Memorandum



Date: August 19, 2015

To: Members, Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring, Director

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Subject:

Facilities Updates: African Heritage Cultural Arts Center Joseph Caleb Auditorium Miami-Dade County Auditorium South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center

As a result of Mayor Gimenez' re-organization of County government and beginning in 2012, the Department of Cultural Affairs has been responsible for managing the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, Joseph Caleb Auditorium, and Miami-Dade County Auditorium. The Department managed the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center through design and construction and has programmed and operated the Center since its opening in 2011.

The management and operation of these cultural facilities supports the overall mission of the Department, specifically to:

- 1) Strengthen and advance the work of our local non-profit cultural organizations and artists; and
- 2) Increase audience participation in the arts.

Assessment of the Facilities Capital Needs

Since taking on the responsibility of managing the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, Joseph Caleb Auditorium, and Miami-Dade County Auditorium, the Department has focused on assessing the capital needs of each facility and launching new mission-driven programming initiatives. These three facilities need significant work to repair and/or replace basic functional building systems, upgrade theater and sound and communications equipment, and modernize its architecture, including building signage, facades and audience and performer accommodations. To this end, the Department worked with the Internal Services Department to implement a competitive process to select a team of architects, engineers (A/E) and specialty consultants to conduct a comprehensive assessment of these items and to prioritize and cost the recommendations to improve each facility. While this work is expected to take some time to accomplish, modest upgrades and routine maintenance are being performed with the goal of improving the staff, user, and patron experience.

The competitive selection process concluded in the hiring of Rodriguez and Quiroga Architects Chartered, who have now completed their findings for the first phase of the work including the assessment of each facility and an order of magnitude cost estimate for the improvements. The Department has provided comments and has prioritized the list of work. Life safety issues and major building systems such as HVAC, roofing, and electrical systems are being prioritized. The scope of work is being further refined to align with current facility needs, budget limitations, and potential grant opportunities.

It should be noted that each facility has Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond (BBC-GOB) funds available to begin this work, but costs for the planned improvements exceed the BBC-GOB funds currently allocated. Improvements will be phased while additional funding is sought. The Department has been awarded a \$500,000 grant for the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center for the FY15-16 grant cycle of the State Cultural Facilities Grant Program, and has submitted an application for Miami-Dade County Auditorium for the FY16-17 grant cycle.

- African Heritage Cultural Arts Center:
- Joseph Caleb Auditorium:
- Miami-Dade County Auditorium:

\$1.0 million + \$500,000 State Cultural Facilities Grant\$1.4 million (balance remaining)\$4.0 million

African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center (AHCAC) complex includes a black box theater, a music building with a concert hall, piano lab and several practice rooms, a dance studio that is accessible to individuals with disabilities, an art gallery, several studio spaces, a print shop and classrooms. It has a distinguished history of providing instruction in the arts in all artistic disciplines to youth through after school, school break academies and summer school programs. Its work continues to develop the next generation of artists and arts supporters. In addition, the Center serves as an incubator for supporting and developing the work of African-American arts groups and artists through its black-box theater, rehearsal spaces and art gallery. The Center also serves as a welcoming place to the surrounding community, hosting evening classes and civic meetings.

The following is a summary of activity at the AHCAC:

	FY 2014-2015 to-date	June	/ July
Total number of students registered:	512	220	2
Number of arts production rentals:	73	4	4
Number of community rentals:	250	10	26
Number of arts groups using the Center:	185	14	11
Number of civic meetings:	206	18	10
Number of tours and outreach:	42	0	1

Program highlights for July included:

