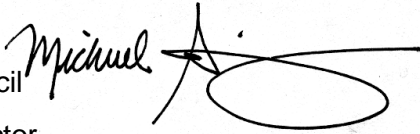


**Date:** June 20, 2016

**To:** Members,  
Cultural Affairs Council 

**From:** Michael Spring, Director

**Subject:** FY 2016-2017 Cultural Advancement Grants Program Panel Recommendations

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The FY 2016-2017 award recommendations for the Cultural Advancement Grants Program will be computed using the established funding formula 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 Budget as adopted in September 2016.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Cultural Affairs Council approve the funding of twenty-nine (29) grants for the FY 2016-2017 Cultural Advancement Grants Program.

## **BACKGROUND**

The FY 2016-17 Cultural Advancement Grants Program Panel, chaired by Susana Ibargüen, convened on June 8, 2016 to review thirty (30) applications requesting a total of \$2,500,000. The application submitted by Olympia Center, Inc. was referred by the panel to the Cultural Affairs Council for funding consideration through a different Department grants program. The Cultural Advancement Grants Program is designed to provide significant grants and technical assistance to a distinct group of Miami-Dade County's highest quality, mid- to large-size, culturally diverse performing, visual, literary and presenting arts organizations that have a history of distinguished artistic programming.

The Cultural Advancement Grants Program operates on a three-year review cycle and FY 2016-2017 represents the first of a new three-year cycle. For this first year of the cycle, a pre-application qualification/invitation to apply was issued, comprehensive applications were submitted, and a full panel review conducted. For the subsequent two years of the cycle (FY 2017-2018 and FY 2018-2019), a more streamlined application form and review process will be employed. Grants awarded in this FY 2016-2017 cycle of the program define grant award levels for the remainder of the cycle, subject to annual adjustments to award level based on audited organizational budget information and contingent upon the availability of funding and upon a satisfactory review and recommendation of the interim applications by the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Advancement Panel interim year review committee and the Cultural Affairs Council. Grantees must meet all program criteria satisfactorily, as well as comply with the prior year reporting requirements to be eligible for renewed funding consideration.

The program operates with two categories of eligibility, differentiated primarily by the annual operating budget size of applicant organizations.

**Category A** provides grants and technical assistance to large professional cultural organizations with at least two paid administrators and a total prior year's operating budget of at least \$500,000. These organizations provide year-round performances, exhibitions or presentations of art, and demonstrate the ability to attract regional, national, or international visibility as evidenced by current programs and management structure.

There are 19 applicants for recommended in Category A.

**Category B** provides grants, marketing and management assistance to semi-professional and professional midsize arts organizations with at least one paid administrator and a total prior year's operating budget of at least \$200,000. These organizations provide year-round performances, exhibitions or presentations of art, and possess the potential to achieve regional, national, or international visibility as evidenced by current programs and management structure.

There are 10 applicants recommended in Category B.

The Cultural Advancement Grants Program also features a travel/consultant financial assistance component. Cultural Advancement and designated Emerging Major Cultural Institutions grantees may submit requests in advance to the Department's professional staff for consideration and authorization for subsidies to cover eligible travel related costs and/or consultant/capacity building services and opportunities. Fantasy Theatre Factory, Inc. serves as fiscal agent in the administration of these funds. The Department continues to accept and evaluate requests from eligible grantees and to monitor unexpended carryover travel/consultant financial assistance funds that may be available from prior years to address approved requests. Any additional funds that may be identified as available for the program's technical assistance component will be factored in accordingly, and may enable amended, Category defined grant allocations.

A complete list of recommendations for Categories A and B is attached.

