

# Memorandum



**Date:** June 18, 2014

**To:** Members, Cultural Affairs Council

**From:** Michael Spring, Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Spring". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Subject:** Facilities Updates: African Heritage Cultural Arts Center  
Joseph Caleb Auditorium  
Miami-Dade County Auditorium  
South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center

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As a result of Mayor Gimenez' re-organization of County government and beginning in 2012, the Department of Cultural Affairs has been responsible for managing the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, Joseph Caleb Auditorium, and Miami-Dade County Auditorium. The Department has managed the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center from design and construction and through its inception in 2011.

The management and operation of these cultural facilities supports the overall mission of the Department, specifically to:

- 1) Strengthen and advance the work of our local non-profit cultural organizations and artists; and
- 2) Increase audience participation in the arts.

## Assessment of the Facilities Capital Needs

Since taking on the responsibility of managing the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, Joseph Caleb Auditorium, and Miami-Dade County Auditorium, the Department has focused on assessing the capital needs of each facility and launching new mission-driven programming initiatives. These three facilities need significant work to repair and/or replace basic functional building systems, upgrade theater and sound and communications equipment, and modernize its architecture, including building signage, facades and audience and performer accommodations. To this end, the Department has been working with the Internal Services Department to implement a competitive process to select a team of architects, engineers (A/E) and specialty consultants to conduct a comprehensive assessment of these items and to prioritize and cost the recommendations to improve each facility. While this work is expected to take some time to accomplish, modest upgrades and routine maintenance are being performed with the goal of improving the staff, user, and patron experience.

### *A/E selection process and timeline:*

- July 22, 2013 – Notice to Professional Consultants (NTPC) was issued
- August 1, 2013 - Pre-submittal briefing was held
- August 8, 2013 - Site visits to the three facilities were conducted for interested respondents
- August 28, 2013 – Proposals received. Because one submittal was received approximately 45 minutes late, the Internal Services Department had to seek the opinion of the County Attorney's Office (CAO) to determine whether the late submittal would be allowed to be included in the review
- September 24, 2013 - CAO's rendered opinion allowing the late submittal to be included. Proposal packages were subsequently distributed to the Selection Committee members
- November 4, 2013 – First meeting of the Selection Committee took place. The meeting was postponed in order for information to be verified regarding the amount of work awarded and paid by the county to each

of the respondent firms. The information was later verified by the Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER) Department.

- December 11, 2013 - Selection Committee reconvened to complete the first tier selection process and rank the respondent firms. A Negotiation Committee was established from a sub-set of the Selection Committee members.
- January 31, 2014 – First negotiation meeting with top-ranked firm
- February 12, 2014 – Second negotiation meeting with top-ranked firm
- February 24, 2014 – Walk through of facilities with members of the top-ranked firm
- March 20, 2014 – Third negotiation meeting with top-ranked firm
- April 7, 2014 – Fourth and final negotiation meeting with top-ranked firm
- June 2014 – Mayor’s recommendation to award A/E contract is pending assignment to a Committee of the Board

It should be noted that each facility has Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond (BBC-GOB) funds available to begin this work.

- African Heritage Cultural Arts Center: \$1.0 million
- Joseph Caleb Auditorium: \$1.4 million (balance remaining)
- Miami-Dade County Auditorium: \$4.0 million

### African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center (AHCAC) complex includes a black box theater, a music building with a concert hall, piano lab and several practice rooms, a dance studio that is accessible to individuals with disabilities, an art gallery, several studio spaces, a print shop and classrooms. It has a distinguished history of providing instruction in the arts in all artistic disciplines to youth through after school, school break academies and summer school programs. Its work continues to develop the next generation of artists and arts supporters. In addition, the Center serves as an incubator for supporting and developing the work of African-American arts groups and artists through its black-box theater, rehearsal spaces and art gallery. The Center also serves as a welcoming place to the surrounding community, hosting evening classes and civic meetings.

The following is a summary of activity at the AHCAC:

	<u>FY 2013-2014 to date</u>	<u>May 2014</u>
Total number of students registered:	341	100
Number of arts production rentals:	65	2
Number of community rentals:	114	12
Number of arts groups using the Center:	115	15
Number of civic meetings:	104	18
Number of tours and outreach:	26	6

#### *Program highlights for May 2014*

- Two of the Center’s former students, Nadera Munajj, an actress, dancer and singer, and Allen Young, a drummer, have been cast in the upcoming movie entitled *Drumline 2*.

