

**MINUTES OF THE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL**

June 21, 2023

A meeting of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council was held at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium and online via Zoom.

<p><u>Members Present</u> Mitchell Bierman Kareem Brantley Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, Second Vice Chair Sandra Curbelo Al Dotson, Jr. Adolfo Henriques, Immediate Past Chair Councilwoman Linda Julien Zaba St. George</p>	<p><u>Members Not Present</u> Brian May, Chairman Jorge Plasencia Cheryl Rees Janá Sigars-Malina, First Vice Chair Rosa Sugrañes Monty Trainer</p>
<p><u>Staff</u> Michael Spring, Director Marialaura Leslie, Deputy Director Kelly Allocco Francine Andersen Stephanie Antequera Patricia Arbelaez Roxana Barba Stefania Barigelli Nikenna Benjamin Tania Centeno Nicole Chaplin Kimberly Chuck Mary-Margaret Dale Marie Denis Bianca Gonzalez</p>	<p><u>Staff (continued)</u> Olga Gonzalez Teddy Harrell Liliana Hernandez-Constenla Gilda Mooney Steven Padilla Alex Peraza Dana Pezoldt Gisella Rivas-Diaz Amanda Sanfilippo Long Javier Siut Christina Tassy Geraldine Toussaint Pamela Valles Graham Winick</p>

Cultural Affairs Council Immediate Past Chair Adolfo Henriques called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed the Cultural Affairs Council and staff. Mr. Henriques

noted he will run the meeting on behalf of Chairman Brian May and welcomed those attending via Zoom.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Approval of May 17, 2023 Minutes

The minutes of the May 17, 2023 Cultural Affairs Council meeting were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Ms. St. George)

Requests for Excused Absences for June 21, 2023

Requests for an excused absence were submitted by Chairman May, Councilor Plasencia, Councilor Rees, Councilor Sigars-Malina, Councilor Sugrañes and Councilor Trainer. (Motion by Ms. St. George; seconded by Ms. Curbelo)

Councilor Al Dotson, Jr. joined the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

FY 2023-2024 Cultural Advancement (ADV) Grants Program Panel Recommendations

Mr. Spring reported that the FY 2023-2024 Cultural Advancement Grants Program Panel, chaired by Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, convened on May 18, 2023 to review 23 applications requesting a total of \$3,680,000. The Cultural Advancement Grants Program is designed to provide grant support and technical assistance to Miami-Dade County's mid- to large-size, culturally diverse performing, visual, literary and presenting arts organizations that have a history of distinguished artistic programming. The program works on a three-year cycle. All 23 grant applicants were recommended for renewal.

Mr. Spring noted the grant panels have been meeting to ensure grant recommendations can be submitted as part of the County's budget ordinance which the County Commission will review in September. Once the new fiscal year's budget is approved, staff will begin the process of issuing contracts and grant payments.

The following Councilors declared conflicts of interest and abstained from voting on the associated organizations:

Mitchell Bierman - GableStage

Adolfo Henriques - GableStage

Councilwoman Linda Julien – Miami Dade College – Live Arts Miami; Miami Dade College - Miami Book Fair Year-Round; Miami Dade College – Museum of Art and Design

It was noted that grant amounts will be determined based upon final ADV program allocation. A motion was made to fund all the of the Panel's recommendations subject to

Councilors with conflicts abstaining from voting on the applications affected. The Councilors with the above-mentioned conflicts of interest abstained from the voting. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Mr. Dotson)

Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc.
Bascomb Memorial Broadcasting Foundation, Inc.
Centro Cultural Español de Cooperación Iberoamericana, Inc.
City Theater, Inc.
Contemporary Arts Foundation, Inc. d/b/a The Rubell Museum
Coral Gables Cinemateque, Inc.
FundArte, Inc.
Living Arts Trust, Inc. d/b/a O Cinema
Locust Projects, Inc.
Miami Design Preservation League, Inc.
Miami Light Project, Inc.
Miami New Drama, Inc.
Nu Deco Ensemble, Inc.
Seraphic Fire, Inc.
The Bakehouse Art Complex, Inc.
The Coral Gables Museum Corp.
The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.
The Rhythm Foundation, Inc.
Zoetic Stage, Inc.

