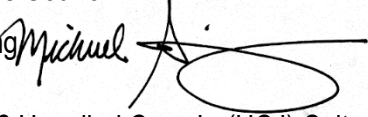


Memorandum



Date: May 19, 2021
To: Members
Cultural Affairs Council
From: Michael Spring 
Director
Subject: FY 2021-2022 Hannibal Cox, Jr. (HCJ) Cultural Grants Program Recommendations

In light of the uncertainty surrounding the long-term impact of Covid-19 on public programs scheduled to begin after October 1, 2021, staff advised the Hannibal Cox, Jr. Cultural Grant Program Panel at the panel's orientation to review and score 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. The award recommendations will be computed using the established funding formula for this program. The program's FY 2021-2022 total allocation and the recommended grant award amounts per grantee will be presented to the Council for final review later this summer, after all the Spring cycle grants program panels have convened and preliminary FY 2021-2022 budget numbers are received.

Final grant awards are contingent upon the availability of funds in the Department's FY 2021-2022 budget, which is subject to the County's Budget as adopted in September 2021. At that time the Department will assess the grantee's feasibility of presenting public programs in traditional venues and performing 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.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approve the funding of 23 grants for the FY 2021-2022 Hannibal Cox, Jr. Cultural Grants Program.

BACKGROUND

The Hannibal Cox Jr. Cultural Grants Program Panel, chaired by Council Member Monty Trainer, convened on April 27, 2021 to review 23 applications requesting a total of \$690,000. The panel recommended funding all 23 applications.

The Hannibal Cox, Jr. Cultural Grants Program provides funding and technical assistance support to mid-sized semi-professional and professional arts, scientific and historical organizations with a full-time presence in Miami-Dade County of presenting, performing or exhibiting a year-round season of cultural activities. Grants are awarded to not-for-profit, tax-exempt organizations with annual operating budgets of \$100,000 or more. The Hannibal Cox, Jr. Cultural Grants Program is designed to assist groups in reaching their long range goals by encouraging a proposal focusing on organization development and institution building.

The panel specifically evaluated each applicant organization based on the following competitive review criteria: 1) artistic merit; 2) management capability and organizational development; 3) capacity to attract financial support; and 4) efforts leading to long-term cultural enrichment of area served.

Funding for the Hannibal Cox, Jr. Cultural Grants Program is derived from departmental proprietary revenues. All funding recommendations are contingent upon approval of the Department of Cultural Affairs' FY 2021-2022 budget by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and Mayor and are subject to availability of funds.

Attached is a list describing the projects recommended for funding.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS FY 2021-2022 HANNIBAL COX, JR. CULTURAL GRANTS PROGRAM

1. Arca Images, Inc. FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of Arca Images, whose mission is to create, produce and promote original contemporary theater and new adaptations of classic plays for Miami's diverse English-Spanish bilingual audiences, as well as related Hispanic performing arts including music. This season includes several theater and musical presentations at Miami-Dade County Auditorium and Paseo Wynwood, as well as youth and adult acting workshops at Morphe Studio in Little Havana culminating in performances open to the public at Miami Hispanic Cultural Arts Center.

2. Artists in Residence in Everglades, Inc. FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season presented by Artists in Residence in Everglades (AIRIE). In partnership with the Everglades National Park, AIRIE empowers artists to think creatively and critically about their relationship to the environment with a mission of revealing new paths forward. AIRIE's season includes an artist-in-residence program in Everglades National Park (ENP) hosting approximately 8 artists; an Environment + Art Summit scheduled for December 2021 during Miami Art Week; approximately 10 AIRIE Asks conversations with AIRIE Artists in Residence and cultural partners; and public exhibitions in the AIRIE Nest Gallery in the Ernest Coe Visitors Center of ENP.

3. Bas Fisher Invitational, Inc. FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season presented by the Bas Fisher Invitational (BFI). Founded in 2004, BFI is an artist-run presenting organization dedicated to creativity, experimentation, and discourse in contemporary art. BFI creates a bridge between Miami and the international art world by curating programs throughout Miami-Dade County, and in collaboration with national and international partnering organizations. BFI fosters community by offering support for artist projects, through WATERPROOF MIAMI a site-specific curatorial platform of exhibitions and public programming that directly address environmental issues facing South Florida; and WEIRD MIAMI, a series of artist-led tours that show locals and visitors Miami through artists' eyes.

