

Date: July 20, 2022

To: All Members
Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring, Director

Subject: FY 2022-2023 Dance Miami Choreographers' Program Recommendations

As of this date, the FY 2022-2023 Dance Miami Choreographers Program allocation is being recommended to continue at the same funding level as in FY 2021-2022, 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 2022-2023 budget, which is contingent upon the County's Final Adopted Budget in September 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approve \$70,000 in funding support for seven (7) awards to Miami-Dade choreographers from the FY 2022-2023 Dance Miami Choreographers' Program. Subject to the availability of additional funding, it is recommended that an eighth award of \$10,000 be awarded as indicated below.

BACKGROUND

Seven \$10,000 awards are being recommended for outstanding Miami-Dade choreographers selected by the program panel for the FY 2022-2023 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 13, 2022 to review the submissions. The panel was comprised of: James Atkinson, Dance Faculty member of Alabama State University (Montgomery, AL); Katherine Rose McLaughlin, Choreographer for Hadestown on Broadway (New York, NY); and Kathleen Wessel, faculty member of Dance Division at Spelman College (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:

Omayra Amaya

720 Collins Avenue #604 Miami Beach, FL 33139

Omayra Amaya's legacy is one of a deep gypsy flamenco tradition. She is the daughter of flamenco dancers Olga and Curro Amaya and the grandniece of Carmen Amaya, considered to be one of the greatest flamenco dancers of all time. Amaya first appeared on stage with her parents' company. Her first choreographed role came at age 12, when she performed as her father's partner. She attended the Boston Conservatory, earning a BFA in Dance and

Choreography. She has accepted invitations to perform with Ana Sokolow, Ann Marie Forsyth and Jennifer Scanlon.

Luckner Bruno

350 85 Street, Apt. 10 Miami Beach, FL 33141

Luckner Bruno holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Miami Musical Theatre Conservatory. He is a resident voice and movement director for Miami Theatre Center, and a resident choreographer for The Mandelstam Theatre/Gymnastics Academy. Bruno specializes in cirque arts, including stilts, trapeze, and silks. He is the creator of The Legend of the Pink Elephant and more recently, Heroes in My House.

Gentry George

2700 North Miami Avenue #306 Miami, FL 33127

Gentry Isaiah George is the founder of Zest Collective and Professor of Dance at Miami Dade College's New World School of the Arts. George is a recipient of a Level 1 YoungArts award, is featured on HBO's 'Masterclass,' has graced the pages of Essence Magazine and can be seen in the feature film "Life of an Actress." In South Florida, Zest has performed at the Miami Hispanic Cultural Arts Center, Miami Light Project, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, First Baptist Fort Lauderdale, African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, as well as the Broward County Main Library. In 2016 George was invited to lead the Dance Ensemble at Usdan Summer Camp for the Arts. That year he also began working the Dance Project of Washington Heights and became the school's Youth Ensemble Director in 2017. In 2018 George became an Adjunct Professor at the American Musical & Dramatic Academy (AMDA).

In 2020 George relocated to South Florida and served as Rehearsal Director of the Peter London Global Dance Company until February 2022. In 2021 he choreographed the Japanese-inspired play 'Sakura,' created with Greg Hauptner, G-Star High School, and Anouk Wipprecht. George has created work on New World School of the Arts (Miami, FL), Grace Arts Florida (Miami, FL), The Governor's School for the Arts (Norfolk, VA), Arts High School (Newark, NJ), Randolph College (Lynchburg, VA), and Cooperative Arts and Humanities High (New Haven, CT). George has choreographed six ballets on the Peter London Global Dance Company; the most recent of which premiered in December 2021.

Lazaro Godoy

100 Northeast 43rd Street, Miami, FL 33137

Lazaro Godoy has danced extensively across Europe and throughout Israel performing in works of Hans van Manen, Nils Christie, Jiri Kylian, David Parsons, Stijn Celis, Inbal Pinto and Avshalom Pollak Dance Company, among others. He has choreographed several original works while performing for the Bern Ballet Company, Switzerland. In Tel Aviv, Israel, Godoy developed projects StreetStage and Mi Casa Su Casa with friend/artist Anderson Braz.

Godoy, in partnership with Carlota Pradera, founded GodoyPradera Projects & Programs where he serves as artistic director and head choreographer and has produced numerous new works that have been commissioned and presented throughout Miami and New York.

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 Bachelors of Fine Arts 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 Theater, has been presented by the Northrop Dance Series, New World Symphony, Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami Light Project, Baryshnicov 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

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 Bachelor of Fine Arts from The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater/Fordham University program and a Masters from Goddard University in Interdisciplinary Arts. In 2003 she established her dance company, The Tattooed Ballerinas, which formed roots in site specific dance. Williams'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 NW 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):

Yanis Pikieris

14761 SW 84th Court, Miami, FL 33158

Yanis Pikieris Dancer, Director, Choreographer, was the recipient of the Silver Medal at the first Jackson International Ballet Competition in 1979. Pikieris was previously Artistic Director for Ballet du Nord in France and founded and directed Maximum Dance Company in Miami from 1996 to 2005, with David Palmer. He has also worked as Program Director for Miami City Ballet's Contemporary Dance Series 2006 and 2007. He has served as National Dance Panel Chair for YoungArts and as president of the jury for the World Ballet Competition in Orlando, Florida. Pikieris also serves as Executive Director of the Nebraska Foundation, whose mission is to oversee the licensing and production of works by the late choreographer Vicente Nebraska. In more recent times he has worked as guest ballet master, repetiteur and choreographer, with companies such as Ballet Teresa Carreño-Caracas, Ballet de Santiago-Chile, Ballet Estable del Teatro Colón-Argentina, Ballet Nacional del SODRE-Uruguay, Ballet Hispánico of New York, Ballet Philippines-Manila, Ballet de Monterrey-Mexico, Ballet Clásico y Contemporáneo de Asunción-Paraguay, Ballet Estable del Teatro Argentino-La Plata, Milwaukee Ballet, Western Ballet - California, Ballet Municipal de Rio de Janeiro-Brasil and Ballet Nacional de Cuba. He currently directs the Miami Youth Ballet and continues to travel as a freelance master teacher and choreographer. He is the Founding Artistic Director of the

Miami International Ballet Competition and also serves as resident choreographer for Dimensions Dance Theater of Miami.