The Panel's recommendations to fund the following organizations, for which there are the above-mentioned conflicts of interest and abstentions from voting, were voted on and passed unanimously as follows:

GableStage, Inc.
(Motion by Mr. Dotson; seconded by Ms. Julien)

Miami-Dade College, Live Arts Miami
Miami-Dade College, Miami Book Fair Year Round
Miami-Dade College, Museum of Art and Design
(Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Ms. St. George)

FY 2023-2024 Cultural Development (CDG) Grants Program Panel Recommendations

Mr. Spring reported that the Cultural Development Grant Program Panel, chaired by Council member Cheryl Rees, convened on May 25, 2023 to review 22 applications requesting a total of \$1,650,000. The Panel recommended funding all 22 applications. The Cultural Development Grant Program provides general operating grant support and technical assistance to Miami-Dade County's mid-sized, artistically accomplished and

culturally diverse performing, visual, literary, and presenting arts organizations that are defining the cultural and artistic voice of Miami.

The following Councilors declared conflicts of interest and abstained from voting on the associated organizations:

Mitchell Bierman - Florida International University Board of Trustees, School of Music

Sandra Curbelo - The Dance Now! Ensemble, Inc.

Adolfo Henriques - Florida International University Board of Trustees, School of Music

Councilwoman Linda Julien – Miami Dade College – Koubek Center; Miami Dade College - Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives

It was noted that grant amounts will be determined based upon final CDG program allocation. A motion was made to fund all the of the Panel's recommendations subject to Councilors with conflicts abstaining from voting on the applications affected. The Councilors with the above-mentioned conflicts of interest abstained from the voting. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Julien; seconded by Ms. Curbelo)

Artists in Residence in Everglades, Inc.

Ballet Flamenco la Rosa, Inc.

CaFA-Third Horizon, Inc.

Chopin Foundation of the United States, Inc.

Coral Gables Congregational Church

Cuban Classical Ballet of Miami, Inc.

Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc.

Juggerknot Theatre Corporation

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Inc.

Miami Beach Garden Conservancy, Inc.

Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center, Inc.

New World School of the Arts - Dance Division

Olympia Center, Inc.

Orchestra Miami, Inc.

Patrons of Exceptional Artists, Inc.

Pioneer Winter Collective, Inc.

The Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center, Inc.

The Murray Dranoff Foundation, Inc.

Florida International University Board of Trustees, School of Music
(Motion by Mr. Dotson; seconded by Ms. Julien)

Miami-Dade College - Koubek Center

Miami-Dade College - Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives
(Motion by Mr. Dotson; seconded by Ms. St. George)

The Dance Now! Ensemble, Inc.
(Motion by Ms. St. George; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

FY 2023-2024 Developing Arts in Neighborhoods (DAN) Grants Program Panel Recommendations

Mr. Spring reported that the FY 2023-2024 Developing Arts in Neighborhoods (DAN) Program Panel, chaired by Councilor Cheryl Rees, convened on June 6, 2023 to review 30 applications requesting \$600,000. The Panel recommended funding all 30 applications. The DAN program provides grant and technical assistance support to small, emerging grassroots and neighborhood-based arts groups in an effort to help the organizations develop management skills and establish short and long-range organizational goals. The cultural groups in the program must present year-round activities and have an operating budget of less than \$100,000 annually.

There was a discussion led by Mr. Dotson regarding the reach of grant funding across all areas and sectors of Miami-Dade County. Mr. Spring noted that the Department of Cultural Affairs makes over 500 grant awards annually to nonprofit organizations that are in all parts of the County. Grants are issued via programs that provide support for annual presentations, while other grant programs provide support for quarterly projects every three months such as the Community Grants and Tourist Development Council Grant Programs. The TDC grant program grant awards are approved by its own board. All the programs together leave no corner of the County untouched. This year staff will host additional grants workshops to make sure the information is reaching as many as possible in the community. Staff works closely with new organizations to walk them through the application and funding process. Organizations are also notified of other funding opportunities available via consultations with grant program administrators and through the Departmental e-newsletter.

It was noted that grant amounts will be determined based upon the final DAN program allocation. A motion was made to fund all the of the Panel's recommendations. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Dotson; seconded by Mr. Bierman)

Across Missions, Inc.
Alhambra Music, Inc.
Civic Chorale of Greater Miami
Conecta: Miami Arts, Inc.
Delou Africa, Inc.
Fire House Projects, Inc.
Florida Guitar Foundation, Inc.
Florida L'Opera & Zarzuela Corp.
Florida Opera Prima, Inc.
Foundation for Emerging Technologies and Arts, Inc.
Friends of the Japanese Garden, Inc.
FUNDarte, Inc. f/a for Antiheroes Project, Inc.