4. Community Arts and Culture, Inc. FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of Community Arts & Culture. Founded in September 2002, Community Arts and Culture has provided a multitude of cultural experiences: music, dance and visual art in the form of classes, workshops, lectures, and performances to primarily underserved communities. This year, Community Arts & Culture will present the 24th edition of the Afro Roots Fest featuring programs in Miami Beach, Miami, and Doral. In addition to the Afro Roots Fest, Community Arts and Culture will produce the Everglades Songbook Suite and the Todo El Mundo Dice Aho! concert.

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5. Creation Art Center Corporation
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of the Creation Art Center. Founded in 1983, the Creation Art Center's mission is to preserve and encourage Hispanic culture through arts education programs for children, young adults, older adults and the elderly in the local community. This year, Creation Art Center will present literary encounters, poetry readings, book presentations, theater plays and readings in Spanish as well as art exhibits, film series, musical recitals and concerts presented at CAC's home the Historic JW Warner Place now the Miami Hispanic Cultural Arts Center.

6. Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator (DVCAI). Founded in 1996, DVCAI seeks to promote, nurture and cultivate the vision and diverse talents of emerging artists from the Caribbean and Latinx Diaspora through activities that celebrate Miami-Dade County's rich cultural and social fabric. DVCAI's *Caribbean Crossroads Series* will present a hybrid program with four exhibitions, four virtual sessions, partnership-programs, a virtual art fair, artist-in-residence program, international cultural program, traveling exhibit and activities that focus on artist support and education. Nomadic exhibitions are hosted in The Miami Design District, Moore 200, Mindy Solomon Gallery and Laundromat Studios.

7. Dimensions Dance Theater of Miami, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season presented by Dimensions Dance Theater of Miami, an emerging professional ballet company that has risen to become an important member of the dance ecosystem and an ambassador of South Florida's ballet dancer community at the local, state, and national level. Dimensions Dance Theater of Miami will present a mix of public performance & educational outreach workshops and/or outreach performances to include local, national, and international dancers, choreographers, artists, & musicians.

8. Edge Zones, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 series of programs and activities presented by Edge Zones. The organization is committed to presenting multidisciplinary curatorial project of exhibitions, festivals, forums, residencies, screenings, and workshops by more than 300 respected visual artists. The series also provides a valuable space for experimentation for artists working in contemporary performance, experimental sound and film, and for the broader dissemination of Dominican culture in Miami throughout the year in the Allapattah Art District and throughout the County.

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9. Friends of Chamber Music of Miami, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of Friends of Chamber Music of Miami (FOCM), which intends to present 12 performances by the world's most renowned chamber ensembles and piano soloists as well as the finest up-and-coming musicians. FOCM's focus on important musical repertoire informs its selection of artists and collaborations. This season will continue FOCM's tradition of featuring great artists performing both familiar and infrequently heard repertoire to audience and critical acclaim. Ensemble performances will take place at Temple Beth Am in Pinecrest and the Wertheim Performing Arts Center on the campus of Florida International University.

10. IlluminArts, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season presented by IlluminArts. Founded in 2013, Illuminarts seeks to make classical music accessible to audiences who may not be able to attend musical performances by removing geographical and/or cost restrictions. The organization's goal is to make performances of Art Song and Vocal Chamber music relevant and accessible by collaborating with museums and galleries to present site specific, curated performances of music inspired by the visual art in the space. The season will include collaborations with Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, Oolite Arts and Dimensions Dance Theatre of Miami.

11. Juggerknot Theatre Company, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to implement the 2021-2022 season presented by Juggerknot Theatre Company. Through immersive theater set in historic hotels within Miami-Dade County's oldest neighborhoods, the company showcases and presents works from local and national playwrights and has helped redesign the burgeoning theatre scene emerging from Miami's urban core. Juggerknot Theatre Company's artists and playwrights work collaboratively with key partner developers in the community, to present immersive, real-time experiences set to take place virtually and physically. Shows include the Miami Bus Stop Stories, Long Distance Affair and the Miami Motel Stories Mimo Film Screening.

12. Karen Peterson and Dancers, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season presented by Karen Peterson and Dancers (KPD), a company dedicated to creating and presenting groundbreaking physically integrated dance. The company will present KPD's 2021-22 physically integrated dance work throughout the season, which includes new choreography, performances, educational activities, and the 4th Forward Motion International Festival of Physically Integrated Dance.

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13. Main Street Players, Inc. d/b/a Main Street Players
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season, which takes place from October 2021 through September 2022. During the season, the Main Street Players will produce and present five live theatrical plays, dramas, comedies, four in English and one in Spanish, which have been carefully determined by the script committee under the guidance of the theatre's Artistic Director. All performances will take place at the Main Street Playhouse, located in downtown Miami Lakes.