### *Summer Arts Conservatory*

- The Summer Arts Conservatory is being held from June 9th through August 15th. This ten-week multi-arts program provides six classes per day for students ages 5 through 16. Classes are organized by skill level (beginning, intermediate and advanced levels) and the curriculum includes classical, contemporary and ethnic forms of the various disciplines. Students between the ages of 5 through 9 are grouped according to their age, while students age 10 and over select classes predicated on their interests and/or abilities. Students who desire to take an advanced level class are allowed to audition and be screened for more advanced learning. Participating students will have the opportunity to showcase their talents through several planned events, including:
  - August 1<sup>st</sup> - fashion design presentation will demonstrate the students' aptitude in modeling, fashion design and illustration; and
  - August 9<sup>th</sup> (from 11am to 6pm) - AHCAC Summer Arts Fest will feature various performances and exhibits from the music, theatre and visual arts classes.

### *Partnerships*

- Several of the Center's staff members that had been providing arts instruction for the Liberty City 21st Century after school program have concluded their engagement, but expect to be involved in a similar arrangement next school year.
- Miami Children's Initiative will help an estimated 50 students to enroll in programs at the Center at a discounted rate.
- In collaboration with the Essie Silva Foundation and the Miami Foundation, a \$1000 scholarship was granted to Miss Ashli Clarke, a graduating high school student who will be majoring in visual arts in college. Miss Clarke was selected from a group of visual arts high school graduates.

### *Community Outreach*

- On May 10th, nineteen members of the afterschool and apprenticeship programs performed at the *Hip Hop 4 Health* events at Jungle Island, which over 350 people attended. Fliers were distributed at the event for the various arts programs at the AHCAC.
- On May 17th, the Voices of Heritage Ensemble and Drum line performed at "Teach for America," an honor ceremony held at the Miami-Dade County commission chambers.
- The AHCAC Alumni gathered for a social evening on May 27th. Thirteen alumni attended and signed up to volunteer for the event committee and host committee for Sankofa 2014, the Center's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

### *Ongoing maintenance and capital improvements at the AHCAC:*

- Electrical maintenance and upgrades continue to be performed throughout the facility;
- Roofing leaks continue to appear in different areas of the complex during rain events. Re-roofing of portions of the Center may be required as continued patching is not a viable long-term solution;
- The main (Austrian) curtain for the black box theater has been fabricated and delivered to the Center; installation is pending;
- Painting of the trailers' interiors is continuing;
- The installation of the Wi-Fi for the Center has been completed;
- A proposal for exterior security cameras and equipment has been requested.

For more information on the Center's events and offerings, please visit the Center's newly created website at [www.ahcacmiami.org](http://www.ahcacmiami.org).

## Joseph Caleb Auditorium

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The Joseph Caleb Auditorium is a 962-seat theater that has been the gathering place in the Liberty City community for the performing arts for more than 36 years. The Auditorium has featured concerts, community forums, movie screenings and productions by community arts organizations throughout the year. It is still anticipated that the parking lot serving the Auditorium and the adjoining Caleb Center office complex will be closed to prepare the site for construction of a new parking garage. The public art funds generated by the parking garage project will be used to have an artist design a prominent and attractive “connection” between the new garage and the Auditorium.

With the upcoming loss of parking once the construction of the parking garage for the Caleb Center begins, the Department has launched a plan that converts the Caleb Auditorium into a venue for school field trip performances. This has the benefits of: 1) providing more students with opportunities to experience the arts; 2) offering opportunities for local arts organizations to develop and present programs designed for children; and 3) introducing arts organizations and artists to the Caleb Auditorium so that when the parking situation is resolved, they can use the theater for evening performances. Ultimately, the goal for the Joseph Caleb Auditorium is to continue the field trip program and also to program the theater proactively with prominent arts groups and artists to re-establish its reputation for artistic excellence, diversity and community outreach. Until construction begins, the Auditorium is continuing to accept other rentals.

The attendance at the Joseph Caleb Auditorium for this fiscal year is 30,731 to date.