- The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center's Summer Arts Conservatory is designed to give students a foundation in the arts while aligning with their skill level by providing classes at beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels. The curriculum includes arts instruction in a variety of forms, from classical to contemporary to ethnic. The ten-week program is divided into two modes, providing theory of the various artistic disciplines during the first four weeks and practical experiences during the following four weeks. The final weeks of the Conservatory are dedicated to rehearsals and showcasing of the students' talents.
- Several events were held to showcase the students' new and enhanced skills:
 - *Glamour Walk* a fashion show demonstrating the participants' skills in runway modeling, fashion, and etiquette was held on July 31st in the Wendell A. Narcisse Theater;
 - Summer Arts Fest open to the parents and community to witness the transformation of the artistic lives of the students, the all-day event included a visual arts exhibition, a band, percussion, and piano concert, along with a choral concert, dramatic scenes, and a literary display of the students' published writings. The festival was held on August 8 throughout the Center and was widely attended; and
 - "Phoenix of the Arts: Still We Rise" final production showcasing the students' dance and musical theatre performances was held at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium on August 11.

Sankofa: Celebrating 40 Years of Service

The Center has been successfully celebrating 40 years of service with the following events from the Sankofa series:

• The Sankofa experiences continue with the presentation of the play "Hustle," written and directed by Keith Wade, which is scheduled for September 11, 12, and 13, 2015. Auditions were held in June to select the cast for the play, and rehearsals started in July.

• The gallery will showcase pictures from the play's scenes.

Other News

- Through the Art in Public Places program, the following artists have been shortlisted to provide site-specific proposals for the design of the Center's marquee:
 - 1. William Cordova
 - 2. Theaster Gates
 - 3. Adler Guerrier
 - 4. Tobias Putrih
 - 5. Gary Simmons
 - 6. Typoe (Michael Gran)

Maintenance Issues

- Leaks from the roof-mounted HVAC units continue to re-appear during rainy days.
- The HVAC units in the theater often need to be repaired.

For more information on the Center's events and offerings, please visit the Center's website at <u>www.ahcacmiami.org</u>

Joseph Caleb Auditorium

The Joseph Caleb Auditorium is a 962-seat theater that has been the gathering place in the Liberty City community for the performing arts for more than 36 years. The Auditorium has featured concerts, community forums, movie screenings and productions by community arts organizations throughout the year. The parking lot serving the Auditorium and the adjoining Caleb Center office complex is closed for construction of a new parking garage. The public art funds generated by the parking garage project will be used to have an artist design a prominent and attractive "connection" between the new garage and the Auditorium.

With the loss of parking resulting from the ongoing construction of the parking garage for the Caleb Center, the Department has launched a plan that converts the Caleb Auditorium into a venue for school field trip performances. This has the benefits of: 1) providing more students with opportunities to experience the arts; 2) offering opportunities for local arts organizations to develop and present programs designed for children; and 3) introducing arts organizations and artists to the Caleb Auditorium so that when the parking situation is resolved, they can use the theater for evening performances. Ultimately, the goal for the Joseph Caleb Auditorium is to continue the field trip program and also to program the theater proactively with prominent arts groups and artists to re-establish its reputation for artistic excellence, diversity and community outreach.

Awards

The Joseph Caleb Auditorium received the 2015 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its program titled "Caleb Cultural Passport Program." The award received was for Best of Category in Arts and Historic Preservation, which honors innovative programs that enhance services for the residents.

Attendance to-date at the Joseph Caleb Auditorium for FY 2014-15 is 36,288.

Events for the months of June and July included:

- Page Turner Adventures The Great Pizza Contest (June 12, 2015)
- Page Turner Adventures The Mixed Up Fairytale (July 1, 2015)
- Fantasy Factory Theatre Gordon Gumshoe Fairytale Detective (July 14, 2015)
- Fantasy Factory Theatre Fantasy Stew (July 28, 2015)

Miami-Dade County Auditorium (MDCA) offers three dynamic presentation styles:

- 1. A 2,372-seat theatre that can host major dance, theatre and music performances;
- 2. A "Mid-Stage" theatre which can accommodate up to 450 patrons is well-suited for small concerts, dance and theatre presentations, giving mid-sized organizations an ideal setting to showcase their work; and
- 3. A 250-seat "On.Stage Black Box" theatre in which both the audience and performers share the stage of the Auditorium which is adapted into an innovative studio theatre for more intimate and often, cutting edge shows.

