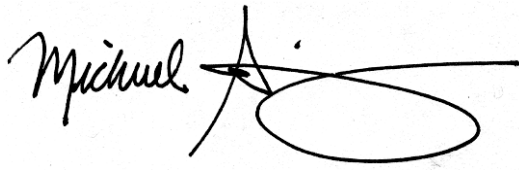


**Date:** May 20, 2015

**To:** Members  
Cultural Affairs Council

**From:** Michael Spring  
Director

**Subject:** FY 2015-2016 Hannibal Cox, Jr. (HCJ) Cultural Grants Program Recommendations



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The FY 2015-2016 award recommendations for the Hannibal Cox, Jr. Cultural Grants Program will be computed using the established funding formula for this program. The program's FY 2015-2016 total allocation and the recommended grant award amounts per Grantee will be presented to the Council for final review later this summer, after all of the "Spring Cycle" grants program panels have convened. Final grant awards are contingent upon the availability of funds in the Department's FY 2015-2016 budget, which is subject to the County's Budget as adopted in September 2015.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Council approve the funding of 28 grants for the FY 2015-2016 Hannibal Cox, Jr. Cultural Grants Program.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Hannibal Cox Jr. Cultural Grants Program Panel, chaired by Council member Monty Trainer, convened on May 6, 2015 to review 28 applications requesting a total of \$865,000. The panel recommended funding all 28 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 2015-2016 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 2015-2016 HANNIBAL COX, JR. CULTURAL GRANTS PROGRAM**

**A - 1. Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of School of Music**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 concert season presented by the Florida International University (FIU) School of Music. The season program will include an eclectic array of music from all disciplines, including orchestra, jazz, contemporary, wind, band, Latin jazz, vocal, and opera. The program will highlight regional, national and international artists, as well as FIU faculty and student musicians representing all areas of Miami-Dade County. Performances will take place at the FIU Wertheim Concert Hall and other locations throughout Miami-Dade County.

**A - 2. Living Arts Trust, Inc. d/b/a O Cinema**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 cinematic series at O Cinema. The cinema offers screenings of first run, independent, foreign, family; special screenings of classic works and cult film fare, as well as community outreach events and initiatives. Founded in 2009, O Cinema seeks to provide intriguing, entertaining, and quality films that audiences will otherwise not see in Miami-Dade County at affordable prices accessible for the broadest possible audience. O Cinema movie houses are located in the Wynwood Arts District, Miami Shores (in partnership with Miami Theater Center) and in Miami Beach.

**A - 3. Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center. The center is dedicated to protecting the natural environment by providing environmental educational programs to the private and public school systems, as well as hosting various cultural arts events and programs that celebrate the environment. Events include rotating art exhibits, outdoor installations and lectures. All events will take place at the Biscayne Nature Center located on Key Biscayne.

**A - 4. Miami Beach Film Society, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support annual and ongoing programs at the Miami Beach Cinematheque. Located at Miami Beach Old City Hall, an historic building in the heart of South Beach, the Cinematheque offers weekly film screenings of foreign, art and classic films from across the globe and major film festivals such as the Sundance Film Festival, the Cannes Film Festival (among others), educational programming, art exhibitions, multi-media presentations, a world class collection of film memorabilia and special events, in an effort to promote an alternative to the commercial cinema experience.

**A - 5. Miami Dade College - Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

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Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 series of curated screenings and activities which explore the history and culture of Florida, especially South Florida, by means of its moving images, whether film or video offered at the Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Archives at the Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus. Since 1960, the Wolfson Archives is dedicated to preserving Florida's moving image history, sharing Florida's moving image history with educators, students, historians and individuals interested in Florida, providing filmmakers valuable visual elements for telling their stories, providing a nurturing training ground for future archivists, becoming a center for excellence and expertise in film preservation.

**A - 6. Miami Dade College - Museum of Art and Design**  
*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 series of exhibits and programs presented by the Museum of Art + Design at Miami Dade College (MDC) at the Freedom Tower in downtown Miami. The mission of the museum is to encourage the appreciation and understanding of art and its role in society through direct engagement with original works of art and art-related creative processes. Exhibitions, educational programs, student tours and engagement activities are all offered for the public's enjoyment and to encourage inquiry, while building and preserving its collection in trust for future generations. All programs are offered free of charge and open to the public.

**A - 7. Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center, Inc.**  
*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of programs presented by the Cultural Arts Department of the Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center (MARJCC). This season, the Department will present a variety of community oriented cultural arts programming designed to appeal to general audiences, including dance programs, theatre presentations, a concerts series, author presentations, film and educational lectures. Programs will take place at the MARJCC, and various locations throughout Miami-Dade County.