### *Current program highlights:*

- May 6, 2014 – The New World Symphony
- May 8, 2014 – The Arts Power Touring Company presents Heart in a Suitcase
- May 8, 2014 - The Brianna Video

## Miami-Dade County Auditorium

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Miami-Dade County Auditorium (MDCA) offers three dynamic presentation styles:

1. A 2,372-seat theatre that can host major dance, theatre and music performances;
2. A “Mid-Stage” theatre which can accommodate up to 450 patrons is well-suited for small concerts, dance and theatre presentations, giving mid-sized organizations an ideal setting to showcase their work; and
3. A 250-seat “On.Stage Black Box” theatre in which both the audience and performers share the stage of the Auditorium which is adapted into an innovative studio theatre for more intimate and often, cutting edge shows.

Since the theatre opened its doors in 1951, it has served as the center for showcasing the diversity of our cultural life and most recently, as a hub for celebrating the Hispanic arts community.

The Department has launched a program to establish co-presenting partnerships with non-profit cultural organizations that can present performances on the main stage, mid-stage and in the black box configuration and begin to establish an artistic reputation for the theatre which will encourage more use and presentations of higher artistic quality. Partner organizations include Fundarte, the Rhythm

Foundation, Tigertail, the Performing Arts Series presented by Miami Dade College and Teatro Avante. This program also has the benefit of helping to develop Hispanic audiences for some of our community's premiere cultural organizations. In addition, the Auditorium has restructured its staff and policies in order to attract more uses of the facility.

The following is a summary of activity at MDCA:

	<u>FY 2013-2014 to date</u>	<u>May 2014</u>
Number of rentals:	98	17
Attendance:	71,405	17,550

Current program highlights:

- Grateli presented the Spanish Zarzuela *“La Leyenda del Beso.”* The production played to almost 3,000 guests over a weekend and received a glowing review from *El Nuevo Herald*.
- FundArte, in collaboration with NuFlamenco and MDCA, presented the world premiere of *“Resonancias.”* This work explores the influence of Flamenco in our daily lives. It will be performed next at the SMDCAC.
- Albita brought her distinctive sound to MDCA for a special Mother’s Day Concert that featured Eva Ayllon and Olga Cerpa. The concert was recorded live and an album is being produced which is expected to attain a Latin Grammy nomination.
- Amigos for Kids brought their annual Blue Ribbon event *“There is no Excuse for Child Abuse”* to MDCA. The event was hosted by Jackie Nespral from NBC6 and included a special presentation from Miami-Dade Commission Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa. The event was attended by over 2,000 school children and featured during NBC6 newscasts.
- As part of the On.Stage Black Box Series, Karen Peterson Dancers, in collaboration with MDCA, presented *Grit*, a show featuring dancers with and without disabilities.
- The Cuban Museum brought its Sweet Home series to MDCA once again with the theatre production *“Cuba: Punto X”* by playwright Ivan Acosta. The production traveled from New York to be performed on the On.Stage Black Box during two evening shows.

### South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center

The South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC) is a multidisciplinary arts center designed by Arquitectonica International, Inc. to showcase the performing arts. The Center’s 961-seat state-of-the-art Theater Building includes a fly tower, orchestra pit, front of house spaces (box office, lobby, restrooms, concessions, etc.), back of house support spaces (dressing rooms, storage and work areas, administrative offices, etc.) and a multi-purpose rehearsal space. The separate Activities Building houses an informal performance space, and smaller multi-purpose spaces for lectures, classes, or community gatherings. The Center’s two buildings are joined by an outdoor promenade leading to a gently-sloping lawn for outdoor concerts and festivals along the Black Creek Canal.

Through Miami-Dade County’s Art in Public Places Program, the Center has major public art works created by Miami artist Robert Chambers. An innovative light piece illuminates the translucent inner lobby wall with changing light designs created by computer-programmed LED fixtures. In addition, the lobby features two marble sculptures also created by Robert Chambers.

