


Date: May 19, 2021
To: Members, Cultural Affairs Council
From: Michael Spring, Director 
Subject: Culture Shock Miami (CSM) – Discount Tickets for Youth Program

Culture Shock Miami (CSM)

- **Miami-Dade Arts Education Collective** – As a member of the Miami-Dade Arts Education Collective, CSM continues its work with the Adrienne Arsht Center’s Education and Community Engagement team, Miami Theater Center (MTC), and the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center’s (SMDCAC) Education and Outreach Division, providing diverse and high-quality virtual programming to school-aged children during the pandemic. To date, virtual performances have reached more than 69,350 students from over 80 schools.

In honor of Haitian Heritage Month, the Collective is presenting local Haitian-American musician and composer, Inez Barlatier. *Ayiti – Stories and Songs from Haiti*, celebrates Haitian art and culture through energetic drumming and singing, magical folktales, traditional dances, and colorful costumes. The virtual performance is being offered to Grades K-3 and is available on-demand throughout the month of May. This virtual performance was filmed at Miami Theater Center specifically for the Collective. In addition to *Ayiti*, *A Kid’s Play About Racism* (Theater, Grades K-5) will close out the 2021 season.

The following list represents the performances made available and number of students reached during the 2020/21 season:

- *Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom* (Theater) – 3,570 students Grades 6-12;
 - *Hip Hop Nutcracker* (Dance) - 30,272 students Grades K-12;
 - *Air Play* (STEAM-based Acrobatics) - 5,605 students Grades K-8,
 - *Black Violin* (Music) – 12,345 students Grades K-12;
 - *Emil and The Detectives* (Theater) – 4,219 students Grades 3-6; and
 - *Ballet Hispanico* (Dance) – 7,459 students Grades K-12.
- **CSM Student Advisory Council** – The County’s Communications and Customer Experience Department is looking to engage the CSM Student Advisory Council in a COVID-19 youth and family focus group. The session will be used to gather attitudes, opinions, and perspectives about the COVID-19 vaccine to help develop a public education campaign that would appeal to parents and teens, ages 12-16. The campaign would be used to share fact-based information about vaccine safety, efficacy and availability. An update will be provided at next month’s Council meeting.

Council members have been involved in all aspects of decision-making, launching new virtual initiatives to encourage participation in the arts amongst their peers. In addition to the [blog](#) launched in December 2020, Student Councilors introduced *Music in a Minute*, a virtual initiative that highlights the history and performance of a musical genre via the program’s Instagram page. Other Council-led activities included the launch of a campaign encouraging students to nominate outstanding arts educators. Nominated teachers have been featured on Culture Shock Miami’s Instagram page. The Student Advisory Council held its last 2021 season meeting earlier this month. CSM staff will begin recruitment for the 2021/22 Council at the end of May.

- **Courageous Creatives** – CSM staff continues its work with the young artists who participated in the program during the summer. Monthly meetings are being held with the cohort around the topics of social justice, advocacy and mentorship. Terrance Cribbs-Larrant, Director of the Black Police Precinct and Courthouse Museum, led April's discussion with the creatives, providing mentorship and guidance in their desire to develop a campaign encouraging teenagers to register to vote.
- **Cultural Partners Update** – The Rubell Museum is the newest cultural partner to join the program, providing a monthly allotment of eight (8) tickets. Other cultural partners who have offered tickets include Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, The Bass Museum of Art, Coral Gables Art Cinema, The Coral Gables Museum, Dance Now Ensemble, The Deering Estate, Fantasy Theatre Factory, and Vizcaya Museum and Gardens. In addition, the Frost Museum of Science has expressed interest in re-activating their participation by June 1, 2021. The program continues to provide access to numerous free virtual and in-person events hosted by our cultural partners.
- **2020/21 Season Update** – Staff continues to work with agents and venues to reschedule performances from the program's 2019/20 season. The presentation of three (3) performances originally scheduled to take place between April and August 2020 are being renegotiated as artists re-evaluate their routing plans for the 2021/22 season.

Please be sure to visit *Online Experiences* at www.CultureShockMiami.com.