

# Memorandum



**Date:** May 17, 2023

**To:** Members, Cultural Affairs Council

**From:** Michael Spring

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Spring", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

**Subject:** FY 2022-2023 Community Grants Program – Fourth Quarter Recommendations

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Council approve the funding of 23 grants for a total of \$123,408.00 from the FY 2022-2023 Community Grants Program – Fourth Quarter.

## **BACKGROUND**

Even though we are steadily emerging from the impact of COVID-19 on public programs scheduled for the Fourth Quarter (July 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023), we continue to evaluate each proposal based upon both the quality of the application and the ability to satisfactorily address each of the evaluation criteria, as stated in the program's guidelines. Before releasing grant funds to organizations, the Department will assess the feasibility of the grantees presenting public programs in identified venues and spaces; if necessary, the Department is prepared to exercise appropriate contractual flexibility to include virtual programs and other program delivery strategies, as may be necessary.

The FY 2022-2023 Community Grants program panel, chaired by Councilor Sandra Curbelo, convened on April 27, 2023 to review 23 applications requesting \$172,500.00 for the Fourth Quarter of the program. The Panel recommended funding 23 applicants for a total of \$123,408.00.

The projects recommended for funding represent a diversified range of activities and demographic locations. In its deliberations, the Panel carefully considered and applied the Community Grants guidelines as outlined below.

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 program is particularly sensitive to the needs of 1) indigenous cultural neighborhood activities and projects encouraging the preservation of heritage, traditions, and culture; and 2) social service organizations and cultural groups developing collaborative intervention projects.

The Panel specifically evaluated each applicant organization based on the following competitive review criteria: 1) quality of the program; 2) administrative capability; 3) marketing strategy; 4) fundraising efforts; and 5) geographic location of the event. Attached is a list describing the projects being recommended for funding.

Attachment

**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs  
FY 2022-2023 Community Grants (CG) – 4th Quarter  
Grant Award Recommendations**

**1- Across Missions, Inc.**

8800 SW 149 Street  
Palmetto Bay, Florida 33176  
*Outlet Festival - Art for Everyone*  
7/1/2023 - 9/30/2023

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 5, 6, 8, 9

Funds are requested to support the second annual "Outlet Festival - Art for Everyone," an inclusive art festival featuring performing arts, visual arts, live performances, a comedy show, an art exhibition, and screenings of documentaries taking place at the Sanctuary of the Arts, Miami Dade College Koubek Memorial Center and Museum of Contemporary Art of the Americas.

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**2- Aiding-Aids, Inc.**

10170 NW 3 Street  
Pembroke Pines, Florida 33026  
*Queen Mode*  
8/26/2023 - 8/26/2023

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3

Funds are requested to support "Queen Mode," an Afrocentric cultural celebration showcasing Africa's contributions to the world through dance, art, food, spoken word, and musical performances taking place at the Ancient Spanish Monastery. All grant funds are used for activities that occur in Miami-Dade County.

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**3- Ayuda, Inc.**

1203 71 Street  
Miami Beach, Florida 33141  
*Miami Beach Salsa Fest*  
8/1/2023 - 9/23/2023

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 4

Funds are requested to support "Miami Beach Salsa Fest," a community festival celebrating Latin culture and music featuring live local and international Latin bands taking place at the Miami Beach Bandshell.

*\*The districts identified for each grantee indicate the location(s) of the majority of the particular organizer's performance(s)/event(s)/project(s). However, audiences and participants attending the performance(s)/event(s)/project(s) come from throughout the County and the region.*

**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs  
FY 2022-2023 Community Grants (CG) – 4th Quarter  
Grant Award Recommendations**

**4- Buddy System MIA, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

895 NE 87 Street, #2  
Miami, Florida 33138  
*Community Art & Wellness Festival*  
8/26/2023 - 8/26/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 4

Funds are requested to support the "Community Art & Wellness Festival," featuring local underrepresented Miami artists, musicians, performance artists and visual artists and providing health and wellness services to the community taking place at North Shore Park and Theodore Gibson Park.

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**5- Creative Media Group, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

856 Euclid Avenue, #29  
Miami Beach, Florida 33139  
*Creative Media Film Festival*  
9/2/2023 - 9/3/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 5

Funds are requested to support the "Creative Media Film Festival," a narrative short film festival featuring films produced by local Miami-Dade County youth taking place at 1800 Lucky.

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**6- Fire Haus Projects, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

8000 SW 26 Street  
Miami, Florida 33155  
*Always Remember – Showcase Concert Series*  
7/1/2023 - 9/30/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 4, 5, 10

Funds are requested to support "Always Remember – Showcase Concert Series," live performances of excerpts from the musical, Always Remember, a production about the Cuban-American experience by Miami-based composer Marilyn Morales taking place at Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, First United Methodist Church of Miami, and American Museum of the Cuban Diaspora.

