Dance Hub, Inc. (Motion by Mr. Bierman; seconded by Mr. Henriques)	\$ 6,306.00
Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of Miami Beach Urban Studios	\$ 5,046.00
Village of Pinecrest (Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)	\$ 8,410.00

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Culture Shock Miami - Discount Tickets for Youth Program

Ms. Christina Tassy-Beauvoir reported that Culture Shock Miami has sold 35% of the current ticket inventory to date. Ms. Tassy-Beauvoir reported that the program sponsored free school performances for Dimensions Dance Theatre of Miami's *Ballet Sculpture & Serenity* at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center on November 15-16, 2019. The program's Student Council has been active in promoting Culture Shock Miami through outreach efforts. Student Councilors will staff the information booth, moderate Q&A public sessions and conduct author interviews at the *Miami Book Fair 2019*. Beber Silverstein Group, the public relations agency of record, is working with Florida International University's student advertising agency to develop a promotional campaign for Culture Shock Miami Presents performances. An update will be provided at the December Cultural Affairs Council meeting.

Department Facilities Updates

African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

Mr. Teddy Harrell reported the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center's After School Arts Academy currently has 84 registered students between the ages of 5-17. The Center is celebrating 45 years of programming, providing arts instruction in vocal, dramatic arts, dance and visual arts. The Center has apprenticeship programs that polish students' skills such as Voices of Heritage, African Heritage Youth Theatre, Winds of Heritage and Hands of Wisdom. The Center's Amadlozi Gallery is presenting the exhibition *White Noise: When Raindrops Whisper and Moonlight Screams in Silence* by Miami-based ceramist Morel Doucet in his first solo exhibition. The exhibition touches on issues related to climate change. The Center will celebrate Miami Art Week with the third annual Art, Blues, Soul & BBQ Festival on December 7th. The Center is undergoing improvements of office interiors and air conditioning systems. The Jorge M. Perez Family Foundation recognized the Center and awarded \$100,000 to design a new Center right on the existing site.

Westchester Cultural Arts Center

Mr. Spring reported the project went out for construction bids and is currently under the Miami-Dade County Cone of Silence. The deadline for bids to be received at the Miami-Dade County Clerk's Office was November 12, 2019. He noted that the Center, which will be located at the Bird Road entrance to Tropical Park, will feature a black box theatre with 225 seats.

Coconut Grove Playhouse

Mr. Spring reported that Miami-Dade County has 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 opposed the County's request to expedite the briefing and filed a motion to dismiss the County's appeal based on their contention that the Mayor's veto is not quasi-judicial. The Court rejected City's appeal to dismiss and was instructed to file by the end of November. The appeal document and the response are posted on the Department of Cultural Affairs website.

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, 26 projects in the planning phase, 79 commissions in production and 4 temporary commissions in production and 3 temporary commissions in the planning phase. Ms. Long reported a new commission for the FedEx Expansion at the Miami International Airport was awarded to artist Kelley Johnson. The team at FedEx was very interested in the artist designing the canopy which will be experienced by over 500 employees daily. A new commission by Miami-based collaborative Studio AMLgMATD was launched at the new ASPCA Clinic in Liberty City. The collaborative designed the breeze block wall and a mural. Ms. Sanfilippo reported another commission launch by artist Michael Vazquez, featuring paintings that depict economic development at the Carrie Meek International Business Park in the Miami Opa-locka Executive Airport.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

- Mr. Spring announced that Councilor Susana Ibargüen has resigned from the Council. Staff will work with Chairman Cortada to find a way to commemorate her outstanding service.

- The Cultural Affairs Council Green Task Force convened before the meeting to review and endorse the graphic design work to brand the Arts Resilient 305 program. The initiative is comprehensive and includes graphic banners, a new website, and drop in ads to promote advocacy efforts, funding opportunities and the Resilient Arts Prizes for artists and organizations. Mr. Spring recognized staff members from the Miami-Dade County Office of Resilience – Galen Treuer and Sandra St. Hilaire. There was a motion to endorse the designs and move forward with the initiative. (Motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina; seconded by Ms. Curbelo)
- The Department hosted the National Arts Marketing Project Conference, November 15-18, 2019, at the InterContinental Hotel. Nearly 600 arts marketers from across the country convened to discuss best practices. Mr. Spring thanked Councilor Chancy-Gonzalez for attending and recognized Councilor Alejandro Aguirre for serving on one of the panels discussing media coverage of the arts. Cultural Affairs staff – Deputy Director Marialaura Leslie, Graham Winick, Lili Hernandez-Constenla, Nicole Ugarriza, Carolina Pupo-Mayo, Javier Siut, Roxana Barba and Teddy Harrell - led Departmental efforts and were part of the host committee and worked the event.
- State of Florida Secretary of State Laurel Lee will come to Miami during Art Basel/ Miami Art Week. Staff is working on a draft itinerary.
- Mr. Spring reported he will join Chairman Cortada at the Miami-Dade Delegation public hearing on December 2, 2019 to present the case for more State arts funding.
- The Department just finished the negotiation of an amendment to the Vizcaya Operating Management Agreement that accounts for what happens if a hurricane hits Vizcaya, clarifying that Miami-Dade County is responsible for repairs and restoration.

COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Chairman Cortada commended Jorge Pérez, former Cultural Affairs Council member and chairman, for the opening of El Espacio 23 in the Allapattah neighborhood in Miami. The tremendous gift and the work of the Foundation will have a lasting impact in the community. Mr. Cortada thanked the Office of Resiliency staff members for attending the meeting and announced that April 22, 2020 is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day
- Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez commended Americans for the Arts and the Department for a great job with the National Arts Marketing Project Conference. She recommended that Council members support Americans for the Arts and join the Action Fund.
- Ms. Curbelo stated she was pleased to be part of the Cultural Affairs Green Task Force and is looking forward to launching the initiative.
- Mr. Trierger commended Miami-Dade County Auditorium staff for their work and professionalism during Bridget Baker's contemporary dance company show. He also attended some National Arts Marketing Project Conference sessions and was happy to find that the Miami cultural community is ahead of the game regarding marketing trends. Buskerfest is happening December 13 in Downtown Miami.
- Mr. Aguirre reported that he enjoyed participating in the pre-conference of the National Arts Marketing Project Conference related to media coverage. He was pleased to see the group was very forward looking and the attendees were very involved.
- Ms. Gerson attended the Chicago Contemporary Art Fair and was happy to see Miami galleries represented. A new exhibition is a legacy show at The Wolfsonian, celebrating Mr. Wolfson.
- Mr. Henriques invited Councilors to visit El Espacio 23 in the Allapattah. The Center will feature Jorge Pérez's art collection and highlight current world issues. It will be open to the public, free of charge, starting December 3, 2019.
- Mr. Trainer reported the Coconut Grove Gallery will have a Watercolor Society exhibition. Miami-Dade Days is having the December 4th kick-off at Jungle Island.
- Ms. Jana Sigars-Malina invited the Council to attend Fairchild's popular light event *Night Garden*. Fairchild's *Chocolate Weekend* event is scheduled to take place is January 25-26, 2020. She commended Matrix 2 for great work branding the Arts Resilient 305 initiative.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Liliana Hernandez-Constenla". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "L".

Liliana Hernandez-Constenla