Since the theatre opened its doors in 1951, it has served as the center for showcasing the diversity of our cultural life and most recently, as a hub for celebrating the Hispanic arts community.

The Department has launched a program to establish co-presenting partnerships with non-profit cultural organizations that can present performances on the main stage, mid-stage and in the black box configuration and begin to establish an artistic reputation for the theatre which will encourage more use and presentations of higher artistic quality. Partner organizations include Fundarte, the Rhythm Foundation, Tigertail, the Performing Arts Series presented by Miami Dade College and Teatro Avante. This program also has the benefit of helping to develop Hispanic audiences for some of our community's premiere cultural organizations. In addition, the Auditorium has restructured its staff and policies in order to attract more uses of the facility.

The following is a summary of activity at MDCA:

	FY 2014-2015 to-date	June/July
Number of Events:	141	31
Attendance:	96,540	24,900

Program highlights and rentals for June and July included:

- MDCA hosted the poster unveiling reception for the 30th International Hispanic Theatre Festival. This
 year's featured country is Brazil and the Brazilian ambassador attended the celebration that included
 a performance by BrazzDance.
- MDCA once again partnered with Teatro Avante to bring the International Hispanic Theatre Festival to the On.Stage Black Box Theatre. This year's offerings included: Los Mas Solos (El Salvador), Swallows (Venezuela), and Escriba Su Nombre Aqui (Spain).
- The Cuban Classical Ballet presented the Don Quixote Suite.
- MDCA presented Grammy nominee Dr. Ed Calle in concert as part of MDCA's jazz series. Dr. Calle
 performed in the Mid-Stage Theatre accompanied by a 45 member symphonic band to a sold-out
 crowd.

MDCA continues to work with Matrix2 on the development of marketing campaigns for selected events.

Work on the website has been completed and the site is now live: www.MiamiDadeCountyAuditorium.org

South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center

The South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC) is a multidisciplinary arts center designed by Arquitectonica International, Inc. to showcase the performing arts. The Center's 961-seat state-of-the-art Theater Building includes a fly tower, orchestra pit, front of house spaces (box office, lobby, restrooms, concessions, etc.), back of house support spaces (dressing rooms, storage and work areas, administrative offices, etc.) and a multi-purpose rehearsal space. The separate Activities Building houses an informal performance space, and smaller multi-purpose spaces for lectures, classes, or community gatherings. The Center's two buildings are joined by an outdoor promenade leading to a gently-sloping lawn for outdoor concerts and festivals along the Black Creek Canal.

Through Miami-Dade County's Art in Public Places Program, the Center has major public art works created by Miami artist Robert Chambers. An innovative light piece illuminates the translucent inner lobby wall with changing light designs created by computer-programmed LED fixtures. In addition, the lobby features two marble sculptures also created by Robert Chambers.

The following is a summary of activity at SMDCAC:

	FY 2014-2015 to date	July 2015	
SMDCAC Presents:	91	14	
Number of rentals:	440	35	
Attendance:	95,293	5,613 (as of July 30)	

Since opening the SMDCAC in October of 2011, over 254,849 patrons have attended activities at the Center.

Events presented by the Center for the month of July included:

- Just The Funny (July 10)
- Jim Camacho and His Band (July 11)
- Okee Dokee Brothers (July 18)
- Chicago Repertory Ballet (July 25)
 - Chicago Repertory Ballet Advanced Student Class (July 25)
- Abbey Road (July 26)
- Guitars Over Guns, music classes for underserved youth (every Wednesday and Saturday)

Rentals for the month of July included:

- Thomas Armour Youth Ballet Camp (Monday-Friday)
- Pridelines Meeting (every Tuesday)
- Greater Miami Youth Ballet Camp (Monday-Friday)
- Antiheros Theater Workshop (July 25)

August highlights include:

• Miami Lyric Opera's production of Rigoletto (August 15 and 16)

So far this season (the season that began October 1, 2014) the Center's volunteer program has saved the County \$117,780.