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**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs  
FY 2022-2023 Community Grants (CG) – 4th Quarter  
Grant Award Recommendations**

**7- Fresh Start of Miami-Dade, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

18441 NW 2 Avenue, #106-108  
Miami Gardens, Florida 33169  
*Connections*  
7/12/2023 - 9/30/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 1, 5

Funds are requested to support "Connections," a project about the power of making connections, which helps individuals with behavioral health challenges participate in the creative arts through photography and painting workshops at Fresh Start of Miami-Dade in Miami Gardens, culminating in a showcase of work during Recovery Month at the Rohde Building in downtown Miami.

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**8- Friends of the Japanese Garden, Inc. a/f/a Int'l Brotherhood of Magicians, Ring 45, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

10830 SW 84 Street, #E-1  
Miami, Florida 33173  
*The Art of Magic: Celebrating Over 100 Years of Sharing the Art Of Magic*  
7/1/2023 - 7/16/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 7, 10

Funds are requested to support "The Art of Magic: Celebrating Over 100 Years of Sharing the Art Of Magic," exhibitions, stage shows and educational lectures on the history and artistic importance of magic, including a free performance for area underprivileged children taking place at South Miami / Coral Gables Elks Lodge 1676.

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**9- Hand2handteam Corp**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

10702 NW 77 Street  
Medley, Florida 33178  
*Viva La Impro*  
7/14/2023 - 7/16/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 5, 12

Funds are requested to support the "Viva La Impro," a theatrical improvisation consisting of five acts in which the performers rely on audience suggestions, random prompts, or other forms of inspiration to create their stories taking place at Miami Dade College Koubek Memorial Center.

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**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs  
FY 2022-2023 Community Grants (CG) – 4th Quarter  
Grant Award Recommendations**

**10- Instituto de Cultura Peruana, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

8720 SW 20 Terrace  
Miami, Florida 33165  
*XXXII Spanish Literary Festival*  
7/1/2023 - 9/30/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 10

Funds are requested to support the "XXXII Spanish Literary Festival" featuring local poets, singers, dancers, actors, and other artists performing original poetry and short story readings, taking place at the West Dade Regional Library and the Hispanic Branch Library, along with a book of printed, select works from the artists in the festival taking place at the Westchester Regional Library.

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**11- Jazz Education Community Coalition, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

2100 Van Buren Street, #301  
Hollywood, Florida 33020  
*Groovin on a Sunday*  
8/27/2023 - 8/27/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 7

Funds are requested to support the annual "Groovin on a Sunday," a music festival featuring professional and student jazz performances by the Jazz Education Community Coalition and other community-based groups taking place at Pinecrest Gardens. All grant funds are used for activities that occur in Miami-Dade County.

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**12- Languages Foundation, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

11430 NW 87 Lane  
Doral, Florida 33178  
*La Fotografia De Miquel Salom*  
9/15/2023 - 9/15/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 12

Funds are requested to support "La Fotografia De Miquel Salom (The Photography of Miquel Salom)," an exhibition and artist talk with Mallorquin photographer Miquel Salom, the first Spanish artist to bring art to Miami using the revolutionary 'wet plate collodion' photographic technique taking place at Doral Cultural Arts Center.

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**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs  
FY 2022-2023 Community Grants (CG) – 4th Quarter  
Grant Award Recommendations**

**13- Miami Factory Theater, Inc.**

485 NW 71 Street, #807

Miami, Florida 33150

*Lear*

9/22/2023 - 9/24/2023

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3

Funds are requested to support "Lear," a dramatic theatrical adaption of "King Lear" by William Shakespeare that uses the themes of current issues of immigration and family dynamics taking place at Sandrell Rivers Theater.

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**14- Primer Acto Florida Foundation, Inc.**

516 De Soto Drive

Miami Springs, Florida 33166

*La Isla Bonita*

9/15/2023 - 9/30/2023

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 5, 6

Funds are requested to support "La Isla Bonita (A Beautiful Island)," a Spanish theatrical play with English subtitles, based on an adaption of Carolina Laursen's play, La Isla Desierta, about five women's reflection on the world as they do not dare to live their dreams taking place at Miami Dade College Koubek Memorial Center.

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**15- Rainbow Oasiis, Inc.**

1145 NW 48 Street

Miami, Florida 33127

*Chroma Art Film Festival*

7/1/2023 - 9/30/2023

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3

Funds are requested to support the inaugural "Chroma Art Film Festival," a curated selection of immersive short films, documentaries, and experimental video art pieces created by local Miami-artists showcasing the fusion of color, space, and video art taking place at Superblue Miami.

