

MINUTES OF THE  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL

March 16, 2016

A meeting of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council was held at the 6th Floor Conference Room, Stephen P. Clark Government Center, 111 N.W. 1st Street, Miami, Florida.

**Members Present**

Adolfo Henriques, Chairman  
Alejandro Aguirre  
Mitchell Bierman  
Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez  
Xavier Cortada  
Sandra Curbelo  
Denise Gerson  
Susana Ibarguen  
Robert Jensen  
Janá Sigars-Malina  
Rosa Sugrañes  
Monty Trainer  
Dwayne Wynn

**Staff**

Michael Spring, Director  
Kelly Allocco  
Francine Andersen  
Patricia Arbelaez  
Roxana Barba  
Christina Beauvoir  
Nikenna Benjamin  
Sue Camp  
Nicole Campbell  
Lisa D'Andrea-Thompson  
Marshall Davis  
Marie Denis  
Eric Fliss  
Olga Gonzalez  
Hanny Guedes  
Liliana Hernandez-Constanla  
Sandra Hill  
Gerry Landreth  
Regla Lee  
Marialaura Leslie  
Deborah Margol  
David Martinez-Delgado  
Gilda Mooney

**Members Not Present**

Jorge Pérez  
Phyllis Simpkins

**Others Present**

Jordana Pomeroy, Director, Patricia & Phillip Frost  
Art Museum at Florida International University  
Lydia Lopez, Assistant to Senior Advisor, Office of  
the Mayor

**Staff (continued)**

Adriana Perez  
Dana Pezoldt  
Brandi Reddick  
Kat Robertson  
Javier Siut

Chairman Adolfo Henriques called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

## **PRESENTATION**

Mr. Spring introduced Jordana Pomeroy, Director, Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University.

Ms. Pomeroy noted that The Frost Art Museum's collection comprises American and European printmaking from the 1960s and '70s, photography, Pre-Columbian objects, African art and works by contemporary Caribbean and Latin American artists. In addition to serving as a resource for the FIU community, offering interdisciplinary training in the arts for the next generation of artists and art historians, the Frost Art Museum is a premier cultural destination for residents of and visitors to Miami-Dade County.

The museum is dedicated to educating audiences by collecting, conserving, interpreting, and exhibiting art. The Frost Art Museum is a regional resource for scholarly research and interdisciplinary collaboration. As the only Miami art museum that is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, the Frost integrates Smithsonian collections into exhibitions and educational initiatives.

## **ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

### **Requests for Excused Absences for March 16, 2016**

A request for an excused absence for Jorge Pérez was approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Mr. Jensen)

### **Approval of the January 20, 2016 and February 25, 2016 Minutes**

Councilor Ibarguén noted a correction to the February 25, 2016 minutes that "Colombia" should be spelled with an "o." The minutes of the January 20, 2016 and February 25, 2016 (as amended) Council meetings were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sugranes; seconded by Mr. Trainer)

### **FY 2015-2016 Community Grants Program Recommendations – Third Quarter**

The FY 2015-2016 Community Grants Program (CG) Panel, chaired by Councilor Janá Sigars-Malina, convened on March 3, 2016, to review 25 applications. The Panel recommended funding all 25 applications for a total of \$123,000. The Community Grants Program is responsive on a quarterly basis to organizations, which develop small and large-scale community-based programs, projects, events, and publications.

Individual grant recommendations that involved Councilor conflicts of interest were removed from the package of recommendations and voted on individually. The following Council members declared a conflict of interest and abstained from voting on the following:

Mr. Bierman - The Miami Foundation

Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez – Haitian Cultural Arts Alliance (Alyans Atizay Ayisyen)

The Panel's recommendation to fund the remaining 23 organizations was approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina, seconded by Mr. Jensen)

A Greener Miami, Inc.	\$4,941
Academia de las Luminarias de las Bellas Artes, Inc.	\$4,282
Big Blue & You, Inc.	\$4,941
Caribbean American Heritage Florida Inc.	\$3,953
Dade Heritage Trust, Inc.	\$3,294
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Parade and Festivities Committee, Inc.	\$9,882
El Ingenio Inc.	\$4,941
Florida Association of Nonprofit Organizations, Inc. a/f/a for Centro Cultural Bolivian Masis, Corp.	\$5,600
Greater Miami Billfish Tournament, Inc.	\$4,941
Heroes Unite, Inc. a/f/a for Lab 9	\$3,953
IlluminArts, Inc.	\$4,941
Master Chorale of South Florida, Inc.	\$4,941
MDGLCC FOUNDATION, INC. a/f/a for Miami Beach - Miami LGBT Sports and Cultural League	\$4,941
Miami International Jazz Fest Inc.	\$4,941
Miami Jazz Cooperative, Inc.	\$3,953
Miami River Fund, Inc.	\$6,588
Nu Deco Ensemble, Inc.	\$4,941
NWD Projects, Inc.	\$4,941
Take Stock Inc.	\$4,612
The Alexander Foundation Formless Heart Fellowship, Inc	\$4,941
The Miami Oratorio Society, Inc.	\$4,941
Tradisyon Lakou Lakay, Inc. a/f/a for Crianza de Ouro	\$4,743
Urban Reflections, Inc.	\$4,941
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$115,093</b>