The following is a summary of activity at SMDCAC:

	<u>FY 2013-2014 to date</u>	<u>May 2014</u>
SMDCAC Presents:	86	8
Number of rentals:	132	38
Attendance:	49,788	14,708

*Current program highlights and rentals:*

- June 1-15 - New Theatre's production of *Gidion's Knot*
- June 2 - Archimedean Academy Graduation
- June 4 - Somerset Senior High School Graduation
- June 7 - Miami Dance Project recital
- June 14 - An Dance recital
- June 15 - Academy of Arts recital
- June 16-July 2 - Greater Miami Youth Symphony Summer Camp
- June 21 - Adrenaline Dance recital
- Every Tuesday of the month - Pridelines meeting
- Every Tuesday and Friday - Zumba classes "Zumba with Ronald."

Shows coming up at SMDCAC over the summer months include: Rhythmic Circus, Feet Don't Fail Me Now, a tap dance production presented by Culture Shock Miami (June 28); Science of Ecology with Steve Trash, Family Show (July 19); Flamenco show starring Jose Luis Rodriguez presented by FUNDarte and SMDCAC (July 19 and July 20); Sultans of String, a quintet of musicians (August 8); and a FREE concert by the U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors (September 20).

The Center launched its 2014-2015 subscription on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Performances offered on the subscription series include: Etienne Charles (jazz); Tu Dance (contemporary dance); Noche Flamenca (Flamenco dance and music); The Hot Sardines (jazz); Guys and Dolls (Broadway); Alonzo King LINES Ballet (ballet); The Second City (comedy, improv); StepCrew (Irish step dancing); Zap Mama and Antibales (world music, afro-beat, afro-pop); Raisin' Cane Starring Jasime Guy and The Avery Sharpe Trio (theater); The Pasadena Roof Orchestra (jazz), Peking Acrobats (acrobats), Mummenschanz (theater, mime, masks); Urban Bush Women (contemporary dance), Jekyll and Hyde (Broadway), The Kinsey Sicks (a cappella, drag), Ballet Memphis (ballet).

To date for the 2013-2014 season, SMDCAC's volunteer program has saved Miami-Dade County \$62,179 in staffing costs.

For a complete listing of upcoming shows and events, please visit the Center's new website, [www.smdcac.org](http://www.smdcac.org).

Attachment

Miami—Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs  
African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

**ERNEST BAKER II**

**URBAN FUNK**

**JULY 19 2014**

**11 AM - 12:30 PM \$10**



**All Levels Welcome**

Join New York Based,  
Miami Native and **AHCAC**  
**Alumni** Ernest Baker II in  
his Urban Funk Workshop!!

**Credits Include:**

**U.S. Presidential  
Scholar**

**Guest  
Choreographer  
Miami Heat Dancers**

**Dancer: Trina, Missy  
Elliott, DJ Khaled,  
Brianna Perry,  
Kardinal Offishall &  
Joe Jonas**



**6161 NW 22ND AVENUE, MIAMI FL 33142**

**PH: (305) 638-6771 E: [ahcac@miamidade.gov](mailto:ahcac@miamidade.gov)**

It is policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disability Act. The facility is accessible. To request materials in accessible format and/or accommodation to attend an event at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, please contact Gloria Wilkins at 305-638-6771 or [ahcac@miamidade.gov](mailto:ahcac@miamidade.gov), at least five days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service).

Summer Programs



Cinderella—A Fractured Fairytale  
Fantasy Theater Factory  
June 17, 2014 @ 10 AM



Ballad of America  
Matthew Sabatella and the  
Rambling String Band  
July 2, 2014 @ 10 AM



