

MINUTES OF THE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL

September 16, 2015

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
Mitchell Bierman
Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez
Denise Gerson
Susana Ibarguen
Robert Jensen
Janá Sigars-Malina
Jorge Pérez
Phyllis Simpkins
Rosa Sugrañes
Monty Trainer

Members Not Present

Xavier Cortada
Phyllis Simpkins
Rosa Sugrañes

Others

Lydia Lopez, Office of the Mayor

Staff

Michael Spring, Director
Kelly Allocco
Francine Andersen
Patricia Arbelaez
Roxana Barba
Christina Beauvoir
Nikenna Benjamin
Sue Camp
Marshall Davis
Roseline Duberceau-Baptiste
Eric Fliss
Olga Gonzalez
Sandra Hill
Gerry Landreth
Regla Lee
Marialaura Leslie
Deborah Margol
Gilda Mooney
Adriana Perez
Dana Pezoldt
Brandi Reddick

Staff (continued)

Katherine Robertson
Javier Siut
Pam Valles

Chairman Adolfo Henriques called the meeting to order at 12:12 PM. With a quorum present, he proceeded according to the agenda.

ITEMS FOR RATIFICATION

Approval of the June 17, 3015 Minutes

The minutes of the June 17, 2015 Council meeting were approved unanimously. (motion by Mr. Jensen; seconded by Mr. Bierman)

FY 2015-2016 Grants Program Recommendations

Developing Arts in Neighborhoods (DAN) Grants Program

The FY 2015-2016 DAN Program Panel, chaired by Councilor Bob Jensen, convened on July 8, 2015 to review 33 applications requesting \$495,000. The Panel recommended funding all 33 applications.

The program's final grant awards are contingent upon the availability of funds in the Department's FY 2015- 2016 budget, which is subject to the County's Budget as adopted in September 2015.

Individual grant recommendation that involved a Councilor conflict of interest were removed from the package of recommendations and voted on individually. The following Council member declared a conflict of interest and abstained from voting on the following:

Mr. Jensen - Homestead Community Concert Association, Inc

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

Alhambra Music, Inc.

Arca Images, Inc.

Artists in Residence in Everglades, Inc

Brazz Dance Theater Incorporated d/b/a Augusto Soledade BrazzDance

CACEC, Inc.

Civic Chorale of Greater Miami

Community Arts And Culture, Inc

Community Theatre of Miami Lakes, Inc., d/b/a Main Street Players

Deco Echo Artists Delegation d/b/a Center for Folk and Community Art

Delou Africa, Inc.

Fire Haus Projects, Inc. f/a for The Unconservatory, Inc.

Foundation for Emerging Technologies and Arts, Inc.

Friends of the Japanese Garden, Inc.

Ground Up And Rising, Inc.

Key Biscayne Foundation, Inc. f/a for Art Heart Foundation, Inc.

Mad Cat Theatre Company, Inc.

Marti Productions, Inc.

Miami Beach Arts Trust, Inc. f/a for Pioneer Winter Collective

Miami Piano Circle, Inc.

The Miami Rail Publishing Corporation

Miami Watercolor Society, Inc.

Miami Wind Symphony, Inc.

Mz. Goose, Inc.
National Art Exhibitions of the Mentally Ill, Inc.
North Miami Community Concert Band, Inc.
Red Chemistry, Inc.
Siempre Flamenco, Inc.
South Beach Chamber Ensemble, Inc.
South Florida Friends of Classical Music, Inc.
The Arts at St. Johns, Inc.
The Cove/Rincon Corp.
The Miami Classical Guitar Society, Inc.

The Panel's recommendation to fund the remaining organization, for which there was the above-noted Councilor conflict of interest and abstention, was voted on individually and passed unanimously as follows:

Homestead Community Concert Association, Inc.
(motion by Mr. Aguirre, seconded by Mr. Trainer)

Festivals and Special Events (FEST) Grants Program

The Festivals and Special Events Grants Program (Comprehensive Year) Panel, chaired by Deborah Margol, convened on June 23, 2015 to review 16 applications requesting a total of \$1,230,000. The Panel recommended funding all 16 applications.

Of the sixteen (16) grants, one (1) organization, Miami Hispanic Ballet Corp., had not submitted an application during the comprehensive grant cycle in FY 2014-2015 and was therefore, evaluated on a comprehensive basis during this panel evaluation and is being recommended for funding contingent upon available funds during this fiscal year. One (1) previously designated and funded organization through this grants program, Festival Miami presented by the University of Miami Frost School of Music, did not submit a complete application for the 2015- 2016 cycle. Staff is working with this organization to explore other grant opportunities available through the Department for which they might qualify.