The Panel's recommendation to fund the remaining organizations, for a total of \$7,907, for which there was the above-noted Councilor conflict of interest and abstention, was voted on individually and passed unanimously as follows:

Alyans Atizay Ayisyen, Inc. a/f/a for Art in the Sky (Motion by Ms. Sagrañes seconded by Mr. Cortada)	\$4,941
The Miami Foundation, Inc. a/f/a for Miami Beach Gay Pride, Inc. (Motion by Ms. Sagrañes seconded by Mr. Aguirre)	\$2,966

### **FY 2016-2017 Grants Program Panels**

The program panels for the International Cultural Exchange (ICE) Grants Program; Hannibal Cox, Jr. (HCJ) Cultural Grants Program; Youth Arts Enrichment (YEP) Grants Program; and Youth Arts Miami (YAM) Grants Program were approved unanimously. Chairman Henriques noted that Councilors participate on every grants program panel with one Councilor serving as chair on each panel. (Motion by Mr. Wynn; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

### **FY 2016-2017 Grants Program Guidelines**

Mr. Spring noted that there were no significant changes to the Developing Arts in Neighborhoods (DAN) Grants Program Guidelines and that there were significant changes to the Youth Arts Enrichment (YEP) Grants Program

Guidelines. Ms. Pezoldt indicated that the YEP Guidelines were revised both to address evolving organizational needs and to align better with The Children's Trust, which provides funding in part for the Youth Arts Enrichment (YEP) Grants Program. Ms. Pezoldt reported that the revisions included changes to the funding categories to include a new All Kids Included category to support non-profit organizations for projects that serve children, youth and young adults with disabilities through inclusive arts and cultural programs so that kids of all abilities and their families can participate fully in the arts. Ms. Margol noted that the changes to the guidelines establish YEP as a more action and outcome driven program, pursuant to the joint objectives of the Department of Cultural Affairs and The Children's Trust to support projects demonstrating clear and obvious impact.

Councilors Cortada and Trainer discussed the Council's vision for arts education programs for children and youth as it relates to immediate and longitudinal access to the arts including the provision of cultural services throughout the County's diverse communities.

The guidelines for the Developing Arts in Neighborhoods (DAN) Grants Program and the Youth Arts Enrichment (YEP) Grants Program were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Cortada, seconded by Ms. Sugrañes)

## **REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Update on FY 2016-2017 State Arts Budget**

Mr. Spring reported that the state legislature ended its 2016 session with the House and Senate agreeing on a low number for the Cultural and Museum Grants Program of \$9 million, less than the current year. However, due to the efforts of the Florida Cultural Alliance, the leadership of the House and Senate increased the appropriation for the Cultural and Museum Grants Program to \$19 million. Additionally, the Culture Builds Florida program, the Cultural Endowments Program, and the Cultural Facilities Program were fully funded. These appropriations include a \$500,000 Cultural Facilities grant to the Miami-Dade County Auditorium.

### **Overview and Update: Department Capital Projects**

Mr. Spring provided an overview of the Department's work in the area of capital projects including competitive grants programs for non-profit cultural organizations to build and/or renovate cultural arts facilities; management of County capital funds allocated to non-profit cultural organizations and municipalities for the development of new cultural facilities and/or renovation/expansion of existing facilities; and improvements and maintenance of Department-managed cultural facilities. Mr. Spring provided an update on the Frost Museum of Science and the plan being recommended to complete the Museum without requiring additional County funding beyond what already has been planned for the project. Chairman Henriques, Councilors Bierman, Cortada and Trainor participated in a discussion about the plan and its impact. A motion encouraging the Commission to support the grant and finance proposal for the Frost Science Museum was approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Cortada, seconded by Ms. Sugrañes)

Mr. Spring concluded with a presentation of the schematic design by Zyscovich Architects for the Westchester Cultural Arts Center in Tropical Park.

### **Culture Shock Miami - Discount Tickets for Youth Program**

Ms. Beauvoir reported that as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, more than 6,600 tickets have been processed through the program's second quarter of the 2015-2016 fiscal year. In addition, 5,487 students, teachers and community members have been reached through free performances and workshops.