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**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs  
FY 2022-2023 Community Grants (CG) – 4th Quarter  
Grant Award Recommendations**

**16- South Florida Chamber Ensemble, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

6011 NW 68 Street  
Parkland, Florida 33067  
*The Colors of Our World*  
7/1/2023 - 9/30/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 2, 3, 6, 8, 9

Funds are requested to support "The Colors of Our World," a series of interactive concerts designed to teach participants about the world's diversity through the creation of art, the movement of dance, and the performance of music using instruments or the human body. The performances take place at YMCA Allapattah, Coral Gables Museum, Arcola Lakes Senior Center, Theodore Gibson Park, Gwen Cherry Park, Live like Bella Park, Naranja Park, Oak Grove Park, JL (Joe) and Enid W. Demps Park and Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park. All grant funds are used for activities that occur in Miami-Dade County.

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**17- South Florida Educational Development Center, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

2860 Somerset Drive, #K103  
Lauderdale Lakes, Florida 33311  
*The Evolution of Afro – West Indian Music and Dances*  
9/23/2023 - 9/23/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 1

Funds are requested to support "The Evolution of Afro–West Indian Music and Dances," a play that highlights the origins, evolution, and development of Afro-West Indian music and dances with an emphasis on their contributions to contemporary music and dance taking place at Holy Family Episcopal Church Auditorium. All grant funds are used for activities that occur in Miami-Dade County.

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**18- The Ancient Spanish Monastery Foundation, Incorporated**

**Recommended Award: \$3,640**

16711 West Dixie Highway  
North Miami Beach, Florida 33160  
*Artists in The Cloisters*  
7/1/2023 - 9/8/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 2

Funds are requested to support the third annual "Artists in The Cloisters," a showcase featuring artwork, musicians, renaissance dancers, and poetry by local artists and students taking place at the Ancient Spanish Monastery.

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**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs  
FY 2022-2023 Community Grants (CG) – 4th Quarter  
Grant Award Recommendations**

**19- The Bright Foundation, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

7036 NW 116 Court  
Doral, Florida 33178  
*Hispafest - The Hispanic American Art and Culture Festival*  
9/1/2023 - 9/30/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 6, 7, 12

Funds are requested to support the "Hispafest - The Hispanic American Art and Culture Festival," month-long event with simultaneous art exhibitions celebrating Hispanic Heritage by showcasing the work of emerging Hispanic American artists in South Florida taking place at Doral Cultural Arts Center, BlackTower Gallery, Grand Bay Club and General Consulate of Mexico In Miami.

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**20- The Miami Oratorio Society, Inc.**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

3550 NW 42 Street  
Lauderdale Lakes, Florida 33309  
*Oratorio Season 2022-2023*  
7/1/2023 - 9/30/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 1

Funds are requested to support the " Oratorio Season 2022-2023," a music program that brings a variety of musical genres to the inner city community taking place at Sierra Norwood Calvary Baptist Church. All grant funds are used for activities that occur in Miami-Dade County.

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**21- Town of Cutler Bay**

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

10720 Caribbean Boulevard, #105  
Cutler Bay, Florida 33189  
*Cutler Bay Hispanic Heritage Month Festival*  
9/16/2023 - 9/16/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 8

Funds are requested to support the "Cutler Bay Hispanic Heritage Month Festival," a music festival that represents the various genres of Latin music, such as Bomba, traditional style of Puerto Rican music, Mariachi, and different genres of regional Mexican music dating back to the 18th century taking place at Cutler Ridge Park..

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Grant Award Recommendations**

**22- Urgent, Inc.**

1000 NW 1 Avenue, #100

Miami, Florida 33136

*Miami 4 Social Change Youth Film Festival*

7/20/2023 - 7/21/2023

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 2, 3

Funds are requested to support the eighth annual "Miami 4 Social Change Youth Film Festival," which showcases short films made by filmmakers from around the world who are between the ages of 14-24, helping to nurture local young talent by providing networking opportunities and industry insight for the next generation of storytellers taking place at the Julius Littman Performing Arts Theater.

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**23- Yiddishkayt Initiative, Inc.**

10777 West Sample Road, #1105

Coral Springs, Florida 33065

*Yi Love Yiddishfest 2023*

9/26/2023 - 9/30/2023

**Recommended Award: \$5,444**

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 4, 7

Funds are requested to support the sixth annual "YI Love YiddishFest, "a week-long multidisciplinary in-person and virtual festival celebrating Jewish culture, the Yiddish language, and the Jewish contribution to world mainstream culture at the Miami Beach Jewish Community Center and Alper Jewish Community Center. All grant funds are used for activities that will occur in Miami-Dade County.

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