

**Date:** May 20, 2015

**To:** Members,  
Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council

**From:** Michael Spring  
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Spring", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

**Subject:** FY2015-2016 International Cultural Exchange Grants Program Recommendations

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

The FY 2015-2016 award recommendations for the International Cultural Exchange (ICE) 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 2014-2015 budget, which is subject to the County's FY 2015-2016 Budget once adopted in September 2015.

## **BACKGROUND**

The FY2015-2016 International Cultural Exchange Program Panel, chaired by Counselor Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez and attended by Counselor Rosa Sagrañes, convened on Thursday, April 23, 2014 to review 10 applications requesting a total of \$310,000. The Panel recommended funding 9 of the 10 applications.

The International Cultural Exchange Program is designed to provide grants to professional Miami-Dade County based cultural organizations to support significant artistic exchange, partnerships or collaborations with artists, arts professionals and/or organizations abroad. The principal objectives of the program are: 1) to elevate Miami-Dade County's image abroad; and 2) to support the efforts of Miami-Dade's artists and cultural organizations to improve their work by engaging in meaningful arts activities with artists, arts professionals (such as curators, historians, designers) and/or organizations abroad. Priority consideration is extended to projects that develop reciprocal relationships with another city, country or region, either as a component of the project for which application is being made, or as an anticipated extension of that project over a specified period of time. Additionally, projects are encouraged to demonstrate artistic excellence and originality within the organization's overall programming and goals.

The Panel specifically evaluated each applicant organization based on the following competitive review criteria: 1) artistic and cultural merit; 2) efforts leading to long-term cultural enrichment of Miami-Dade County; and 3) management capability. As set forth in the published guidelines, the panel's deliberations reflected the program's emphasized, targeted outcome to fund a selected group of projects at the highest possible percentage of their requests, thereby enabling the most significant opportunities for meaningful, long-term and developing cultural exchange.

Funding for the International Cultural Exchange 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 that are recommended for funding:

FY2015-2016  
Request

FY2015-2016  
Recommendation

**Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc.** \$30,000 *to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*

Funds are requested to support Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida's participation in the 2015 International Ballet Concert, a multinational cultural exchange of dance, choreography, and music. The Festival features professional dance companies from Poland, Denmark, Germany, Russia, Japan, Mexico, Peru and USA, each hosting on a rotating basis, and invited guest companies.

**Ballet Flamenco la Rosa, Inc.** \$40,000 *to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*

Funds will be used to support a collaboration between Ballet Flamenco La Rosa and dancer/ choreographer/ producer Svetlana Savelyeva, along with two dancers from Russia, to create "La Gabiota", an original Flamenco Ballet inspired by "The Seagull", by Russian playwright Anton Chekov.

**Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc.** \$20,000 *to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*

Funds are requested to support the 16th installment of Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator's (DVCAI) International Cultural Arts Exchange series, this year 2015-2016, taking place in Paramaribo, Suriname.

**Edge Zones Art Center** \$30,000 *to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*

The 8th edition of "Art of Uncertainty – Remixing Miami", international cultural exchange project continues the mission of cultivating meaningful artistic relationships between the arts communities of Dominican Republic and Florida. More than 80 respected contemporary artists in 100 events that seeks to activate the urban landscape and feature the excellent work of outstanding South Florida and Dominican artists as they identify, research, and share Dominican art and culture through geographic spaces-sites.

**FUNDarte** \$30,000 *to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*

Funds are requested to support the second phase of an international multidisciplinary performance collaboration between FUNDarte and Miami artists, and Rogelio Orizondo of Teatro El Público of Havana, Cuba. The collaborative team will stage and present a new play set on Miami artists that will be rehearsed, produced and presented in both Miami and Havana.

**Karen Peterson and Dancers, Inc.** \$30,000 *to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*

Funds are requested to support a three way collaboration with choreographers and dance artists from Amalgama Companhia de Danca, Plural Nucleo de Dance and Karen Peterson Dancers. This three way partnership will develop a new physically integrated dance work that will be presented in Lisbon, Portugal in October 2015 and in Miami, Florida in May 2016.

FY2014-2015  
Request

FY2014-2015  
Recommendation

**Miami Light Project** \$20,000 *to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*

Funds are requested to support Part IV of Miami/Havana Bridge project that aims to facilitate unique opportunities for both Miami-based and Cuban artists to share personal insight, differing perspectives, and artistic expression and technique through workshops, gatherings and recordings from October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016.

**South Florida Art Center** \$30,000 *to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*

Funding will support artist and curator exchanges between ArtCenter/South Florida and ARTIS in Tel Aviv, Israel, as well as Berlin Arts Club at Verein Berliner Künstler in Berlin, Germany. Two Israeli artist and two German artists will work and exhibit at ArtCenter, and four South Florida artists and one curator will reciprocate the exchange.

**Tigertail Productions, Inc.** \$40,000 *to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*

Funds are requested to support three (3) dynamic international exchange projects with the Netherlands, Germany and France - sending artists from Miami to Germany, France and the Netherlands to work with artists in those countries and bringing artists from the Netherlands to work with artists in Miami.