Hand2Hand Team Corp.
Hispanic-American Lyric Theater, Inc.
Hued Songs, Inc.
La Zarzuela, Inc.
Living Arts Trust, Inc. d/b/a O Cinema as fiscal agent for Bistoury, Inc.
Marti Productions
Miami Watercolor Society, Incorporated
MUD Foundation, Inc.
Mz. Goose, Inc.
North Miami Community Concert Band, Inc.
Ruta Teatral, Inc.
South Beach Chamber Ensemble, Inc.
South Florida Bluegrass Association, Inc.
South Florida Composer's Alliance, Inc.
The Cove/Rincon Corp.
Troop of Actors, Inc.
Voice of Miami, Inc.
Xavier Cortada Foundation, Inc.

FY 2023-2024 International Cultural Partnerships (ICP) Grants Program Panel Recommendations

Mr. Spring reported that the FY 2023-2024 International Cultural Partnerships Program Panel, chaired by Councilor Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, convened on Thursday, June 15, 2023 to review 12 applications requesting a total of \$405,000. The Panel recommended funding all 12 applications. The International Cultural Partnerships Grant Program is a specialized program designed to provide grants to professional Miami-Dade County based cultural organizations to support projects including significant artistic partnerships or collaborations with artists, arts professionals and organizations abroad.

Mr. Spring noted that organizations are able to apply for cultural funding for their annual seasons as well as international exchange projects through this program. The Department is one of the few agencies in the country that manages an international exchange program for cultural organizations.

The following Councilor declared a conflict of interest and abstained from voting on the associated organization:

Sandra Curbelo - The Dance NOW! Ensemble, Inc.

A motion was made to fund all the of the Panel's recommendations subject to Councilors with conflicts abstaining from voting on the applications affected. The Councilor with the above-mentioned conflict of interest abstained from the voting. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Dotson; seconded by Mr. Bierman)

Arca Images, Inc.
Ballet Flamenco La Rosa, Inc.
Bas Fisher Invitational, Inc.
Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc.
Edge Zones, Inc.
El Ingenio, Inc.
Fire Haus Projects
FUNDarte, Inc.
Karen Peterson & Dancers, Inc.
Miami Chamber Music Society, Inc.
Miami Music Festival, Inc.

The Panel's recommendation to fund the following organization, for which there is the above-mentioned conflict of interest and abstention from voting, was voted on and passed unanimously as follows:

The Dance NOW! Ensemble, Inc.
(Motion by Ms. Dotson; seconded by Ms. Julien)

FY 2023-2024 Youth Arts Miami (YAM) Grants Program Panel Recommendations

Mr. Spring reported that the FY 2023-2024 Youth Arts Miami (YAM) Grants Panel, chaired by Councilor Mitchell Bierman, convened on Wednesday, May 24, 2023 to review 35 applications requesting a total of \$3,460,000. The Panel recommended funding all 35 applications. The objective of the YAM grants program is to provide operational funding support to nonprofit youth arts organizations having a year-round presence in Miami-Dade County whose primary mission is to create, present or exhibit cultural programs for children and/or with children.

There was a discussion regarding the impact of the arts on children. Mr. Bierman noted that the work of many of the YAM organizations is critically important for this community. The public funding of arts education is very important as well as the development of future audiences. Mr. Brantley added that through this program and through the arts children and youth have the ability to dream and become their best selves. The Department is working on a new short film that highlights the human impact of the arts in our community.

It was noted that grant amounts will be determined based upon the final YAM program allocation. A motion was made to fund all the of the Panel's recommendations. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Dotson; seconded by Mr. Brantley)

After School Film Institute, Inc.
All Florida Youth Orchestra, Incorporated d/b/a Florida Youth Orchestra
Alliance for Musial Arts Productions, Inc.
American Children's Orchestras for Peace, Inc.
Armour Dance Theatre, Inc.

