

Memorandum



Date: October 15, 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 from the end of the name.

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 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.

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. The design team and their consultants have visited the three facilities and have begun the assessment portion of the scope.

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>August</u>	<u>September</u>
Total number of students registered:	736	41	43
Number of arts production rentals:	93	8	7
Number of community rentals:	198	20	18
Number of arts groups using the Center:	171	15	14
Number of civic meetings:	156	8	20
Number of tours and outreach:	45	4	6

Program highlights and rentals for August and September

- The After School Arts Academy started on August 18th. A total of 84 students from the surrounding schools in the north central area is enrolled in the program, which operates from 2:00 PM to 6:30 PM. The program consists of instructional classes in various art forms, including dance, chorus, visual arts, fashion arts, drama and music. The classes provide the students, ranging from 5 to 16 years of age, an opportunity to demonstrate and develop their latent talents and abilities.
- A partnership with Orchestra Miami and Miami Children's Initiative will introduce children to the arts for the first time. The free music program is open to 100 new students interested in becoming part of an opera production.
- The AHCAC is partnering with Liberty City Elementary School to offer an After School Arts Program for kindergarten through 5th grade students. AHCAC staff will provide instructional classes in dance, chorus, creative dramatics, and instrumental music at the school starting in November.
- Sankofa: Celebrating 40 years of Service – 13 applicants have responded to a Call to Artists for the visual art exhibitions being planned as part of the year-long celebration.
- The Center has partnered with Gate Restoration Center, Power U, Glory Temple Ministries, Miami Children's Initiative, and nearby residents to provide a safe day for children to celebrate Halloween at the Center's Harvest Fest Family Program on October 31st.

Ongoing maintenance and capital improvements at the AHCAC

- The independent roofing consultants' assessment report of all the facilities' roofs has been provided to the architectural team to review and incorporate onto their assessment of the buildings.
- 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.
- A call to artists was issued through the Art in Public Places program for the design of the Center's marquee and over 65 applications were received. Short listing of the proposals by a Professional Advisory Committee is scheduled for October 31st.

The Center is working with Matrix 2 on marketing materials for the Sankofa celebration (brochure attached), general advertising brochures, digital flyers, postcards, and the website.

For more information on the Center's events and offerings, please visit the Center's 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 for fiscal year 2013-2014 at The Joseph Caleb Auditorium was 39,304.

Program highlights and rentals for August

- August 2, 2014 – The Overtown Youth Center presents *The Wiz*
- August 15, 2014 – African Heritage Cultural Arts Center presents *Ascending Through The Arts*

Upcoming events for October

- October 15, 2014 – Arts Power Touring Company presents *Harry the Dirty Dog*
- October 20, 2014 – Arts Power Touring Company presents *Otherwise Known as Shelia the Great*
- October 22-23, 2014 – Lightwire Theatre Company's *Dino-Light*

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</u>	<u>August / September 2014</u>
Number of Events:	151	17
Attendance:	110,200	11,100

Program highlights and rentals for August and September

- Grateli presented Luisa Fernanda during the first weekend in August. Similar to previous presentations, this event was well-attended.
- Bridge Playhouse presented the World Premiere of Solo by Venezuelan playwright Cesar Sierra. For this production, the On.Stage Black Box was set up in an arena configuration for the first time.
- MDCA and Florida Chamber Orchestra presented Ibero-America Clasica as part of MDCA’s Brand New: Fresh, Local & On.Stage series. The concert featured a classical pianist and cellist.
- The International Ballet Festival of Miami celebrated their Gala with a selection of classical choreographies from popular ballets.
- Grateli presented Enrique Chia in Concert. This popular annual event traditionally draws big crowds over a weekend in September.

Several MDCA upcoming events for the 2014-2015 season were mentioned as top picks in the recent Season of the Arts edition of *The Miami Herald*. *El Nuevo Herald*, the Spanish edition of the newspaper, also included events at MDCA.

MDCA is currently working with Matrix 2 in the development of its website.

