

**MINUTES OF THE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL
November 16, 2022**

A meeting of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council was held at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium and online via Zoom.

<p><u>Members Present</u> Alejandro Aguirre Mitchell Bierman Kareem Brantley Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, Second Vice Chair Al Dotson, Jr. Councilwoman Linda Julien Cheryl Rees Janá Sigars-Malina, First Vice Chair Rosa Sugrañes Monty Trainer</p>	<p><u>Members Not Present</u> Adolfo Henriques, Immediate Past Chair Brian May, Chairman Jorge Plasencia</p> <p><u>Others Present</u> Kisha Murray</p>
<p><u>Staff</u> Marialaura Leslie, Deputy Director Carolina Alfonso Kelly Allocco Francine Andersen Patricia Arbelaez Nikenna Benjamin Kimberly Chuck Mary-Margaret Dale Marie Denis Eric Fliss Bianca Gonzalez Olga Gonzalez Teddy Harrell Liliana Hernandez-Constenla</p>	<p><u>Staff (continued)</u> Regla Lee Ana Meza Gilda Mooney Steven Padilla Alex Peraza Adriana Perez Dana Pezoldt Katherine Revell Gisella Rivas-Diaz Javier Siut Christina Tassy Geraldine Toussaint Pamela Valles Graham Winick</p>

Former Chairwoman of the Cultural Affairs Council Rosa Sugrañes called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and welcomed the Cultural Affairs Council and staff. Deputy Director Marialaura Leslie announced Director Michael Spring and Council Chairman Brian May would not be in attendance.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Approval of October 19, 2022 Minutes

The minutes of the October 19, 2022 Council meeting were approved. (Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Mr. Trainer)

Requests for Excused Absences for November 16, 2022

Requests for excused absences were submitted by Councilors Adolfo Henriques, Brian May and Jorge Plasencia. (Motion by Mr. Trainer; seconded by Mr. Dotson)

10:06 a.m. Councilor Janá Sigars-Malina joined the meeting.

FY 2022-2023 Community Grants (CG) Program Panel Recommendations – 2nd Quarter

Deputy Director Marialaura Leslie reported that the FY 2022-2023 Community Grants program panel, chaired by Councilor Janá Sigars-Malina, convened on November 3, 2022, to review 25 applications requesting \$212,500.00 for the Second Quarter of the program. The Panel recommended funding 25 applicants for a total of \$190,000. The Community Grants Program is managed by staff members Geraldine Toussaint with the support of Kimberly Chuck, and it is responsive on a quarterly basis to organizations, which develop small and large-scale community-based programs, projects, events, and publications.

The following Councilors declared conflicts of interest and abstained from voting on the associated organizations:

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

Janá Sigars-Malina – Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of the Miami Beach Urban Studios

A motion was made to fund all the of the Panel's recommendations subject to Councilors with conflicts abstaining from voting on the applications affected. The Councilors with the above-mentioned conflicts of interest abstained from the voting. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Rees)

After School Film Institute, Inc.	\$7,063
Brazilian Voices, Inc.	\$7,063
Center for Social Change, Inc. a/f/a Tony Khawam	\$1,652
Center for Advancement of Jewish Education, Inc.	\$14,126
Coral Gables Community Foundation, Inc. a/f/a Friends of Pinecrest	
Dance Project Corp	\$7,063
Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc. a/f/a Collaborative, Inc.	\$7,063
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Parade and Festivities Committee, Inc.	\$14,126
Encantus Music, Inc.	\$7,063
HAVFAMA, Inc.	\$7,063

Imago Por Las Artes, Inc.	\$7,063
Italian Film Festival, Inc.	\$7,063
MAIACA, Inc.	\$7,063
Miami Dance Futures, Inc.	\$7,063
Miami International Ballet Competition, Inc.	\$7,063
Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc.	\$7,063
Pinecrest City Music Project, Inc.	\$7,063
Power Access, Inc.	\$9,418
Siudy Flamenco Dance Theater, Inc. a/f/a Nu Flamenco Collaborative, Inc.	\$7,063
Sunflower Society, Inc.	\$7,063
The Last Hundred, Inc.	\$7,063
The School of Atis ad Performing Arts Incorporated	\$7,063
Tropic Bound, Inc.	\$7,063
Woman's Club of Coconut Grove, Florida	\$7,063