Art Creates Us, Inc. dba ProjectArt
Ballet Etudes of South Florida, Inc.
Bilingual School of Business & Performing Arts, Inc.
Diva Arts & Entertainment, Inc.
enFAMILIA, Inc.
Fantasy Theatre Factory, Inc.
Florida Film Institute, Inc.
Friends of South Florida Music, Inc.
Greater Miami Youth Symphony of Dade County, Florida, Inc.
Guitars Over Guns Organization, Inc.
Kinad, Inc.
Mexican American Council, Inc.
Miami Children's Chorus, Inc.
Miami Dance Project, Inc.
Miami Momentum Dance Company, Inc.
Miami Music Festival, Inc.
Miami Music Project, Inc.
Miami Stage Company/ Miami Children's Theater, Inc.
Miami Theater Center, Inc.
Miami Youth Ballet, Inc.
Musical, Inc.
National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, Inc.
PATH: Preserving, Archiving & Teaching Hiphop, Inc.
South Florida Center for Percussive Arts, Inc.
South Florida Youth Symphony, Inc.
The Children's Voice Chorus, Inc.
The Motivational Edge, Inc.
The Roxy Theatre Group, Inc.
Young Musicians Unite, Inc.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update on FY 2023-2024 County Arts Budget

Ms. Spring reported that Department staff has submitted the request for additional funds recommended by the Council at the annual Planning and Budget Retreat to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Currently the OMB is reviewing all County department budget submissions internally. The Mayor is expected to announce the proposed budget recommendations in early July 2023. Mr. Spring noted that bed taxes and property taxes are up significantly and suggest an increase of revenue available. The issue for next year's budget will be funding needs across the County. Department staff will update the Cultural Affairs Council as soon as they are notified about a budget recommendation. The Commission will also set the millage rates in July as part of the budget process.

Community meetings regarding the budget will take place in August with final budget hearings scheduled in September.

Miami-Dade County Auditorium Facility Update

Mr. Javier Siut presented an update on programs at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium (MDCA). He provided a quick overview of activity at the Auditorium for the last three years, which included becoming a hub for providing services to the community during the shutdown by serving as a food distribution center and COVID State testing site. In summer 2020 MDCA began to provide cultural programming outdoors with the “Drive-thru Theater” experience designed to offer a safe alternative to enjoy the performing arts by having audiences watch performances from their vehicles. In 2021 MDCA offered small indoor performances by working with longtime partners Teatro Avante, Arca Images and FundArte. Over the course of the 2021-2022 season the Auditorium welcomed 61,000 guests and hosted 140 events. The Auditorium also celebrated International Children’s Day and the world premiere of “Kisses through the Glass” by Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Nilo Cruz. The “Hot Theater Summer Series” takes place in July and August and provides five weeks of theater in the On Stage Black Box. “El Yiyo” a Flamenco dance troupe from Spain is slated to open the new 2023-2024 season. The Auditorium provides simultaneous live translation for its programs.

