

Memorandum



Date: August 20, 2014

To: Members, Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring, Director

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

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 has managed the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center from design and construction and through its inception 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 has been working 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.

A/E selection process and timeline: On July 15th, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Mayor's recommendation to award the architecture, engineering, and specialty consultant services contract to Rodriguez and Quiroga Architects Chartered. A kick-off meeting between the consultant and members from each of the facilities and CUA staff took place on August 6, 2014. A schedule is being developed for the work.

It should be noted that each facility has Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond (BBC-GOB) funds available to begin this work.

- African Heritage Cultural Arts Center: \$1.0 million
- Joseph Caleb Auditorium: \$1.4 million (balance remaining)
- Miami-Dade County Auditorium: \$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:

	<u>FY 2013-2014 to date</u>	<u>July</u>
Total number of students registered:	652	6
Number of arts production rentals:	78	3
Number of community rentals:	160	18
Number of arts groups using the Center:	142	9
Number of civic meetings:	128	9
Number of tours and outreach:	35	5

Program highlights for July, 2014

- The 31st Summer Arts Conservatory is concluding with three scheduled performances. These events will demonstrate the development of the students' latent talents. The first event is a Fashion Show from 7:00PM – 9:00PM on August 1st, followed by the Summer Arts Festival from 11:30AM to 5:00PM on August 9th, both at the AHCAC, and the final event will be the Summer Arts Recital held at the Joseph Caleb Auditorium on August 15th at 6:00 PM.
- The Summer Arts Conservatory served approximately 300 children ranging from ages 5 through 16. These students came from diverse areas throughout the county to participate in the Center's unique multi-art format. Students from Miami Children's Initiative and Our Kids foster homes participated in the Summer Arts Conservatory.
- A partnership with Miami Children's Initiative made it possible to provide discounted tuition of \$262 for the Summer Arts Conservatory to 50 students.

Ongoing maintenance and capital improvements at the AHCAC

- A complete assessment of the roofs is being performed by a roofing consultant and specifications for new roofing systems are being developed. The draft report is under review.
- Flooring and painting upgrades to both trailers have been completed.
- A proposal for exterior security cameras and equipment has been requested and is a priority for the safety of the Center's staff and patrons.
- Proposals are being evaluated to purchase hand held radios that will enable the Center's staff to more efficiently communicate throughout the campus.
- A call to artists was issued through the Art in Public Places (APP) program for the design of the Center's marquee and over 65 applications were received. Short listing of the proposals by an APP Professional Advisory Committee is scheduled for August 19th.

For more information on the Center's events and offerings, please visit the Center's newly created website at www.ahcacmiami.org.

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. It is still anticipated that the parking lot serving the Auditorium and the adjoining Caleb Center office complex will be closed to prepare the site 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 upcoming loss of parking once the construction of the parking garage for the Caleb Center begins, 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. Until construction begins, the Auditorium is continuing to accept other rentals.

The attendance at the Joseph Caleb Auditorium for this fiscal year is 37,919 to date.

Current summer program highlights:

- July 2, 2014 – Matthew Sabatella and The String Band presents Ballad of America
- July 14, 2014 – Fushu Daiko Japanese Taiko Drummers
- July 29, 2014 – Page Turner Adventures - Mixed Up Fairytales

Miami-Dade County Auditorium

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:

	<u>FY 2013-2014 to date</u>	<u>July 2014</u>
Number of rentals:	134	11
Attendance:	99,100	2,100

Current program highlights:

- FundArte and MDCA presented the world premiere (work in progress) of the documentary *A Todo Color* by Randy Valdes. The cutting edge documentary tells the story of how Cuban artists manage to disseminate their art beyond Cuba's boundaries. The documentary includes live performances recorded at MDCA, and will be submitted to the Miami International Film Festival.
- MDCA presented Latin Grammy-nominees Jose Negroni and Federico Britos in *Danzones, Danzas y Boleros* as part of the MDCA's Brand New: Fresh, Local & On.Stage series. The venue was sold-out for the event.
- Teatro Avante and MDCA co-presented three productions from this year's International Hispanic Theatre Festival. Two of the productions were staged in the On.Stage Black Box: a production from Mexico, *El Panfleto del Rey y su Lacayo* and one from Argentina, a superb theatre piece titled *El Loco y su Camisa*. The third production, *Bromas y Lamentos*, was an opera staged in the lobby, which was converted into a cabaret, and presented in collaboration with the Florida Grand Opera.
- Cuban Classical Ballet returned to MDCA for the second consecutive month to present a selection of *Russian Ballets*. Once again, it featured a group of dancers who had recently defected from Cuba.
- A group of young girls from the GEMS summer camp visited MDCA and got an exclusive tour of the facility.

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:

	<u>FY 2013-2014 to date</u>	<u>July 2014</u>
SMDCAC Presents:	90	4
Number of rentals:	156	11
Attendance:	57,915	1,088

Current program highlights and rentals for August:

- Sultans of String (August 8)
- Every Tuesday of the month - Pridelines meeting
- Every Tuesday and Friday - Zumba classes "Zumba with Ronald."

Additional shows coming up at SMDCAC over the summer months include the U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors (September 20).

The Center will kick off the 2014-15 season with a free *Backyard Bash Concert* on the facility's concert lawn. Musical guests include world music artists Ribab Fusion from Morocco, Miami sound pioneers Spam Allstars and South Florida indie band Xperimento. Patrons will be given the opportunity to explore the many performance spaces of the Center, meet the staff and secure seats to upcoming events.