The program's final grant awards are contingent upon the availability of funds in the Department's FY 2015-2016 budget, which is subject to the County's FY 2015-2016 Budget once adopted in September 2015.

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 - Miami Dade College (Miami Book Fair International and Miami International Film Festival)

Mr. Bierman - The Musical Arts Association of Miami, Inc. and Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of the School of Hospitality

Mr. Henriques - Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of the School of Hospitality

Mr. Perez - Miami Dade College (Miami Book Fair International and Miami International Film Festival) and Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of the School of Hospitality

Mr. Trainer - Bayfront Park Management Trust, Coconut Grove Arts and Historical Association, Inc and National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, Inc.

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

German American Social Club of Greater Miami, Inc.
Inffinito Art & Cultural Foundation, Inc.
Junior Orange Bowl Committee, Inc.
Miami Bach Society, Inc., The
Miami-Broward One Carnival Host Committee, Inc.
Miami Design Preservation League, Inc.
Miami Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, Inc.
Miami Hispanic Ballet Corporation
Patrons of Exceptional Artists, Inc.

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

Miami Dade College (Miami Book Fair International and Miami International Film Festival)
(motion by Mr. Jensen; seconded by Mr. Trainer)

National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, Inc.
(motion by Mr. Jensen; seconded by Ms. Ibarguen)

The Musical Arts Association of Miami
(motion by Mr. Pérez; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

Coconut Grove Arts and Historical Association
(motion by Mr. Pérez; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of the School of Hospitality
(motion by Mr. Jensen; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

Bayfront Park Management Trust
(motion by Mr. Pérez; seconded by Ms. Ibarguen)

Youth Arts Enrichment (YEP) Grants Program

The Department of Cultural Affairs FY 2015-2016 Youth Arts Enrichment Program (YEP) Panel convened on July 9, 2015 to review 40 applications requesting a total of \$583,120.00. The YEP Grants Panel was chaired by Cultural Affairs Council member Alejandro Aguirre and Councilor Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez also served on the Panel. The Panel recommended funding 33 applications for a total of \$450,000.00. Seven (7) applications scored below the threshold established by the Panel and were not recommended for funding.

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:

Ms. Gerson - Bakehouse Art Complex, Inc.

Mr. Aguirre - Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Florida Grand Opera and Young Patronesses of the Opera

Mr. Henriques - Florida Grand Opera, Gablestage, Inc., Historical Association of Southern Florida, Inc. and Young Patronesses of the Opera

Mr. Pérez - Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Gablestage, Inc., Miami City Ballet, Inc., National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts, Inc. and The Miami Children's Museum, Inc.

Mr. Trainer - Miami Short Film Festival

Mr. Bierman - The Musical Arts Association of Miami, Inc.

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

Alhambra Music, Inc.	\$10,000
Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc.	\$10,000
ArtSouth, A Not-For-Profit Corporation	\$25,000
City Theatre, Inc.	\$10,000
Coral Gables Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), Inc.	\$25,000
Deco Echo Artists Delegation d/b/a Center for Folk and Community Art	\$8,960
Delou Africa, Inc.	\$25,000
Friends of the Bass Museum, Inc.	\$10,000
Friendship Circle of Miami, Inc.	\$10,000
Karen Peterson and Dancers, Inc.	\$25,000
Locust Projects, Inc.	\$8,960
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Inc.	\$10,000
Miami Light Project, Inc.	\$10,000
New World Symphony, Inc.	\$20,000
Orchestra Miami, Inc.	\$10,000
Saint Martha Concerts and Cultural Affairs, Inc.	\$10,000
Seraphic Fire, Inc.	\$10,000
South Florida Art Center, Inc. d/b/a ArtCenter/ South Florida	\$10,000
The Dance Now! Ensemble, Inc.	\$25,000
THE DAVE AND MARY ALPER JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.	\$10,000
The Murray Dranoff Foundation, Inc.	\$10,000
Tigertail Productions, Inc.	\$25,000

