

**MINUTES OF THE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL**

June 18, 2014

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
Steven Alexander
Victor Bao
Xavier Cortada
Susana Ibargüen
Jorge Luis Lopez
Janá Sigars-Malina
Monty Trainer

Members Not Present

Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez
Robert Jensen
Louis-Albert Jolivert
Jorge Pérez
Phyllis Simpkins
Rosa Sugrañes

Staff

Michael Spring, Director
Carolina Alfonso
Kelly Allocco
Francine Andersen
Patricia Arbelaez
Roxana Barba
Christina Beauvoir
Jessica Berthin
Sue Camp
Marie Denis
Roselin Duberceau-Baptiste
Liliana Hernandez-Constanla
Gerry Landreth
Regla Lee
Deborah Margol
Gilda Mooney
Vaness Moreira
Alex Peraza
Brandi Reddick
Javier Siut
Nicolle Ugarriza
Pamela Valles

Others

Gaby Lopez, Office of the Mayor

Chairman Adolfo Henriques called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm.

Chairman Henriques welcomed new Council member Susana L. Ibarguen, appointed by District 10 Commissioner Sen. Javier Suoto. She is member of the Board of Trustees of The Pérez Art Museum Miami and is very active in the cultural community.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Requests for Excused Absences

Requests for excused absences submitted by Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, Robert Jensen, Louis Albert Jolivet, Jorge Pérez and Rosa Sugrañes were approved unanimously. (motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Bao)

Approval of the May 21, 2014 Minutes

The minutes of the May 21, 2014 Council meeting were approved unanimously. (motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Bao)

FY 2014-2015 Grants Program Panels

The panels for the Dance Miami Choreographers' (DMC) Program and Developing Arts in Neighborhoods (DAN) Grants Program were approved unanimously. (motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Bao)

FY 2014-2015 Grants Program Recommendations

The FY 2014-15 Capital Development (CAP) Grants Program

The FY 2014-2015 award recommendations for the Capital Development Grants Program will be computed using the established funding formula for this program. The program's FY 2014-2015 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 budget as adopted in September 2014.

The FY 2014-15 Capital Development Grants Program Panel, chaired by Alejandro J. Aguirre, met on Friday, June 6, 2014. A total of ten (10) organizations submitted applications to the program, requesting a total of \$196,481 in cultural facility improvement support funds. The panel reviewed and recommended funding all ten (10) applications.

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. Bao (Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum and Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Wolfsonian)

Mr. Cortada (Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum, Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Wolfsonian, Jorge M. Perez Art Museum of Miami-Dade County, Inc. and The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.)

Mr. Henriques (Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum and Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Wolfsonian)

Ms. Ibargüen (Jorge M. Pérez Art Museum Miami)

Mr. Lopez (Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum and Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Wolfsonian)

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations were approved unanimously. (motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

Actors' Playhouse Productions, Inc.

Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc.

Bakehouse Art Complex, Inc.

South Florida Art Center, Inc. dba Art Center/South Florida

The Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center, Inc.

Village of Pinecrest for Pinecrest Gardens

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations, for which there were the above-noted Councilors' conflicts of interest and abstentions, were voted on individually and passed unanimously as follows:

Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum and Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Wolfsonian

(motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

Jorge M. Pérez Art Museum of Miami-Dade County, Inc.

(motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.

(motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

The FY 2014-15 Cultural Advancement (ADV) Grants Program

The FY 2014-2015 award recommendations for the Cultural Advancement Grants Program will be computed using the established funding formula for this program. The program's FY 2014-2015 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 budget as adopted in September 2014.

The Cultural Advancement Grants Program Panel, chaired by Deborah Margol, convened on June 11, 2014 to review 29 applications requesting a total of \$2,150,000. The Panel recommended funding all 29 applications.

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. Aguirre (MDC Live Arts, Sociedad Pro Arte Grateli, Inc.)

Mr. Cortada (MDC Live Arts, The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.)

Mr. Henriques (GABLESTAGE, INC.)