Japanese Taiko Drummers and Koto Players  
Fushu Daiko  
July 14, 2014 @ 10 AM



Mixed Up Fairytales  
Page Turner Adventures  
July 29, 2014 @ 10 AM



Amigos for Kids helps shine a light on child abuse



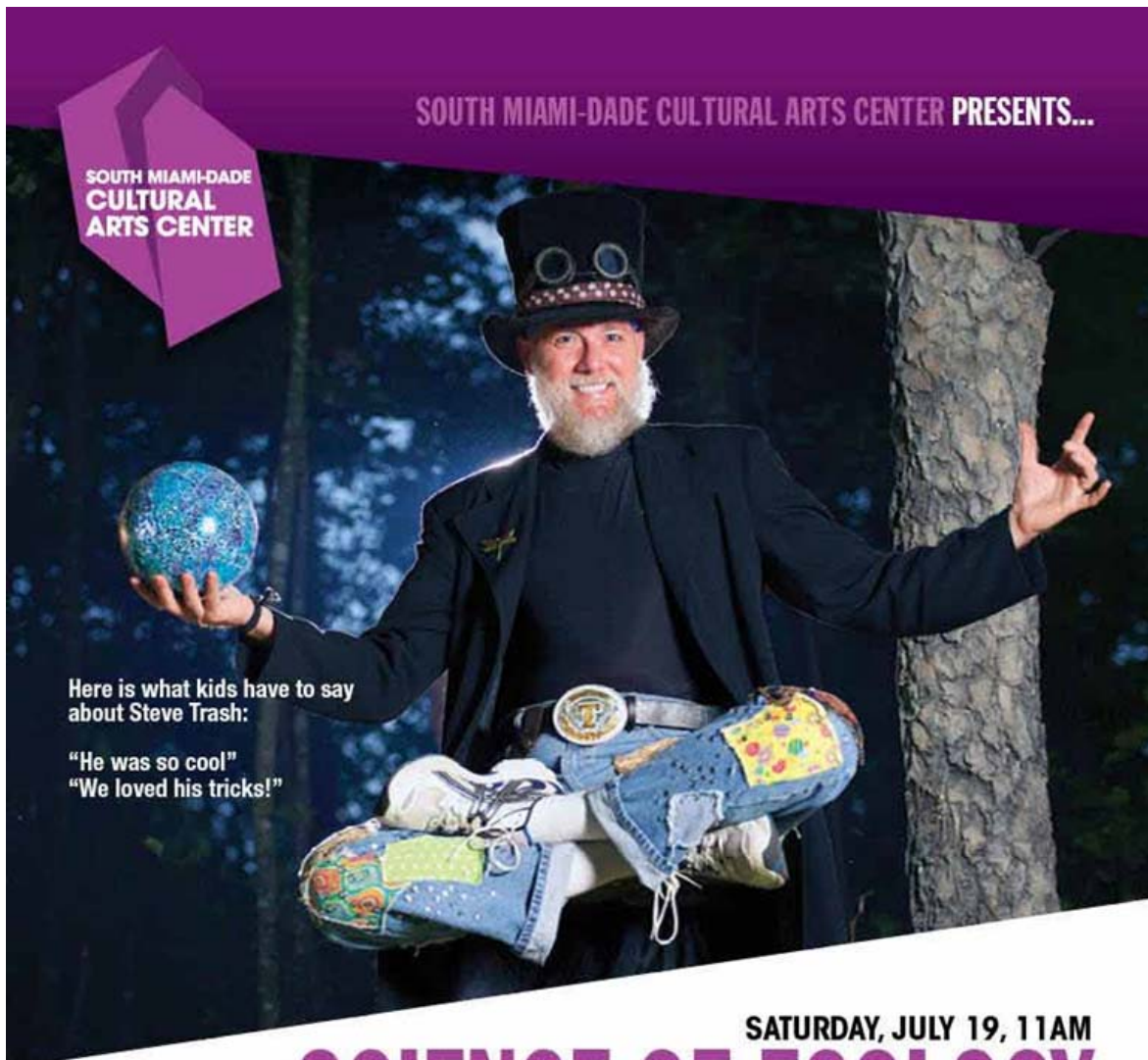
Albita, Eva Ayllon, and Olga Cerpa in Concert

Karen Peterson and Dancers presents performers with and without disabilities in their work *Grit*



World Premiere of *Resonancias*

**SOUTH MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER PRESENTS...**



**SOUTH MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER**

Here is what kids have to say about Steve Trash:

"He was so cool"  
"We loved his tricks!"

**SATURDAY, JULY 19, 11AM**  
**SCIENCE OF ECOLOGY**  
**WITH STEVE TRASH**  
MAIN STAGE (Family Series Show)  
All tickets \$10

This eco-empowering show with green entertainer Steve Trash will have your children on the edge of their seats! Since 1984, Steve Trash has entertained over 20 million kids with live ecological illusions, magic tricks, and family-friendly fun.