The Panel's recommendations to fund the following organizations, for which there is the above-mentioned conflicts of interest and abstentions from voting, were voted on and passed unanimously as follows: (Motion by Ms. Rees; seconded by Mr. Trainer)

Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of the Miami Beach Urban Studios	\$7,063
Village of Pinecrest	\$9,418

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Department Facilities Update

African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

Mr. Teddy Harrell, Assistant Managing Director at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, reported that the Center is currently finalizing the renovation and construction work at the Center. Mr. Harrell reported that the Center held a dynamic nine-week Summer Arts Conservatory featuring virtual classes for over 200 participants. The Center is now presenting in-person afterschool programming. Mr. Harrell presented a video of highlights featuring student programs, Le Art Noir during Art Basel, Sankofa Jazz Fest, student art exhibitions and the dramatic play The Opponent. Mr. Harrell noted that sound and lighting packages will soon be installed throughout the facility by January 2023.

Art in Public Places Update

Ms. Amanda Sanfilippo Long, Curator and Artists Manager, noted that Miami-Dade County's Art in Public Places program allocates 1.5% of capital costs of public projects to the commissioning of public art. Ms. Sanfilippo Long presented a video which showcased samples of a completed artwork at PortMiami commissioned by Norwegian Cruise Lines. Featured installations include artworks by artists Jorge Parrado, Claudia Comte, Eduardo Arranz-Bravo, Jorge Salas, Rey Ferrer and Mark Dion. The commissions were part of an international artist call with artists from Germany, Mexico and Spain. Ms. Sanfilippo long reported that

a public art tour featuring the new artist commissions at the Virgin Terminal is being presented by Art in Public Places, as part of Art Basel Miami Beach on December 2, 2022. Councilors should contact her directly if they wish to attend as the event is at capacity.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Ms. Leslie recognized Department of Cultural Affairs staff for working during elections including Graham Winick, Alex Peraza, Geraldine Toussaint, and Tradon Whims. The elections resulted in changes at the Board of County Commission. The five newly elected incoming Commissioners are Marleine Bastien, District 2; Micky Steinberg, District 4; Kevin M. Cabrera, District 6; Anthony Rodriguez, District 10; and Juan Carlos Bermudez, District 12. Commissioner Oliver Gilbert from District 1 is the new County Commission Chair.
- The new 2023 Golden Ticket Arts Guide has been issued featuring students from the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center on the cover. The free arts guide for seniors is printed in large print, in English and Spanish, and is one of the Department's most popular programs. This year 17,000 guides were printed and distributed through the Office of the Mayor, Miami-Dade Commission District Offices, Miami-Dade Library System branches and the Dept of Human Services targeting low-income seniors. The program is managed by staff member Lili Hernandez-Constenla with support from Gisella Rivas-Diaz.
- Ms. Leslie reported that Marshall Davis, the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center's Managing Director will be interviewed as part of the Miami Emerging Arts Leaders' virtual session with cultural pioneers and established leaders. The objective of the program is to prepare up and coming arts administrators for leadership positions.

COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Councilor Monty Trainer reported that Coconut Grove is experiencing a lot of cultural and holiday activities.
- Councilor Rees wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.
- Councilor Aguirre thanked the staff for tremendous work. Mr. Aguirre recognized the passing of Ms. Patrice Bailey, the former Dean of Theater at the New World School of the Arts for 30 years and Mr. Spring's sister-in-law. She made a powerful impact in the theater community and touched many through her professional work.
- Councilor Dotson wished the Council and staff a happy Thanksgiving.
- Councilor Sigars-Malina thanked staff for the great work with the Community Grants program. She reported that Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden is hosting the popular Night Garden and Sip and Stroll through January 8, 2023.
- Councilwoman Linda Julien thanked the staff for their dedication to arts and culture in Miami-Dade County. She wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.
- Councilor Brantley wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving and stated he enjoyed the report.

Ms. Marialaura Leslie recognized Kisha representing the Office of Chief Morris Copeland in the Office of the Mayor. She thanked her for attending and wished all attending a happy Thanksgiving.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.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