**A - 8. New World School of the Arts - Dance Division**  
*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the NWSA Dance Division's Professional Choreographers' Presentation Series. National and internationally renowned professional choreographers will create and/or stage significant works of dance in collaboration with professional dancers at New World School of the Arts. Each work will be premiered for the general public as part of the New World School of the Arts' Dance Division Concert Series in the fall and and spring. Performances will take place at various locations, including the New World School of the Arts Theater, the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, and the Olympia Theatre at the Gusman Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Miami, among others.

**A - 9. The Coral Gables Museum, Corp.**  
*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the museum's 2015-2016 season of exhibitions, activities and community outreach programs. The Museum's mission is to celebrate, investigate and explore the civic

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arts of architecture and urban and environmental design, including fostering an appreciation for the history, vision, and cultural landscape of Coral Gables. The museum also promotes beauty and planning as well as historic and environmental preservation for a broad audience, including children, families, and community members, as well as local, regional, national and international visitors. Exhibitions, collections, educational offerings, lectures, tours, publications and special events take place at the museum, located at the City's restored and renovated Police and Fire Station, originally built in 1939.

**B - 10. University of Wynwood, Inc. d/b/a O, Miami**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the University of Wynwood, d/b/a O, Miami 2015-2016 season of events. Founded in 2008, O Miami creates events and projects that seek to advance contemporary literature in Miami, Florida. This season, O Miami will present the month-long *O Miami Poetry Festival*; the O, Miami Visiting Writers Series, which brings poets to Miami for readings, workshops, and outreach programs; Jai-Alai Books, a Miami-centric publishing venture and Jai-Alai Magazine, a unique literary journal housed by independent businesses and focused on building the Miami writing community; and The Writer's Bloc, a new initiative designed to bring poets into classrooms throughout Miami-Dade County.

**A - 11. Zoetic Stage, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of Zoetic Stage. Formed in 2009, Zoetic Stage's mission is to produce a repertoire of plays spanning a variety of styles and cultures. The company develops new plays and musicals, and approaches existing work that reflects the South Florida community but resonates universally. This season, Zoetic Stage will present the world premiere of *Stripped* by Christopher Demos-Brown; the regional premiere of *Rapture Blister Burn* by Gina Gionfriddo; and the regional premiere of the Tony Award-winning musical *Passion* by Stephen Sondheim. All productions will take place at the Carnival Studio Theatre at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts as part of the Theater Up Close series.

**B - 1. Bas Fisher Invitational, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of programs presented by the Bas Fisher Invitational. Founded in 2004, this artist operated alternative art space provides artists exhibition space for free expression, creativity, experimentation and thinking. This year, the Bas Fisher Invitational will continue the *Weird Miami* exhibitions, bus tours, lectures, performances, and events by a diverse range of local and national artists. The majority of events offered are free and open to the public.

**B - 2. Creation Art Center Corporation**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 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,

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Creation Art Center will present original plays, musical performances, art exhibitions and other presentations featuring the talents and works of local and visiting artists and performers. All events will take place at the Miami Hispanic Cultural Arts Center, located in Little Havana.

**B - 3. Cuban Classical Ballet of Miami, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of Cuban Classical Ballet of Miami. Founded in 2006, the company seeks to promote the art of classical ballet and the Cuban ballet style while developing future career classical dancers. This season, performances will take place at the Miami Hispanic Cultural Arts Center in Little Havana, the Manuel Arttime Theater, the Colony Theater on Miami Beach, among others. Additionally, special presentations of the children's classic "The Nutcracker and the King of Mice" will be presented for students from the Miami-Dade County Public School System.

**B - 4. Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 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 Latin American Diaspora through exhibitions program, artists-in-residence program, international cultural exchange programs and education and outreach activities that celebrate Miami-Dade County's rich cultural and social fabric. In addition, the DVCAI mounts virtual exhibitions and webinars on the organization's website at [www.diasporavibevirtualgallery.com](http://www.diasporavibevirtualgallery.com).

**B - 5. Edge Zones, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 series of programs and activities presented by Edge Zones. The organization is committed to presenting an ambitious program of research of new works, performance and video festivals, art exhibitions, residencies and educational opportunities of more than 300 culturally diverse artists that reflect its mission to make contemporary art an integral part of the intellectual growth of the Miami community. Activities will take place at venues and exhibition spaces located in Little Haiti, Opa-Locka, and Miami Beach, among others.

**B - 6. Friends of Chamber Music of Miami, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of Friends of Chamber Music of Miami. The season will feature a series of performances by internationally renowned ensembles, concert recitalists and emerging musicians. Each ensemble will also participate in a series of master classes for advanced instrumental music students of the region's high schools, art magnet programs and colleges. Ensemble performances will take place at the Maurice Gusman Hall on the University of Miami Campus and the Coral Gables Congregational Church; other venues may be added as the season progresses.