Mr. Lopez (MDC Live Arts)

The Panel's recommendation to fund the remaining organizations was approved unanimously. (motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

Category A

Bakehouse Art Complex, Inc.

Bascomb Memorial Broadcasting Foundation, Inc.

Centro Cultural Español de Cooperacion Iberoamericana Inc.

City Theatre, Inc.

Coral Gables Cinemateque, Inc.

Miami Light Project, Inc.

The Center for Literature and Theatre @ Miami Dade College (formerly FL Center for the Literary Arts)

New Theatre, Inc.

Olympia Center, Inc.

The Rhythm Foundation, Inc.

Seraphic Fire, Inc.

Teatro Avante, Inc.

Category B

Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc

ArtSouth, A Not-For-Profit Corporation

Ballet Flamenco La Rosa

Chopin Foundation of the United States, Inc.

Coral Gables Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), Inc.

Fundarte, Inc.

Locust Projects, Inc.

Miami Beach Garden Conservancy

Miami Contemporary Dance Corporation dba Miami Contemporary Dance Company

The Black Archives History & Research Foundation of South FL, Inc.

The Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center, Inc.

The Murray Dranoff Foundation, Inc.

Tigertail Productions, Inc.

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations, for which there were the above-noted Councilors' conflicts of interest and abstentions, were voted on individually and passed unanimously as follows:

GABLESTAGE, INC.
(motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

MDC Live Arts
(motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Ms. Ibarguen)

Sociedad Pro Arte Grateli, Inc.
(motion by Mr. Cortada; seconded by Mr. Bao)

The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.
(motion by Mr. Alexander; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

Ms. Margol reported that the producers of the Sunday Afternoons of Music and the Sunday Afternoons of Music for Children have decided to retire and that these programs would no longer continue. Mr. Aguirre expressed concern over the loss of programming. Ms. Margol noted that some organizations have already started programming that could fill the gap for Sunday Afternoons of Music. However, there may be a gap with regard to the children's programming.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

FY 2014-2015 Budget Updates

Miami-Dade County

Mr. Spring reported that the Mayor is currently working on his recommendations for the FY 2014-2015 County budget. Although the property tax roll has increased, there will still be a gap in the budget which will require reductions in expenses.

Ms. Simpkins noted that the impact of cuts may be significant for workers in many departments such as the Fire Department.

State of Florida

Governor Scott has signed the 2014-15 budget which includes \$43 million for the arts. It is the largest allocation for the arts in the history of the state and may be the largest in the nation. Miami-Dade County organizations will receive up to 20% of these funds through their success in the competitive grant process.

Culture Shock Miami – Discount Tickets for Youth Program

Ms. Beauvoir reported that there are more than 270 events available through Culture Shock Miami. To date, 5,990 tickets have been sold for the first nine months of the 2013-2014 cultural season. In addition, 1,480 students have been reached through free outreach performances and workshops organized in collaboration with the Miami-Dade Public School System, bringing the program's 2013-2014 reach to a total of 7,470.

Culture Shock Miami will present Rhythmic Circus in *Feet Don't Fail Me Now!*, a highly energetic, tapping explosion of rock, blues, and soul. *Feet Don't Fail Me Now!* has been contracted to perform on the main stage of the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center on June 28, 2014. Additionally, a free, full performance is being made available to Miami-Dade County camps on June 27th and a tap-dance workshop is being offered to Miami-Dade residents on the morning of June 28th.

Culture Shock Miami staff continues to work with cultural organizations to renew and recruit ticket donations for the remainder of the 2013-2014 cultural season.

Department Facilities Updates

South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC)

Ms. Ugarriza reported that this is the season for rentals for activities such as dance recitals, graduations and summer camps.

She noted that the Center was recognized by *The Miami New Times* as the "Best Theater for Drama" notably for its work with New Theatre.

SMDCAC has launched its newly redesigned website and a new subscription series will be on sale through the website as of June 10.