The Center will launch its fifth anniversary season with a FREE season kick-off event dubbed Backyard Bash on October 10th featuring jazz swing acts Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Hot 8 Brass Band from New Orleans and local artists Aaron Lebos and DJ Le Spam on the Center's outside Concert Lawn. Food

trucks will be present and attendees may bring lawn chairs and blankets. Patrons may also pick up information on the upcoming season and tour the facility.

This season SMDCAC continues to provide a Main Stage Series, Cabaret Series, Family Series, and Black Creek Nights (club nights). In addition, the Center has added a Film Series called Indie Flicks and incorporated a comedy club style lineup to the Cabaret Series. For the second consecutive season, New Theatre and Seraphic Fire will provide regular programming at the Center.

The Center offers a subscription where patrons can create their own package of main stage performances and receive up to a 20% discount. Benefits of being an SMDCAC subscriber also include discounts to Cabaret Series shows, select Seraphic Fire shows and exclusive access to select engagements.

Dance highlights this season include: choreographer Elizabeth Streb's Extreme Action Company featuring the work FORCES; Los Angeles-based BodyTraffic; and Jessica Lang Dance from New York. In addition, Culture Shock Miami and the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center will present tap dancer Savion Glover with jazz percussionist Jack DeJohnette. Other dance performances include Ballet for Young People by Miami City Ballet School; Nutcracker by Miami Youth Ballet; Ballet Folklorico Mexicano as part of a Mexican heritage celebration at the Center; hip hop dancers from the production of Blaze; and back again this season, Step Afrika!

Theater highlights include Broadway's Next H!T Musical, a hilarious improv show about an awards show night; the national touring production of Saturday Night Fever; Broadway: The Big Band Years featuring vocalists performing hits from the greatest Broadway songs; and Asolo Repertory Theatre Conservatory's production of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night performed with Shadow Interpretation.

Music highlights include singing legend Mavis Staples with Joan Osborne in Solid Soul; Alice's Restaurant with Arlo Guthrie; clarinetist David Krakauer's production The Big Picture featuring Jewishthemed music and video from famous films; renowned jazz guitarist John Pizzarelli; South African a cappella singers Ladysmith Black Mambazo; Lisa Fischer, a featured artist in the celebrated documentary 20 Feet from Stardom; Los Lobos as part of a Mexican heritage event; jazz singer Cecile McLorin Salvant; and an outdoor event globalFEST's Creole Carnival featuring Emeline Michel (Haiti), Casuarina (Brazil) and Brushy One String (Jamaica). In addition to these spectacular music shows the Cabaret Series will also feature an exciting and eclectic selection of musicians including: Igor Butman Moscow Jazz Orchestra; International Guitar Night; Sofia Rei Trio; Anaïs Mitchell; Sammy Figueroa and his Latin Jazz Band; Ester Rada; Roy Assaf Trio; and many more!

For a complete listing of upcoming shows and events, please visit the Center's website, <u>www.smdcac.org</u>.

Link to Guitars Over Guns at SMDCAC video: https://instagram.com/p/572AnaiUmS/?taken-by=smdcac https://instagram.com/p/5pG07ziUnC/?taken-by=smdcac https://instagram.com/p/5h4MTaCUve/?taken-by=smdcac

Link to SMDCAC Season video: http://smdcac.org/1516preview

Attachments

African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

news and events



African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

news and events

















Images from the Summer Arts Conservancy Program at the AHCAC





Page Turner Adventures' The Great Pizza Contest (June 12)

news and events



Cuban Classical Ballet performed the Don Quixote suite (June 21)

news and events



A sold out crowd awaits Dr. Ed Calle's performance on the Mid-Stage Theatre (June 28)