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>August and September, 2014</u>
SMDCAC Presents:	97	4
Number of rentals:	195	26
Attendance:	60,907	2,975

Program highlights and rentals for August and September

- Chicago Step Dance Class (August 2)
- Sultans of String (August 8)
- Community Health of South Florida Meeting (August 12)
- *Soca Reggae Unity Party* Presented by Diaspora Vibe (August 15)
- U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors (September 20)
- Jai Uttal Concert Presented by Stop, Breathe and Smile (September 27)
- Deva Premal Concert Presented by Stop, Breathe and Smile (September 28)
- Every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday - Thomas Armour FREE dance classes
- Every Tuesday of the month - Pridelines meeting
- Every Tuesday and Friday - Zumba classes "Zumba with Ronald"

The Center kicked off the 2014-15 season on October 4 with a free Backyard Bash Concert on the facility's outside lawn which included food trucks. Musical guests included world music artists Ribab Fusion from Morocco, performing as part of a U.S. State Department tour, Miami sound pioneers Spam Allstars, and South Florida indie band Xperimento. Patrons were given the opportunity to explore the many performance spaces of the Center, meet the staff and secure seats to upcoming events. As part of Ribab Fusion's U.S. State Department tour in Miami, the group performed at Miami Dade College Kendall Campus (October 2) and at Assurant, one of the largest employers in South Miami-Dade (October 3).

Upcoming events for the month of October include: *Intergalactic Nemesis: Target Earth, A Live-Action Graphic Novel* presented by Culture Shock Miami (October 11); a contemporary version of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* performed with Shadow Interpretation by the Asolo Repertory Theatre (October 17); *Rhythms of Gypsy Jazz: A Night On The Orient Express* performed by The French Horn (October 17/Cabaret Series); Fred Hersch Trio (October 18/Cabaret Series); *Dino-Light* performed by Lightwire Theater and Corbian Visual Arts and Dance (October 25/Family Series); and *An Evening of Broadway Songs* performed by the Carbonell Award Winners (October 25/Cabaret Series). Rentals for the month of October include: *Cuban Spring* by New Theatre (October 10-November 2) and the Singing Miamians of Pinecrest (October 18).

The Center was featured prominently in the recent issue of *The Miami Herald's* Season of the Arts special section. Fred Hersch Trio and Etienne Charles received the number one and number two slots for jazz events. Alonzo King Lines Ballet and Urban Bush Women were named in the top ten dance events and Zap Mama with Antibalas was named as a top pick in world music. Seraphic Fire, who will

perform four shows at the Center this season, was named as one of the top classical music artists for the season. Backyard Bash was also featured on NBC 6 with a live in studio interview and performance by Xperimento.

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

In Partnership with

The Gate Restoration Center, Power U Center, Glory Temple Ministries, Miami Children's Initiative

It's a family affair & everyone's invited!!

We're turning 40 in a few months & we want to kick off our celebration with our CAC family! Join us for a day of fun, arts, performances, vendors, contests, food, and more!

Alumni & Newcomers - this party is for you!!

Friday, October 31st

HARVEST FEST

Time: 4-7pm Admission: Canned -Good Donation
Food Distribution, Candy, Costume Contests

#SupportVendors



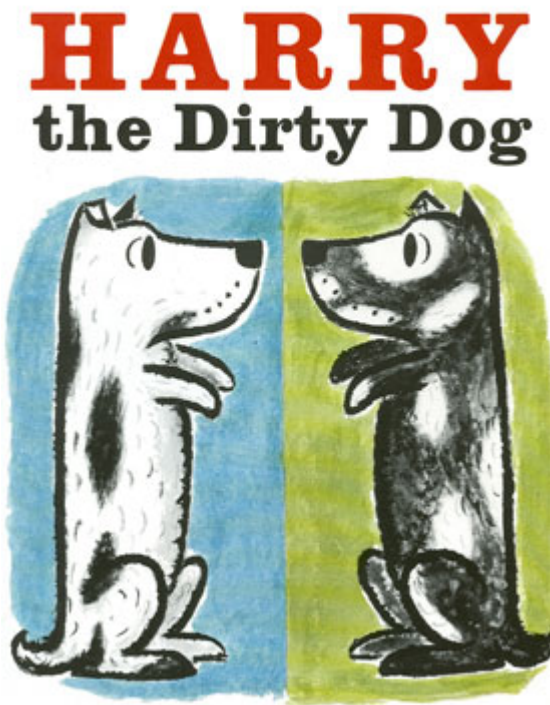
6161 NW 22nd Avenue, Miami, Fl 33142

P: (305) 638-6771 Web: ahcacmiami.org



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@miamidadegov, at least five days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service).