Art in Public Places Update

Ms. Amanda Sanfilippo Long reported on the new projects Paseo Del Rio / Brisas del Este - Phase I (Norte) in partnership with the Public Housing and Community Development Department. Artists were invited to propose for both projects which are mixed-use affordable housing projects. The artists recommended to pursue commissions are Summer Wheat, based in New York, who will work on a large-scale painting. Sandra Ramos, based in Miami, will work on an exterior sculpture in the courtyard. Edra Soto, based in Chicago, will work in the Domino Room recreation area. Wade Tullier, based in New Orleans, will work on a series of enigmatic sculptures. Nathalie Alfonso, based in Coral Springs, will work on a wallpaper installation and Emilio Perez will work on a large-scale painting that will wrap the corner of the lobby. Ms. Sanfilippo Long also noted that APP has two acquisitions via donations, including an artwork by Berlin-based artist Jeppe Hein, part of The Underline. In addition, there is a donation via the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center of a painting by artist Kiro Urdin. Ms. Sanfilippo Long also reported that the Art in Public Places division has the Adopt an Artwork program which works as an intracounty loan program, providing artworks from the collection for different County facilities. Mr. Spring added that recently the Department of Cultural Affairs and the Miami-Dade Public Library System received a public art donation from former Council Chair Xavier Cortada. The Library has its own art collection.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Mr. Spring reported that staff notified the Council when the Department's grant agenda items were being heard by the Committee and Board of County Commissioners. All five items passed Committee without comment and will be heard by the full Board next month.
- Mr. Spring reminded Councilors that their source of income statements are due to the Elections Department by July 1st. Department staff can submit the filled-out forms on Councilors' behalf. The Clerk's Office removes advisory board members who do not submit this required documentation.
- Mr. Spring noted that an overview of the Department of Cultural Affairs Grants Process is an attachment to the Council agenda. It provides a clear description of the Department's grants work, how it is structured and how it is promoted.
- Mr. Spring reported that he discussed the need for a capital bond referendum with the Mayor and subsequently sent her detailed information regarding the involvement of the cultural community in the 2004 bond referendum, as well as information about the City of Miami Beach's referendum just passed in November 2022 with \$159 million in capital funding for arts projects. Mr. Spring noted that he and Councilwoman Julien met with the chairman of the County Commission who is very interested in having a theater built in Miami Gardens which could be part of a referendum for cultural projects.
- Mr. Spring reported that regarding the Coconut Grove Playhouse, Miami-Dade County is working through the County Attorney's Office and filed an appeal with the Circuit Court on May 10, 2023. This appeal provided an account of the unfair treatment that the City of Miami's Planning, Zoning and Appeals Board (PZAB) demonstrated at their March 15, 2023 meeting in voting to uphold an appeal of the County's demolition waiver. The appeal also detailed the reasons that the Court should overturn the PZAB's unsupported and erroneous decision. The City of Miami asked for an extension to respond to the lawsuit filed in Circuit Court. They have until August to file.
- Mr. Spring reported that the Florida Governor signed and approved the State budget with a little over \$43 million dollars for the state arts grants programs this year. It is a high number for arts grants in the state. Miami-Dade County cultural organizations are recipients of 20% of the state's cultural grant funds, which is roughly \$8 million of funds benefiting local cultural organizations. Deputy Director Marialaura Leslie led the Department's grant writing effort which resulted in two grant awards from the State.

- The Miami Emerging Arts Leaders conducted a session on Leadership Succession with national consultant Stephen Wolff who has worked on this prevalent issue in our community as we move from one generation of leaders to the next. The Miami Emerging Arts Leaders program is a leadership development program which aims to cultivate new, diverse young arts professionals. Next session will highlighting our very own Amanda Sanfilippo Long who will be providing an overview about the power and value of public art on Tuesday, July 18th from 2-3:30 p.m. via Zoom.
- The Children’s Trust just renewed the Department’s annual \$1.5 million grant at their meeting last week. This longtime partnership helps us to continue supporting youth arts activities through YEP and SAS-C and the All Kids Included accessibility programs.
- Mr. Spring reported that the Taft Foundation approached the Department and awarded us a \$46,110 grant for AKI programs, specifically to create an Animation Arts for Young Adults pilot program. Congratulations to the arts education team led by Francine Andersen.
- The Department has received 4 NACo Awards this year! The National Association of Counties issues annual achievement awards to recognize outstanding County programs that are national models. The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center won for the student apprenticeship program. Art in Public Places won for Art in Medicine: Public Art Projects at Jackson. Miami-Dade County Auditorium won for the “Lo Mio En Vivo” performance series. The launch of the Miami Individual Artists Grants Program to help artists emerge from the pandemic also won.

COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Councilor Bierman invited the Council to visit his new office where he has installed a large exhibition of former Council Chair Xavier Cortada’s work. GableStage is currently presenting a play called “Native Gardens” which is having a Young Professionals event on June 29, 2023. Mr. Bierman is opening his home and hosting a reception for the event.
- Councilor St. George is excited to see The Lion King in London.
- Councilor Curbelo thanked staff members Gilda Mooney and Roxana Barba for chairing and running the DAN panel. She was part of the panel, and it was a rewarding experience. She was happy to see how much organizations have improved in their grant writing. Ms. Curbelo also invited the Council to visit the Westchester Cultural Arts Center.
- Councilor Brantley is proud to see the amount and quality of cultural programs at County facilities.
- Councilwoman Julien is impressed with the artwork at MIA.

- Councilor Henriques participated in the CreARTE application review and was happy to see many grantees who already receive funding from the Department of Cultural Affairs. He noted how impressed he was with an organization that teaches poetry and resonates with teens.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liliana Hernandez-Constenla". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Liliana Hernandez-Constenla