Grammy Nominee Dr. Ed Calle performing with a 45-member symphonic band (June 28)

news and events



Escriba Su Nombre Aqui, part of the 30 IHTF presented on the On.Stage Black Box (July 24-25)



SMDCAC launched its subscriptions packages on July 7th

South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center

news and events





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SUN, MAR 20/5PM FIESTA MEXICO-AMERICANA HERITAGE FEATURES LOS LOBOS BALLET FOLKLORICO MEXICANO

MAN STACE \$25-\$47.50 aturing multiple Grammy-award winners Los Lobos and dancers from the Ballet Folkarico Mexicane, the Awican-American experience is celebrated through song, dance, music and film. FREE Flesta En La Plaza from 1-4pm uring traditional food, crafts and performances in partnership with the Mexican-American Council. leaturing that



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200-850. Table surfrag analytics One of the greatest part excellent to emerge any sprars. Color MALons Statut is learned for the tables - inhund scall and a reportive that includes just standards them of 20 and 700. The was the written in face categories in the 2014 Annual Dourbast themational Oritics FML includes, just 24 Manual Oritics FML Feenale Vacatist, Reing Star Jacz Arkit and Heing Star Vacatist.



Thank you letter from Guitars Over Guns

Hi guys,

I just wanted to tell you all how much we appreciate you. It was so exciting to see this partnership and camp come to fruition. After meeting many of the parents, listening to Carla (and Eric) talk about the imbalance of opportunities in our community, and seeing the camp so well received, I want you to know that our commitment to providing programming down south is now cemented. All that for another time as I will be out of pocket for the next week. For now, I simply want to tell you how impressed I am with SMDCAC on every level. You staff, from cleaning crew to directors, were amazing to work with. It's clear that you have built something meaningful to the people that are involved and there's something really special about what's going on down there. You guys went above and beyond with the marketing, video, social media, facilities (and storage!), and commitment to making this happen. I can't tell you how amazed our team was to come to a clean, put together room every time we came down for a class. Your attention to detail makes a huge difference and we appreciate all of the hard work from everyone on your team.

We are honored to be your partner and really look forward to working together more in the future.

Many thanks from the entire Guitars Over Guns family,

Chad Bernstein President/CEO 847.420.6327 www.guitarsoverguns.org

Thank you letter from Miami-Dade Juvenile Services Department

Dear south dade cultural arts team and parks and rec team:

Many thnx again for the incredible service you provided us this week at our youth commission back to school at the movies event-it was flawless due to your efforts-we will definitely be planning this event with you next year-be sure to thank all the staff involved. jg

Jeannette M. Garcia-Amodeo Special Projects Coordinator and Liaison to the Miami-Dade County Youth Commission Miami-Dade Juvenile Services Department Office of the Director 275 NW 2nd Street, 2nd Floor, Miami, Florida 33128 (305) 755-6238 Phone (305) 755-6146 Fax

Thank you letter from Antiheroes Project

Hello Carla and Stefanie!

I hope you are all doing great. On behalf of our team, I wanted to thank you and the staff of the SMDCAC for the success of our last four Free Summer Classes for Kids and Teenagers during June 27th and July 25th.

We enjoy them very much, and we took the chance to introduce and test several new exercises that will definitely enrich our permanent curriculum of activities, especially those that focus on Improv techniques.

Based on their feedbacks, parents were very pleased with the classes, and kids and teenagers enjoyed them very much. The feedback from the teens was very mature and rewarding, including those who have followed us since last year as well as the new ones. Their comments, even before the class had ended were just excellent and we feel their confidence and happiness on what they were doing during each two hours class.

None of these would have been possible without your strong team work and your collaboration, so, I would like to ask you to extend our gratitude to the people in the Marketing Department, the Volunteer Coordinators, to Vanessa and the box office personnel. If I am missing any one, please, excuse me and tell them the same!

Sincerely,

José Manuel

José Manuel Dominguez Artistic Director Antiheroes Project, Inc.