

Memorandum



Date: July 21, 2021

To: All Members
Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring, Director

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

Subject: FY 2021-2022 Dance Miami Choreographers' Program Recommendations

As of this date, the FY 2021-2022 Dance Miami Choreographers Program allocation is being recommended to continue at the same funding level as in FY 2020-2021, allowing for seven choreographers to be awarded. Any specific funding recommendations being considered and reviewed at this time are subject to the availability of funds in the Department's FY 2021-2022 budget, which is dependent upon the County's Final Adopted Budget in September 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approve \$70,000 in funding support for seven (7) awards to Miami-Dade choreographers from the FY 2021-2022 Dance Miami Choreographers' Program.

BACKGROUND

Seven \$10,000 awards are being recommended for outstanding Miami-Dade choreographers selected by the program panel for the FY 2021-2022 Dance Miami Choreographers' Program. This program supports the artistic development of Miami-Dade County-based choreographers for the creation of new work in all dance forms, including contemporary, classical and traditional dance. A panel of national dance experts met on June 28, 2021 to review the submissions. The panel was comprised of: Britt Fishel, Artistic Director and Founder of Britt Fishel and Artsits and Dance Faculty member of Drexel University and Bryn Mawr College (Philadelphia, PA); Gierre Godley, Artistic Director and Founder of Project 44 Dance (New York, NY); and Angela Harris, Executive Artistic Director of Dance Canvas (Atlanta, GA). The selection of the recommended award recipients was based primarily on the quality of the choreographers' work as evidenced by the work samples submitted via digital media.

Funding for the Dance Miami Choreographers' Program is derived from Departmental proprietary revenues.

The recommended choreographers are as follows:

Liony Garcia

2690 West 10th Avenue, Apt.8, Hialeah, FL 33010

Liony Garcia is a graduate of New World College. As a professional dancer/choreographer Garcia has performed with BodyTraffic (L.A), Whole Project, Rosie Herrera Dance Theater and Bistoury Physical Theater (Miami). His choreographic works have been commissioned on numerous occasions by Miami Light Project, Thomas Armour Youth Ballet and Dranoff 2 Piano

Foundation (Miami) as well as I.T.E (Canada). He has created original work accompanied by live music for New World Symphony's Musicians Forum.

Rosie Herrera

411 82nd Terrace, # 1, Miami Beach, FL 33141

Rosie Herrera is a Cuban-American dancer, choreographer and artistic director of Rosie Herrera Dance Theater in Miami. She is a graduate from New World School with a BFA in Dance Performance. She has been commissioned by The Miami Light Project, The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Ballet Hispanico, Jose Limon Dance Company, New Dialect, Moving Ground Dance Theater, Houston Met Dance, New World Symphony and the American Dance Festival (ADF) in 2010, 2011, 2013, 2016 and 2018. Her company, Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre, has been presented by the Northrop Dance Series, New World Symphony, Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami Light Project, Baryshnikov Arts Center, Texas A & M University, Duncan Theater, The Annenburg Center, Maui Arts and Cultural Center, Dance Place, Contemporary Arts Center New Orleans, The Yard at Marthas Vineyard, Alys Stephens Center, Wilson Center at Cape Fear University, The Rialto Center, Diana Worthan Theater, Gotham Dance at Skirball and Focus Dance at The Joyce as well as by The American Dance Festival at the Joyce NYC in 2016 and 2018.

Yanis Eric Pikieris

14761 Southwest 84th Court Miami, FL 33158

Born and raised in Miami, Florida, Yanis Eric began his ballet training at the Miami Youth Ballet with his parents Marielena Mencia and Yanis Pikieris. He then trained for two years at Miami City Ballet School and at Charlotte Ballet Academy with Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and Patricia McBride, where he was a company apprentice. In 2016, he was given the opportunity to join Jennifer Kronenberg and Carlos Guerra's Dimensions Dance Theatre of Miami (DDTM) as a dancer for the company's inaugural performance and has been dancing with and choreographing for the company ever since. As a dancer, his repertoire includes ballets by Dwight Rhoden, Alonzo King, Septime Webre, Vicente Nebrada, Gerald Arpino, Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and George Balanchine.