Upcoming shows



Harry the Dirty Dog (October 15)



Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great (October 20)



Lightwire Theatre's *DiNO-Light* (October 22-23)

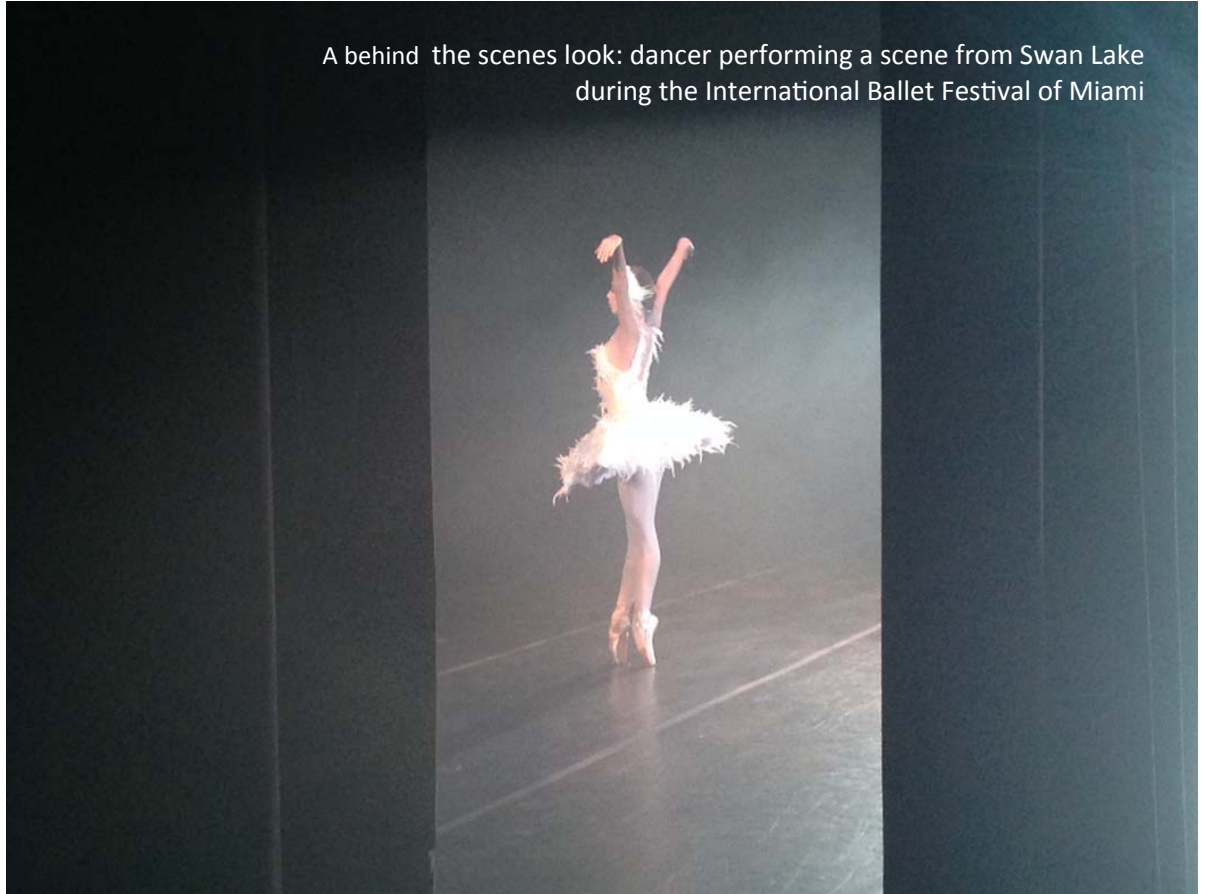
On.Stage Black Box configured for arena seating during the presentation of Solo by Cesar Sierra



Pianist Ileana Cortizo and cellist Ana Ruth Bermudez performing during Ibero-America Clasica



A behind the scenes look: dancer performing a scene from Swan Lake during the International Ballet Festival of Miami



A view from the VIP-Table section during an event in the On.Stage Black Box





Ernest Baker Urban Funk Dance Master Class (July 26)

YOU'RE INVITED! FREE TICKETS may be obtained on or after September 2 at the theater Box Office or online at smdcac.org.





RIBAB FUSION

SPAM ALLSTARS

XPERIMENTO

BACKYARD BASH

SAT OCT 4 7:00PM

FREE SEASON KICK-OFF EVENT AT SOUTH MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL ART CENTER BACKYARD CONCERT LAWN

Enjoy Latin, reggae, urban soul, and Afropop superstars with featured performing artists **RIBAB FUSION** from Miami.

Between the music, explore the Center's many performance spaces, meet our staff, look through our season schedule and secure seats for your favorite upcoming shows.