African Heritage Cultural Arts Center (AHCAC)

Mr. Davis reported that AHCAC is a finalist for a Knight Arts Challenge award to commemorate the Center's 40th anniversary by presenting events where prominent artist alumni share their talents with today's students.

The summer arts program will serve over 300 children and will culminate in a fashion show and student recital.

Coconut Grove Playhouse

Public meetings are being held by the Coconut Grove Village Council to help apprise local residents of the progress regarding the Playhouse and to receive feedback.

The Miami Parking Authority continues to explore innovative ways to activate the site during this period, including having the parking lot feature the Blue Starlite Drive-In Theater.

Art in Public Places

Ms. Reddick reported that Miami-Dade County Art in Public Places received national recognition during the annual Americans for the Arts Conference, held in Nashville, TN, June 11-15, 2014. Two projects were selected as among the most successful in the nation through the very competitive Public Art 2014 Year in Review: 1) Bhakti Baxter's Coral Reef City, an installation of eighteen parking toll booth wraps featuring macro photographs of corals produced in collaboration with Coral Morphologic, a Miami-based scientific art endeavor led by marine biologist Colin Foord and musician Jared McKay; and 2) Jim Drain's The Bollard Project, consisting of 1,000 artist-designed bollards thoughtfully arranged in color sequences and rigorous geometries that reference maritime flag signage. These works of art have transformed the entire landscape of PortMiami into an outdoor public sculpture park and serve to enrich one of America's busiest ports, welcoming more than 4 million cruise vacationers each year.

Art in Public Places has been approached by Miami Downtown Development Authority to collaborate on temporary art installations during the Downtown Art Days festival.

The project at the Gran Via Apartment Complex has been completed. In addition to the various mangroves, leaves, and bird shape elements covering the chain link fence system, the artist extended the artwork to the surrounding wall plane where a series of two dimensional birds are arranged to resemble a flock of seagulls flying to or from the nearby Everglades.

Director's Reports

- Mr. Spring reported that two staff members served as panelists at the Americans for the Arts convention in Nashville last month. Ms. Francine Andersen served on a panel entitled "How Can Arts Agencies Better Provide Accessible Art and Arts Education?" Ms. Brandi Reddick served a panelist for "Making Art That Is Greater Than the Sum of Its Parts."
- The Department's publication "Going to the Museum" won a NACo Award (National Association of Counties.)
- South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center was named "Best Theater for Drama Miami 2014" by *Miami New Times*.
- Tarell Alvin McCraney was named as a 2014 recipient of the Doris Duke Performing Artist Award.

Councilors' Reports

- Mr. Cortada reported that he has been appointed to the Vision Committee, a State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs task force.
- Mr. Trainer noted that Mr. Spring was recognized in *Miami Today*.
- Ms. Simpkins reported that she is planning a community event in Goulds, "Unity for the Community," which will be held in Goulds Park on June 28.
- Ms. Ibargüen commented on the usefulness of "Going to the Museum" and said that she will be using it when she takes her young guests on their next visit to a museum.
- Mr. Aguirre thanked Ms. Allocco and other members of the staff for their work on the Capital Development Grants Program panel meeting. He noted how much work is involved including site visits. He reported that it is a pleasure and an honor to serve on the panel. Mr. Aguirre noted that it continues to be important to recognize volunteer grants panelists for their service.
- Ms. Sigars-Molina reminded Councilors that the 22nd Annual International Mango Festival Growers' Summit at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden will be held on July 12 and July 13.
- Chairman Henriques announced that his daughter, Rebecca Henriques, has been cast in two Florida Grand Opera productions for the upcoming season, Mozart's *Così fan tutti* and Menotti's *The Consul*.
- Ms. Margol noted that Mr. Spring was awarded the Ray Hanley Innovation Award at the Americans for the Arts Conference. The award was established by Americans for the Arts' United States Urban Arts Federation (USUAF), an alliance of the chief executives of local arts agencies in the nation's 60 largest cities. She also reminded Councilors that the Source of Income Statement is due July 1.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:37PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry Landreth