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**B - 7. Haitian Heritage Museum Corp.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of the Haitian Heritage Museum, which include a variety of programs such as "Ayiti Expose," "Month of May" events and art exhibits. These interactive programs are designed to educate non-Haitian students and the South Florida community of Haitian culture and heritage. The Haitian Heritage Museum seeks to preserve and promote Haiti's culture locally, nationally and internationally through the presentation of visual art, literary works, historic artifacts, music and film.

**B - 8. Hispanic-American Lyric Theatre, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of the Hispanic-American Lyric Theatre. The company, formed in 1987, presents work in the field of opera, ballet and zarzuelas at venues throughout Miami-Dade County. Additionally, the company seeks to support and encourage young artists and provide them with various performance opportunities. This year, the company will perform at the Florida International University Wertheim Performing Arts Center, the Miami-Dade County Auditorium and First United Methodist Church of Miami.

**B - 9. Karen Peterson and Dancers, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the general operating costs associated with the creation and production of Karen Peterson and Dancers 2015-2016 season of dance. The company will present a year-round series of performances, including movement improvisational theater pieces, young choreographers showcase and works from the repertory performed by the Peterson and Dancers Company. The company will present a series of dance performances at the Miami Dade County Auditorium, Pinecrest Gardens and at the company's home performance venue, Excello Dance Space, among others.

**B - 10. Miami Dade College - Department of Arts and Philosophy**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 Jazz at Wolfson Visiting Artists Series (J-VAS!). Renowned jazz artists will be presented monthly at the Wolfson Auditorium, located at the downtown campus of Miami Dade College. Visiting artists will also work with students, conduct master classes and workshops. All performances are free and open to the public.

**B - 11. Miami Lyric Opera, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 Miami Lyric Opera 12th season, which consists of four (4) full-scale opera productions, all with full orchestra, including *La Traviata*, *L'Elisir D'Amore*; *Marina*; and *Tosca*. All performances will be held on select Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons at The Colony Theater on Lincoln Road in Miami Beach and at at the South-Miami Dade Cultural Arts Center in Cutler Bay.

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**B - 12. Mystery Park Arts Company, Inc., d/b/a SoBe Institute of the Arts**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of the SoBe Institute of the Arts, which seeks to promote cultural diversity and arts education to the entire community. Programs include cutting-edge music, international chamber music, opera/music-theater, drama, world music events and lectures provided for free or at low cost. Founded in 1989, this organization has been involved in the creation, production, and recording of contemporary music, multi-media, and performing arts from Miami and the Caribbean to New York City and Europe.

**B - 13. Orchestra Miami, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of Orchestra Miami, whose mission is to provide symphonic music for all residents of South Florida. This season, Orchestra Miami will present several concerts for adults and children, most of which will take place at various venues throughout Miami-Dade County, including Pinecrest Gardens, the Coral Gables Museum, the Miami Beach Bandshell, among others, as well as various schools throughout Miami-Dade County.

**B - 14. Saint Martha Concerts and Cultural Affairs, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of the St. Martha - Yamaha Concert Series at Broad Performing Arts Center at Barry University. The concert series, founded in 1999, will present five music concerts featuring a wide range of musical genre, including classical, contemporary and crossover music. The company also plans to produce in-school performances and a student art program, whereby students from local schools will be asked to design the program cover art for each of the series performances. In addition, local rising artists will be invited to perform as part of the company's post-season series.

**B - 15. South Florida Composers' Alliance, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 season of the South Florida Composers Alliance. Founded in 1985 to foster knowledge, awareness and understanding of new, experimental music, sound art and the work of living composers and sound artists, the organization seeks to act as a link between artists and their community through support in the development of new work and through opportunities for artists working in the field of sound to experiment, discuss and disseminate new ideas.

**B - 16. The Dance Now! Ensemble, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2015-2016 Dance Now! Ensemble season. This organization seeks to develop contemporary modern dance theatre that articulates the international cultural life of South Florida and reflect the region's multi-ethnicity. Programs include festival and repertory performances, site-specific performances, local and national touring and educational and outreach programs. The

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company will present their mainstage performances at the Colony Theatre on Miami Beach, the Little Haiti Cultural Arts Center and the North Beach Bandshell. Educational and outreach performances will take place at various locations throughout Miami-Dade County.

**B - 17. Viernes Culturales / Cultural Fridays, Inc.**

*FY 2015-2016 Season*

***Award to be calculated based  
upon HCJ funding formula***

Funds are requested to support the 2013-2014 season of Viernes Culturales / Cultural Fridays. This community festival takes place the last Friday of each month in historic Little Havana and features art exhibits, music, dance and historical tours. Viernes Culturales seeks to promote the rich cultural heritage of Little Havana and provide artists and entertainers a venue to showcase their work.