14. Miami Dade College – Department of Arts & Philosophy
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 Jazz at Wolfson Visiting Artists Series (J-VAS!). The series will present at least one jazz concert per month, free and open to the public, from September to April for a total of ten concerts. Potential artists presented to the series J-VAS! Advisory Committee include Christian Scott (trumpet), Roy Hanes (drums), Eric Alexander (saxophone), Kurt Rosenwinkle (guitar), Ingrid Jensen (trumpet), Esperanza Spalding (bass), Richie Beirach (piano), and Joe Locke (vibraphonist). All concerts take place at the Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus Auditorium in downtown Miami.

15. Miami Lyric Opera, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 Miami Lyric Opera season, which consists of three full-scale opera productions, all with full orchestra staged in their traditional presentations, as well as the popular Opera Gala concert. All performances will be held on select Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center and Pinecrest Gardens Banyan Bowl.

16. Miami Short Film Festival, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of the Miami Short Film Festival (MsFF), a festival dedicated to promoting the short film genre showcasing films from one to thirty minutes long. This season, MsFF will present the 20th annual Miami short Film Festival (November 11-14, 2021); provide free public screenings throughout Miami-Dade County; expand our educational outreach program with a focus on student showcases, educational workshops, and Q&A screenings; and partner with local community organizations to host "Focus On" screening events.

17. PAXy, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of PAXy. Founded in 2014, PAXy's mission is to inspire creativity and help Miamians become art lovers and art makers. This season will include a public screening of "Into the Wild," a PAXy original series of art short films; the Wake up Miami! project or an adaptation of it based upon safety guidelines mandated as a result of COVID-19; and a performance project with visual artist Erik Ravelo. The second half of the international cultural exchange project, Cross-pollination, will also be presented with the successful completion of the first phase.

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18. Pioneer Winter Collective, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of Pioneer Winter Collective (PWC). This season features the virtual touring of Birds of Paradise and the development of the new work DJ Apollo; engagement activities to include virtual panels, the continuation of Werqshop (weekly dance classes - virtual or live) and Grass Stains (site specific initiative). All programming this season is free and open to the public as PWC strives for continued accessibility and high artistic rigor.

19. Peter London Global Dance Company, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of Peter London Global Dance Company, dedicated to celebrate and share rich and diverse cultural heritages with people of all ages, ethnicities and socio-economic backgrounds while increasing awareness of our cultural similarities, global dance and music traditions. The company will present four innovative and hybrid programs that celebrate beauty and diversity through innovative programming at venues such as Miami Beach Botanical Gardens, North Beach Bandshell, Coral Gables Museum and the Little Haiti Cultural Center.

20. Saint Martha Concerts and Cultural Affairs, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of the St. Martha - Yamaha Concert Series. This season, eight music concerts featuring a wide range of musical genre, including classical, contemporary and crossover music will be presented, as well as in-school performances and a student art program. Live, socially-distant performances are scheduled to take place at the four venues located at Corpus Christi Church in Allapattah.

21. Siempre Flamenco, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of Siempre Flamenco. Founded in 2002, the company's mission is to promote awareness of and preserve the art and tradition of flamenco music and dance. This year, the company will include the presentation of the annual Festival Siempre Flamenco, Flamenco Sephardit IX, and a new concert titled Flamenco Visions, in collaboration with the Rhythm Foundation, in addition to outreach and educational programs. Programs will be presented at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Temple Emanu-El on Miami Beach and the North Beach Bandshell.

22. Siudy Flamenco Dance Theater, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of Siudy Flamenco Dance Theater. The Siudy Flamenco Dance Theater is the evolution of Siudy Garrido's now 21-year-old dance company, originally founded in her native Venezuela, and relocated in 2015 to its new home in North Miami, Florida. Siudy Flamenco Dance Theater nurtures dynamic artistry and the development of authentic, creative expression through flamenco. The season includes live performances, live music for concerts, a community viewing of a feature-length documentary and masterclass programs with both local and international artists at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Silver Spot Cinema, Flamingo Theater and Siudy Flamenco Dance Theater Studio.

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23. The Opera Atelier, Inc.
FY 2021-2022 Season

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the 2021-2022 season of The Opera Atelier, whose mission is to transmit and further the art of opera through performance, education, and other art forms. This season celebrates the achievements of women and consists of major productions, children's operas, concerts, and multi-disciplinary performances in venues including Manuel Artime Theater in Little Havana, the Colony Theater on Miami Beach and the Seminole Theater in Homestead. In addition to ongoing education programs, free outreach performances will be offered at local libraries, schools, senior and community centers.