No coolers permitted.

smdcac.org
786.573.5300
 10950 SW 211 St.
 Cutler Bay, FL 33189

SOUTH MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

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 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 A REQUEST. TTY USERS MAY ALSO CALL 711 (FLORIDA RELAY SERVICES).

CULTURE SHOCK MIAMI.COM

STEINWAY PIANO GALLERY MIAMI

SOUTHLAND MALL

WLRN

nefa | **CENTERSTAGE**

The presentation of Ribab Fusion is part of Center Stage, a public-private cultural exchange by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and produced by the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) in cooperation with the U.S. Regional Arts Organizations, with additional support from the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation and the Asian Cultural Council. General management for Center Stage is provided by Lisa Booth Management, Inc.

Backyard Bash Promotional Flyer/Eblast

cultivate
the great
in you



Our **mission** is to:

PROVIDE quality training in dance, drama, instrumental music, vocal music, media and visual arts.

DEVELOP in-house performing arts companies.

SUPPORT and assist emerging artists through our resident artist program.

HOST quality performances and exhibitions.

PROMOTE and foster the rich and diverse cultural arts perspective of people of African heritage.



SANKOFA

40th Anniversary Celebration

African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

6161 NW 22nd Avenue, Miami, Florida 33142

Phone: (305) 638-6771 / Email: ahcac@miamidade.gov

www.ahcacmiami.org



AFRICAN HERITAGE
CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

SANKOFA : Looking Back, Going Forward

40th Anniversary Celebration

In 2015, the **African Heritage Cultural Arts Center** will celebrate 40 years of community empowerment through the arts. Through our **rooted year** we embrace the theme of Sankofa: Looking Back, Going Forward. Our 40th year will include a year-long series of events, performances, master classes and workshops, celebrating the talented performers, instructors and community leaders who have flourished and contributed to the creative development of young people in the inner city.

The Center has been selected as a Knights Arts Challenge finalist to support our initiatives in transforming community through arts.

**ROOTED IN COMMUNITY.
ROOTED IN FAITH.
ROOTED IN ARTS.**

Sankofa Calendar of Events

January

2015 Sankofa Opening Gala

Black Tie Affair & Honoring Ceremony of Our Past & Future

January / February

BHM Opening Art Exhibition

Features Seven Local & National Artists in Celebration of Black History Month

February

Gospel Choral Concert

Evening of Community featuring Local Gospels Choirs

March

Women's History Month Art Exhibition

Features Seven Local & National Female Artists in Celebration of Women's History Month

Moms Mabley

Smashing One-Woman Show
Honoring the Life of Moms Mabley

April

Dance Odyssey—Master Class Workshops

Full Day of Classes with International Dancers & Choreographers

Comedy Master Class & Club Night

Master Class with Local & National Comedians Chello and Malik S.

May

Spring Fest Jazz Celebration

Full Day of Jazz with Local & National Talent including Melton Mustafa

September

Sun Street Festival

Back to School Celebration Fused with our Visual Arts Calabash

October

Halloween Fest

The Center Transforms to a Safe Space for Community Members to Trick-or-Treat

November

Amadlozi Closing Gala & Exhibition

Closing Ceremony for the 40th Anniversary

Sponsorship Opportunities

STARTING AT \$6,000

- Official Presenter of Sankofa 2015
- Logo/name on all Sankofa promotional materials
- Publicity through our media outlets
- Promotional space at all events at AHCAC
- Three scholarships to AHCAC awarded in your company name
- Two complimentary tickets to all Sankofa activities
- Publicity on all social media outlets

STARTING AT \$3,000

- Official Event Sponsor
- Logo/name on all promotional materials
- Publicity through our media outlets
- Promotional space at all events at AHCAC
- Three scholarships to AHCAC awarded in your company name
- Two complimentary tickets to all Sankofa activities
- Publicity on all social media outlets

STARTING AT \$2,000

- Logo/name on all promotional materials
- Publicity through our media outlets
- Promotional space at all events at AHCAC
- Three scholarships to AHCAC awarded in your company name
- Two complimentary tickets to all Sankofa activities
- Publicity on all social media outlets

STARTING AT \$500

- Logo/name on all Sankofa event flyers
- Promotional space at all events at AHCAC
- Two complimentary tickets to all Sankofa activities
- Publicity on all social media outlets

We Are Offering

Local business an opportunity to be recognized for their contribution which is matched by the Knight Foundation.

More Information

Ashlee K. Thomas - Tel: 305-638-6771
Email: ashleet@ahcacmiami.org

www.ahcacmiami.org