**Recommended  
FY 2016-2017  
Grant Award**

**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs  
FY 2016-2017 Cultural Advancement Grants Program – Category A  
Organization / Summary of Mission**

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc.** - Founded in 1997 by Russian-born Ballet Master and Choreographer Vladimir Issaev, Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida provides accessibility, community involvement, education, and training for professional and pre-professional ballet dancers. Based on the Vaganova technique of the St. Petersburg Imperial Theatre School (now the Vaganova Ballet Academy) in Russia, the company's repertoire includes works by Classical Ballet Masters as such Petipa, Fokine, Lavrosky and Bournonville, works by Artistic Director Vladimir Issaev and contemporary guest choreographers.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Bakehouse Art Complex, Inc.** – Chartered in 1980, this visual arts organization is dedicated to providing artists and visual arts organizations in Miami-Dade County with a permanent facility containing affordable working and exhibition space. Key to its mission are: hands-on arts workshops for neighborhood and Miami-Dade at-risk youth; and encouraging the growth of a “working arts district” as part of an economic/community development project in Wynwood.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Bascomb Memorial Broadcasting Foundation, Inc. (WDNA-FM 88.9)** - Incorporated in 1971, licensed by the FCC in 1980, WDNA broadcasts cultural, educational and informational programs in five languages, 24-hours a day. WDNA's mission is to provide quality, culturally diverse public broadcasting services to the residents of South Florida, and to provide training for individuals to create these programs.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Centro Cultural Español de Cooperacion Iberoamericana, Inc.** – Founded in 1996, the Centro Cultural Español aims to make tangible the cultural presence of Spain and Latin American countries in Florida, to enhance their historical traditions and cultural expressions by promoting and fostering cultural cooperation, local creativity and the creation of a space for dialogue and exchange through relevant annual programs. CCE encourages the study and enjoyment of both Spanish language and in-Spanish cultural programming.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**City Theater, Inc.** - City Theater, founded in 1996, is dedicated to the discovery and presentation of original short plays and promising artists from Florida and throughout the nation. In addition to producing original plays in its annual, award-winning "Summer Shorts" festival, the organization brings the nation's finest playwrights and noted theater professionals to South Florida for rare artistic exchanges and collaborations.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Coral Gables Cinematéque, Inc.** - Founded in 2007, Coral Gables Cinematéque presents and supports media arts in South Florida, with the specific purpose of developing and running the Coral Gables Art Cinema as a venue for alternative films. The 141-seat theater operates seven days a week and presents high-quality and culturally-diverse American independent, foreign and classic programs not generally available at other venues in South Florida.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**GableStage, Inc.** - GableStage provides the South Florida community with classical, contemporary and new theatrical productions of artistic excellence. GableStage strives to challenge a multicultural audience with innovative productions that entertain as well as confront today's issues and ideas.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Living Arts Trust, Inc. / O’Cinema** - O 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 at affordable prices and accessible for the broadest possible audiences that might otherwise not be seen in Miami-Dade County. O Cinema movie houses are located in the Wynwood Arts District, Miami Shores (in partnership with Miami Theater Center) and in Miami Beach.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Locust Projects, Inc.** - Founded in 1998, Locust Projects’ mission is to facilitate the development of visual art by providing exhibition space and public exposure for contemporary artists while supporting diversity and experimentation in the field. Artists are selected from a global pool on the strength of their proposals and are encouraged to create site-specific installations as an extension of their representative work. Locust Projects serves the community through professional development seminars for artists, educational programming for youth, internships in arts administration, and a public commissions program, all free and open to the public.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Miami Dade College - Miami Book Fair Year Round** - Established in 2001 by Miami Dade College as the Florida Center for the Literary Arts and recently re-branded, Miami Book Fair Year Round is a college-wide academic and cultural initiative that promotes the appreciation of literature in all forms and engages South Florida's diverse community in an exchange of ideas. The creation of the Center is a reflection of Miami Dade College's commitment to inspire students, as well as to serve the community by promoting the craft and power of the written word.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Miami Dade College - Cultural Affairs Department (MDC Live)** - MDC Live Performance Series presents the newest, most-challenging performing arts being created today with a focus on Latin America and the Caribbean. Annual programming represents a complex mix of high quality performances and educational activities designed to make contemporary and culturally specific work accessible to the entire community.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Miami Design Preservation League, Inc.** - Miami Design Preservation League (MDPL) is dedicated to preserving, protecting and promoting the cultural, social, economic, environmental and architectural integrity of the Miami Beach Architectural Historic District and all other areas of the City of Miami Beach where historic preservation is a concern. It provides a clearinghouse for information and materials pertaining to the City of Miami Beach; sponsors year-round educational and recreational activities for the community-at-large; and designs, advocates, and endorses programs that enhance the Art Deco Architectural Historic District, local historic districts, and potential historic districts and sites.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Miami Light Project, Inc.** - Founded in 1989, Miami Light Project presents today's most innovative performing artists on the local, national and international arts scene, creating vital connections between artists and the community. Miami Light is committed to presenting dance, music and theater of the highest caliber, building new audiences, and commissioning new work.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**New Theatre, Inc.** - Founded in 1986, New Theatre's mission of "producing the very best plays from the contemporary stage: works that speak to the mind and heart" is evidenced by the Theatre's repertory choices. The Theatre showcases an imaginative sampling of provocative works by American playwrights, especially Florida playwrights and 20th century classics, all sharing relevance and a focus on issues of social and humanistic interest.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Seraphic Fire, Inc.** – Seraphic Fire was founded in 2002 to present high quality performances of under-performed music with cultural significance to audiences in South Florida, while simultaneously encouraging the occupational advancement of musicians by providing a forum for the development and presentation of their talents.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**Teatro Avante, Inc.** - Teatro Avante, formed in 1979, commissions, produces and presents world renowned Hispanic plays in English and Spanish.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**The Coral Gables Museum, Corp.** - Coral Gables Museum's mission is to celebrate, investigate and explore the civic 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.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc. - The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.** - Established in 1989, the Deering Estate Foundation was created to increase outreach, understanding and the enjoyment of the Deering Estate at Cutler. The Foundation is fully dedicated to advancing cultural programs and projects to preserve and protect the natural, archaeological, architectural and historic legacy of the Estate through the “Artist Village”, “Living Artist Concert Series”, Visual and Literary Artists in Residence programs, Saturday Camps for Kids and a variety of workshops, demonstrations and exhibits – all designed to educate and enhance the public appreciation of the unique characteristics of the Estate.

***Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation***

**The Rhythm Foundation, Inc.** - The Rhythm Foundation was established in 1988 to promote multicultural exchange through the presentation of live music. The Foundation focuses on Caribbean, Latin American, Brazilian and African music - cultures which are of particular interest to South Florida residents, allowing greater depth of understanding between communities. The Foundation features internationally acclaimed artists performing in concert venues and festivals.

***CATEGORY A - FUNDING RECOMMENDATION (19 ORGANIZATIONS)***

*Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation*

**ArtSouth, a Not-for-Profit Corporation** – ArtSouth was founded in 2000 to provide affordable living, working, teaching, learning, exhibiting and sales space to juried emerging and established artists in Homestead. In the fall of 2013, the organization relocated to the City of South Miami where it continues year-round offerings consisting of affordable working and exhibiting space for artists, award-winning educational programs for youth and adults, lecture series, and monthly art exhibitions and entertainment in partnership with the City of South Miami's SOMIartwalk. The organization continues to provide arts-based services in extreme South Dade by sending artists/teaching staff into already-established programs at Miami Bridge, Cutler Bay Academy, United Methodist School and Chapman Partnership for the Homeless.

*Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation*

**Chopin Foundation of the United States, Inc.** – Founded in 1977 to produce the National Chopin Piano Competition, the Chopin Foundation of the United States has been an elected member of the prestigious National Music Council since 1980. The Foundation is a national organization with four regional councils located in Florida, New York, San Francisco and the northwest United States. The Foundation produces the annual Chopin Festival, a series of performances by the talented, young winners of major national and international piano competitions.

*Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation*

**Coral Gables Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), Inc.** – Initiated in 1985, the Coral Gables Congregational Church Community Arts Program presents the finest internationally acclaimed musicians during its Summer Concert Series in the acoustically pleasing, 450-seat church. In late 2002, the Community Arts Program was expanded to include the Conservatory for the Arts youth program, which provides free one-on-one music instruction, as well as performance and ensemble practicums, including The Young Musicians' Orchestra with a staff of professional musician instructors.

*Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation*

**Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center, Inc.** – The Cultural and Fine Arts Program is one of four main program service areas at the Dave and Mary Alper JCC and is comprised of a diversity of programming at the newly opened Noreen and Steven Sablowsky Cultural Arts Center on the Community Center's campus in Southwest Miami-Dade County. The Center houses a children's museum (with its own workshop), an art gallery, music studio, dance studio, and a state of the art theater with a seating capacity of 460. Cultural arts programming at the Center includes community theater, arts education, traveling museum exhibitions and the promotion of artists in all mediums.

*Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation*

**Fundarte, Inc.** – Fundarte was founded in 2003 to produce, present and promote music, theater, dance, film, multimedia and visual arts that speak to Miami's diverse cultures, with a special emphasis on artists from Latin America, the Caribbean and Spain. Fundarte particularly works to nurture emerging artists and those with little exposure to South Florida audiences, facilitate intercultural and international exchanges, and provide local audiences and artists with educational opportunities that expand their creative, critical and social perspectives.

*Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation*

**Miami Beach Garden Conservancy, Inc.** - The Miami Beach Garden Conservancy is an urban greenspace with a mission to provide free public access to an attractive Botanical Garden, create environmental and ecological education programs for children and adults, preserve green space, promote green living, and serve as a venue for visual and performing arts, and a tourist destination with an environmental and educational mandate. The Garden presents an annual series of horticulture lectures and demonstrations and environmental education, as well as free tours for individuals and groups and outreach to schools and community organizations.

**Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation**

**Murray Dranoff Foundation, Inc.** - Created in 1987 by Loretta Dranoff as a tribute to her late husband and international two-piano performance partner, the Murray Dranoff Foundation provides a wide range of opportunities for professionals, students and general audiences to discover and appreciate the extraordinary music created for both two piano and one piano (four hands) mediums. Every year the Murray Dranoff Foundation presents a season of international artists, performances and symposia with a goal to educate, involve and introduce duo-pianism to young musicians and international audiences.

**Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation**

**Sociedad Pro Arte Grateli, Inc.** - Sociedad Pro Arte Grateli was founded in 1973 to preserve, promote and heighten the awareness of Hispanic-American traditions and the excellence of artistic endeavor in South Florida. The Society presents high quality performances of zarzuela, operetta and other musical styles by internationally renowned performers and composers. The Society is dedicated to the preservation and presentation of Cuban theater in its genuine form.

**Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation**

**Tigertail Productions, Inc.** - Tigertail Productions was founded in 1979 to create and encourage the international exchange of innovative arts. Tigertail presents culturally diverse work by innovative artists in music, theater, film, video and the visual arts through public programs, international exchange, festivals, workshops and service projects.

**Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation**

**Zoetic Stage, Inc.** - 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. All productions place at the Carnival Studio Theatre at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts as part of the *Theater Up Close* series.

**CATEGORY B – FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS (10 ORGANIZATIONS)**



**Grant amount to be determined based upon final ADV program allocation**

**Cultural Advancement Travel/Consultant Assistance Program – allocated to Fantasy Theatre Factory, Inc. as fiscal agent**

**TOTAL: CULTURAL ADVANCEMENT GRANTS PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS - 29 ORGANIZATIONS, plus one grant for the Travel/Consultant Assistance component of the Program**