The Center launched its 2014-2015 subscription campaign on June 10th. Performances offered on the subscription series include: Etienne Charles (jazz); Tu Dance (contemporary dance); Noche Flamenca (Flamenco dance and music); The Hot Sardines (jazz); "Guys and Dolls" (Broadway); Alonzo King LINES Ballet (ballet); The Second City (comedy, improvisation); StepCrew (Irish step dancing); Zap Mama and Antibales (world music, afro-beat, afro-pop); "Raisin' Cane" starring Jasmine Guy and The Avery Sharpe Trio (theater); The Pasadena Roof Orchestra (jazz); Peking Acrobats (acrobats); Mummenschanz (theater, mime, masks); Urban Bush Women (contemporary dance); "Jekyll and Hyde" (Broadway); The Kinsey Sicks (a cappella, drag); and Ballet Memphis (ballet).

On September 2nd, single tickets for the Center's entire season will go on sale, including main stage performances as well as the Cabaret Series in the Black Box Theater (a 130-seat venue for intimate performances with table seating), Family Series, and Black Creek Nights featuring local and international bands in a nightclub setting.

To date for the 2013-2014 season, SMDCAC's volunteer program has saved Miami-Dade County \$78,312 in staffing costs.

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

Attachment

Miami—Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs
African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

ERNEST BAKER II

URBAN FUNK

JULY 19 2014

11 AM - 12:30 PM \$10



All Levels Welcome

Join New York Based,
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Alumni Ernest Baker II in
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**Dancer: Trina, Missy
Elliott, DJ Khaled,
Brianna Perry,
Kardinal Offishall &
Joe Jonas**



**MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY**

6161 NW 22ND AVENUE, MIAMI FL 33142

PH: (305) 638-6771 E: ahcac@miamidade.gov

It is policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disability Act. The facility is accessible. To request materials in accessible format and/or accommodation to attend an event at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, please contact Gloria Wilkins at 305-638-6771 or ahcac@miamidade.gov, at least five days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service).

Ballad of America
Matthew Sabatella and the
Rambling String Band



Fushu Daiko Japanese Taiko Drummers



Mixed Up Fairytales
Page Turner Adventures



Tiempo Libre during a live performance that was part of *A Todo Color*



Federico Britos and Jose Negroni performing On.Stage





Artist Steve Trash from the Science of Ecology Family Series Show



**SOUTH MIAMI-DADE
CULTURAL
ARTS CENTER**

OUR NEW 2014/2015 SEASON IS NEAR!
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Single Seat Tickets go on sale SEPT 2

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- 15% OFF the price of your total ticket order for four or five shows
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- 20% OFF the ticket price of our Cabaret Series *(limit 2 tickets per show)*
- 10% OFF the price of select Seraphic Fire productions
- **EXCLUSIVE** early purchase opportunity for Seraphic Fire's Handel's Messiah

All tickets require a non-discounted \$1 facility fee.

SELECT FROM THE FOLLOWING PERFORMANCES:
(subject to availability)

SAT NOV 1, 8PM
ETIENNE CHARLES CREOLE SOUL

SAT NOV 8, 8PM
TU DANCE

SAT NOV 15, 8PM
NOCHE FLAMENCA STARRING SOLEDAD BARRIO

SAT NOV 22, 8PM
THE HOT SARDINES SPEAKEASY NIGHTS

SAT JAN 3, 8PM
GUYS AND DOLLS THE BROADWAY TOURING PRODUCTION

SAT JAN 17, 8PM
ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

THU JAN 22, 8PM
THE SECOND CITY HITS HOME!

FRI JAN 23, 8PM
STEPCREW

SAT JAN 24, 8PM
ZAP MAMA AND ANTIBALAS

SAT FEB 7, 8PM
RAISIN' CANE A HARLEM RENAISSANCE ODYSSEY STARRING JASMINE GUY AND THE AVERY SHARPE TRIO

FRI FEB 20, 8PM
THE PASADENA ROOF ORCHESTRA

SAT FEB 21, 8PM
PEKING ACROBATS

SAT FEB 28, 3PM AND 8PM; SUN MAR 1, 3PM
MUMMENSCHANZ

SAT MAR 7, 8PM
URBAN BUSH WOMEN

SAT MAR 14, 8PM
JEKYLL & HYDE A FRANK WILDHORN AND LESLIE BRICUSSE MUSICAL THE BROADWAY TOURING PRODUCTION

SAT APR 18, 8PM
THE KINSEY SICKS AMERICA'S NEXT TOP BACHELOR HOUSEWIFE CELEBRITY HOARDER MAKEOVER STAR GONE WILD!

SAT APR 25, 8PM
BALLET MEMPHIS



ETIENNE CHARLES



NOCHE FLAMENCA



JASMINE GUY AND THE AVERY SHARPE TRIO



PEKING ACROBATS



THE KINSEY SICKS



MUMMENSCHANZ



BALLET MEMPHIS











IT IS THE POLICY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. THE FACILITY IS ACCESSIBLE AND ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. TO REQUEST MATERIALS IN ACCESSIBLE FORMAT, AND/OR ANY ACCOMMODATION TO ATTEND AN EVENT AT THE SOUTH MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER, PLEASE CONTACT STEPHANIE APONTE, 786-573-5314, SAPONTE@SMDCAC.ORG, AT LEAST FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE TO INITIATE YOUR REQUEST, TTY USERS MAY ALSO CALL 711 (FLORIDA RELAY SERVICE).

Promotional flyer/eblast for 2014-2015 Subscription Series