Ticket Information:  
**smdcac.org 786.573.5300**  
10950 SW 211 St. Cutler Bay, FL 33189

STEINWAY PIANO GALLERY MIAMI    SOUTHLAND MALL    WLRN

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY    ♿    📶

IT IS THE POLICY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. THE FACILITY IS ACCESSIBLE AND ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. TO REQUEST MATERIALS IN ACCESSIBLE FORMAT, AND/OR ANY ACCOMMODATION TO ATTEND AN EVENT AT THE SOUTH MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER, PLEASE CONTACT STEPHANIE APONTE, 786-573-5314, SAPONTE@SMDCAC.ORG, AT LEAST FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE TO INITIATE YOUR REQUEST, TTY USERS MAY ALSO CALL 711 (FLORIDA RELAY SERVICE).

Promotional flyer/eblast for Steve Trash, Science of Ecology  
Family Series Show (July 19th)



**SOUTH MIAMI-DADE  
CULTURAL  
ARTS CENTER**

OUR NEW 2014/2015 SEASON IS NEAR!  
GET THE BEST SEATS AND  
**SAVE UP TO 20%**



**BUILD YOUR OWN SUBSCRIPTION AVAILABLE JUNE 10!**

For more information:  
[smdcac.org](http://smdcac.org)  
786.573.5300

**Single Seat Tickets go on sale SEPT 2**

**IT'S A GREAT VALUE!**  
Build your own subscription and receive the following benefits:

- 15% OFF the price of your total ticket order for four or five shows
- 20% OFF the price of your total ticket order for six or more shows
- 20% OFF the ticket price of our Cabaret Series (limit 2 tickets per show)
- 10% OFF the price of select Seraphic Fire productions
- EXCLUSIVE early purchase opportunity for Seraphic Fire's Handel's Messiah

All tickets require a non-discounted \$1 facility fee.

**SELECT FROM THE FOLLOWING PERFORMANCES:**  
(subject to availability)

SAT NOV 1, 8PM  
**ETIENNE CHARLES** CREOLE SOUL

SAT NOV 8, 8PM  
**TU DANCE**

SAT NOV 15, 8PM  
**NOCHE FLAMENCA** STARRING SOLEDAD BARRIO

SAT NOV 22, 8PM  
**THE HOT SARDINES** SPEAKEASY NIGHTS

SAT JAN 3, 8PM  
**GUYS AND DOLLS** THE BROADWAY TOURING PRODUCTION

SAT JAN 17, 8PM  
**ALONZO KING LINES** BALLET

THU JAN 22, 8PM  
**THE SECOND CITY HITS HOME!**

FRI JAN 23, 8PM  
**STEPCREW**

SAT JAN 24, 8PM  
**ZAP MAMA AND ANTIBALAS**

SAT FEB 7, 8PM  
**RAISIN' CANE** A HAPLEM RENAISSANCE ODYSSEY STARRING JASMINE GUY AND THE AVERY SHARPE TRIO

FRI FEB 20, 8PM  
**THE PASADENA ROOF ORCHESTRA**

SAT FEB 21, 8PM  
**PEKING ACROBATS**

SAT FEB 28, 3PM AND 8PM; SUN MAR 1, 3PM  
**MUMMENSCHANZ**

SAT MAR 7, 8PM  
**URBAN BUSH WOMEN**

SAT MAR 14, 8PM  
**JEKYLL & HYDE** A FRANK WILDHORN AND LESLIE BRICUSSE MUSICAL THE BROADWAY TOURING PRODUCTION

SAT APR 18, 8PM  
**THE KINSEY SICKS** AMERICA'S NEXT TOP BACHELOR HOUSEWIFE CELEBRITY HOARDER MAKEOVER STAR GONE WILD!

SAT APR 25, 8PM  
**BALLET MEMPHIS**





IT IS THE POLICY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. THE FACILITY IS ACCESSIBLE AND ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. TO REQUEST MATERIALS IN ACCESSIBLE FORMAT, AND/OR ANY ACCOMMODATION TO ATTEND AN EVENT AT THE SOUTH MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER, PLEASE CONTACT STEPHANIE APONTE, 786-573-5314, SAPONTE@SMDCAC.ORG, AT LEAST FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE TO INITIATE YOUR REQUEST. TTY USERS MAY ALSO CALL 711 (FLORIDA RELAY SERVICE).

Promotional flyer/eblast for 14-15 Subscription Series