

Date: June 15, 2016

To: Members,
Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring
Director

Subject: FY2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange (ICE) Grants Program Recommendations

The FY 2016-2017 award recommendations for the International Cultural Exchange (ICE) Grants Program will be computed using the panel's recommended funding approach for this program. The program's FY 2016-2017 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 2016-2017 budget, which is subject to the County's FY 2016-2017 Budget Ordinance once adopted in September 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approve the funding of 9 grants for the FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Grants Program.

BACKGROUND

The FY2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Program Panel, chaired by Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, convened on Thursday, April 21, 2016 to review 10 applications requesting a total of \$305,000. The Panel recommended funding 9 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 2016-2017 budget by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and Mayor, and are subject to the availability of funds.

Attached is a list describing the projects that are recommended for funding:

- 1. Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc.** *Award to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*
FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida's participation in the 2016 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.

- 2. Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc.** *Award to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*
FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Project

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.

- 3. Edge Zones Art Center** *Award to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*
FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support 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.

- 4. El Ingenio, Inc.** *Award to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*
FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support "Corazón de Piedra/Heart of Stone" a Spanish language co-production between El Ingenio Teatro (Miami) and Grupo Buendia (Havana). This play is an original adaptation by Raquel Carrio of the novel "El Corazón de Piedra Verde" by Salvador Madariaga, performed by artists from Miami and Havana. The work will be rehearsed, produced, and presented in both cities.

- 5. FUNDarte** *Award to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*
FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support the development and creation of "Between Two Waters" (working title) a collaborative theater piece co-produced by FUNDarte (Miami) and La Saraghina de Stalker (Madrid), featuring artists from both cities. This work will be written by playwright Manuel De (Madrid), directed by Carlos Caballero (Miami), and performed by actors Mabel Roch (Miami) and Leticia Martín Lorenzo (Madrid).

- 6. Karen Peterson and Dancers, Inc.** *Award to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*
FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support a new choreographic work, developed by Tanz die Toleranz (Austria) and Karen Peterson Dancers (Miami), which will have its initial showing in Vienna in February 2017 and a final performance in Miami, Florida in May 2017.

- 7. South Florida Art Center** *Award to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*
FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Project

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.

- 8. The Dance Now! Ensemble, Inc.** *Award to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*
FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support Phase ONE of "Bridges Not Walls", a three year cultural exchange between Dance NOW! Miami (DNM) and Mexico City Ballet (MXCB). Phase ONE includes a two week residency in Mexico City and the creation and presentation of a work by Artistic Directors Hannah Baumgarten and Diego Salterini on MXCB dancers.

- 9. Tigertail Productions, Inc.** *Award to be calculated based upon ICE allocation*
FY 2016-2017 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support three (3) dynamic international exchange projects with the Germany & Scotland, Netherlands and France bringing artists to perform and work with area artists and sending artists from Miami Dade to work in collaboration with international artists.