Ms. Beauvoir presented a video from Culture Shock Miami's "You Review" project, which allows Culture Shock Miami ticket buyers the opportunity to review, critique and share with their peers their opinions directly after attending a performance. The stories and reviews are posted on YouTube, Vimeo's CSM-TV, Facebook, and on CultureShockMiami.com to provide the program's audience an in-depth look at the arts in Miami-Dade County. The "You Review" video featured a student, Sharon, at the Che Malambo performance on February 6, 2016.

Ms. Beauvoir reported on upcoming performances that are being produced as part of the Culture Shock Miami Presents series including Companhia Urbana de Danca (March 2016), Semi-Toned (April 2016) and Black Violin (July 2016).

Ms. Beauvoir also noted that the Culture Shock Miami Student Councilor program has been relaunched with nine students participating from TERRA, Cutler Bay Senior High, BioTECH High School, Palmetto Middle and High Schools, International Studies Preparatory Academy, Miami Dade College and one home-schooled student.

## **Department Facilities Updates**

### **South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center**

Mr. Fliss reported that since January, sixty-nine events have been held at South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, including 16 performances by New Theater. Over the past 6 weeks, more than 8,000 guests have visited South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center including 1,800 students from Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Mr. Fliss provided highlights of recent performances including Savion Glover, Step Afrika and Ladysmith Black Mambazo in collaboration with Culture Shock Miami. Mr. Fliss presented a video of the Ladysmith Black Mambazo performance where students were invited to join the performers onstage. The Center also presented Lisa Fischer, a free family day with Florida Grand Opera, the Miami-Dade Public Schools Superintendent dance concert, and the Black Affairs Advisory Board Gospel Fest. Mr. Fliss reported on upcoming events including Fiesta Mexico Americana featuring Los Lobos and Ballet Folklórico Mexicano with a preshow Fiesta en la Plaza hosted by the Mexican American Council on March 20, 2016.

### **Art in Public Places**

Ms. Reddick reported that Art in Public Places (APP) continues to work with the City of Miami on the Antonio Maceo Park Project. APP's Professional Advisory Committee met and artist Loriel Beltran was selected for the public art commission.

Ms. Reddick reported on the Sea Level Rise Temporary Public Art Project funded by The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation in collaboration with University of Miami. Five Miami-based artists were selected to work on the project along with graduate students from the University of Miami's School of Communications who will produce a documentary on sea level rise. Selected artists include: Hannes Bend, Domingo Castillo, Tom Scicluna, Misael Soto and Agustina Woodgate.

Ms. Reddick provided highlights of upcoming projects including a work by Sinisa Kukec at the Arcola Head Start Center and an augmented reality public art project by Ivan Toth Depeña as part of a Knight Arts Challenge Award. The project features a series of murals at various sites including the Miami-Dade Cultural Center, Locust Projects and movable series of stickers located through the county; these murals will trigger the augmented reality experience through portable devices, including phones, iPads, etc.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

- Mr. Spring introduced new staff member Hanny Guedes who will be working with Roxana Barba on the Community Grants Program.
- Mr. Spring announced the departure of Brandi Reddick who, after thirteen years of service to the County, will be joining the City of Miami Beach to lead their office of arts and culture. Mr. Spring and the Council congratulated Ms. Reddick and expressed appreciation for her significant contributions to the Department's work.

## COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Mr. Wynn congratulated the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center for the successful presentation of Simply Simone.
- Ms. Sugañes reported on her recent visit to Barcelona and a major cultural initiative spearheaded by Barcelona Global, a civic organization dedicated to promote Barcelona. She noted that Mr. Spring helped arrange a meeting between Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez and the Mayor of Barcelona.
- Mr. Trainer reported on a successful partnership with Miami-Dade Transit for Coconut Grove Arts Festival with the "Art Express." Mr. Trainer also noted that the New World School of the Arts Gala is on March 17, 2016 at the Olympia Theater.
- Mr. Bierman reported on his recent visit to Barcelona, and noted that the Barcelona Museum offers many programs outside of the museum. Mr. Bierman also noted that outdoor historical programs give character and a sense of place to neighborhoods.
- Ms. Sigars-Malina reported that the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden Orchid Show was a success and that the Junior Naturalist Summer Camp for children is open for registration.
- Ms. Gerson noted the opening of a new gallery on Miracle Mile, Conde Contemporary.
- Ms. Ibargüen noted that Franklin Sirmans, director of PAMM, gave his first official talk on Jean Michel Basquiat on March 15, 2016. Ms. Ibargüen reported on her recent visit to the Kay Pacha exhibition on ancient Andean art at the Lowe Art Museum.
- Ms. Curbelo reported that the second annual West End Arts Festival featuring local artists from the West End was a success.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Marialaura Leslie