Pikieris choreographed his first ballet 'Confluence' in 2013 during his time at Miami City Ballet School, which was performed in the school's first-ever student composition performance. He later choreographed two short ballets during his time at Charlotte Ballet Academy for similar student choreographic performances. Since moving back to Miami, Pikieris has worked extensively with the students at Miami Youth Ballet, choreographing several short ballets for performances and competitions, as well as a one-act 'Peter Pan.'

Sandra Portal Andreu

1428 Southwest 14 Terrace, Miami, FL 33145

Sandra L. Portal-Andreu (Multidisciplinary Artist/ Choreographer/ Educator) is a Miami native of Cuban/Colombian descent. For over 20 years, Sandra has built her career in Miami's Dance and Theater scene working with notable companies such as Arts Ballet Theatre of South Florida, Josée Garant Dance, Florida Grand Opera, Miami City Ballet's Lounge 2200, Camposition, CityTheater Miami, and Juggerknot Theater Company.

As a choreographer, Portal-Andreu's work is deeply rooted in community, social practice, and identity. Her work expounds themes of tradition, culture, society, and politics through various

mediums, genres, and spaces. Sandra has received support by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, Miami-Dade Public Library System, PBS' Film-Maker Project, Sarasota Contemporary Dance, CityTheatre Miami, The Box Gallery/WPB, Miami Light Project, GrassStains 2018, and NALAC. Lastly, Portal-Andreu is a 2020 Live Arts LALA Resident Artist developing a new work as part of their EcoCultura Initiative, premiering May 2021.

Alexey Taran

44 Northeast 52nd Street, Miami, FL 33137

Alexey Taran is the Co-Founder, Choreographer and Artistic Director of Bistoury Physical Theatre and Film. His work involves respect and curiosity for the extraordinary creative movement of the Latin American megalopolis, both for its ambiguity as well as for the continent's ethnic-cultural diversity.

Hattie Mae Williams

745 84th Street, #4, Miami Beach, FL 33143

Hattie Mae Williams is a Mother, holder of space, director, energetic voice, teacher, artist and wild woman, who received her B.F.A from The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater/Fordham University program and her Masters from Goddard University in Interdisciplinary Arts. In 2003 she established her dance company The Tattooed Ballerinas, which formed roots in site specific dance. Hattie Mae's studies and community collaborations were inspired by embodied experiences, art as political, disrupting the mundane, and African Diaspora folklore and spirituality. Her work has traveled nationally and internationally to Holland, Italy, London, Los Angeles, New York, Kentucky and Miami. Williams is full of gratitude to have danced professionally with The Kevin Wynn Collection, The Francesca Harper Project, Joanna Mendel Shaw 'Equus dancing with horses project.' Edisa Weeks, and Nickelodeon.

Pioneer Winter

14640 Northwest 17th Drive, Miami, FL 33167

Pioneer Winter is a Miami-native choreographer, dancer, and filmmaker, and Founder/Artistic Director of Pioneer Winter / Collective. He has created a significant body of boundary-pushing work, including Gimp/Gait. Winter also produces the annual Cine-danse festival and directs Project LEAP (Living Equality through Arts and Performance), a free dance and creative communication program for LGBTQ teens that focuses on teaching how to use the arts for activism and social change. As a young queer artist, he uses social and cultural narratives to anchor his work.

In the event that additional funding becomes available, the panel would like to recommend funding the following choreographer(s):

Ilisa Rosal

74 Northeast 50th Street, Miami, FL 33161

Ilisa Rosal is an innovator in her art form, having choreographed over 200 pure flamenco works, cross cultural collaborations, and full-length dramatic flamenco ballets. Her company, Ballet Flamenco La Rosa has been one of the finest companies in Florida since 1985. She produced Arte Flamenco Miami Festival and continues choreographing full seasons of work each year.