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

Bakehouse Art Complex, Inc. (motion by Mr. Pérez; seconded by Mr. Trainer)	\$10,000
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Inc. (motion by Mr. Bierman; seconded by Mr. Trainer)	\$10,000
Florida Grand Opera, Inc. (motion by Mr. Trainer; seconded by Ms. Ibargüen)	\$10,000
Gablestage, Inc. (motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Mr. Jensen)	\$10,000
Historical Association of Southern Florida, Inc. (motion by Mr. Bierman; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)	\$10,000
Miami City Ballet, Inc. (motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Mr. Trainer)	\$25,000
Miami Short Film Festival, Inc. (motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Mr. Perez)	\$8,960
National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, Inc. (motion by Mr. Jensen; seconded by Mr. Trainer)	\$10,000
The Miami Children's Museum, Inc. (motion by Mr. Jensen; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)	\$18,120
The Musical Arts Association of Miami, Inc. (motion by Mr. Pérez; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)	\$10,000
Young Patronesses of the Opera, Inc. (motion by Mr. Jensen; seconded by Mr. Trainer)	\$10,000

Ms. Ibargüen inquired about the source of the funds for The Children's Trust. Mr. Spring noted that The Children's Trust is a dedicated source of property tax revenue established by voter referendum and that Commission Levine Cava is on the board of the Trust.

Mr. Aguirre thanked Ms. Pezoldt and other staff members for their excellent preparation.

Ms. Sigars-Malina entered the meeting at 12:30 PM.

FY 2015-2016 Community Grants (CG) Grants Program Panel

The recommendation for the FY 2015-2016 Community Grants (CG) Grants Program Panel was approved unanimously. (motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Mr. Jensen)

Miami-Dade County Budget: FY 2015-2016 Grants Recommendations for Annual Programs

Ms. Margol reported that Miami Contemporary Dance Company has gone out of business. The \$45,000 allocated to them through the Cultural Advancement Grants Program - Category B is recommended to be redirected to Culture Shock Miami.

All other grant allocations will remain the same as FY 2014-2015.

Mr. Spring noted that second budget hearing will begin on September 16 at 5:01 PM. He also noted that there was no discussion about the Department's budget at the first budget hearing.

He reported that the budget to operate the 7th Avenue – Carver Theater is expected to be resolved at the second budget hearing. Negotiations with Fantasy Theater Factory and M Ensemble are underway. With a proposed budget of approximately \$400,000, Fantasy Theater Factory will manage operations of the theater and M Ensemble will be the resident theater company.

Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez inquired about funds to repair or restore artwork. Mr. Spring noted that the funds are part of the Art in Public Places budget.

Mr. Pérez asked how many pieces are in the collection. Mr. Spring reported that there are currently more than 700 pieces.

Ms. Ibarguen asked why there was a direct allocation of \$1.3 million for certain organizations. Mr. Spring noted that the Board of County Commissioners removed them from the competitive process in favor of direct allocations.

FY 2015-2016 Summer Arts and Science (SAS-C) Grants Program Guidelines

The guidelines for the FY 2015-2016 Summer Arts and Science (SAS-C) Grants Program were approved unanimously. (motion by Mr. Jensen; seconded by Mr. Trainer)

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Requests for Excused Absences for September 16, 2015

Requests for excused absences submitted by Rosa Sugrañes and Phyllis Simpkins were approved unanimously. (motion by Mr. Perez; seconded by Mr. Bierman)

FY 2015-2016 Community Grants Program Recommendations – First Quarter

The FY 2015-2016 Community Grants program Panel chaired by Janá Sigars-Malina convened on August 27, 2015, to review 28 applications requesting \$229,320.00 for the First Quarter of the program. The Panel recommended funding 28 applicants for a total of \$160,000.00.

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:

Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez - Alyans Atizay Ayisyen and Alyans Atizay Ayisyen a/f/a for Future Roots Collective

Mr. Trainer - Miami Short Film Festival and The University of Miami, Frost School of Music

Ms. Gerson - University of Miami, Frost School of Music

Mr. Pérez - University of Miami, Frost School of Music

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

7eventhDay Media, Inc.	\$5,625.00
Amplifyme, Inc.	\$5,625.00
Anchor Arts Management, Inc. a/f/a for Nu Flamenco Collaborative, Inc	\$5,625.00
Centro Cultural Español de Cooperacion Iberoamericana, Inc. a/f/a for Aluna Art Foundation	\$2,258.00
Community Performing Arts Association, Inc.	\$7,500.00
Cuban American Phototheque Foundation, Inc.	\$3,750.00
FLORIDA DANCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION, INC.	\$5,625.00
Greater South Dade/South Miami/Kendall Chamber of Commerce, Inc. d/b/a Chamber South	\$7,500.00
Hispanic American Lyric Theatre, Inc. a/f/a for Yo Best Productions Corp.	\$5,625.00
Italian Film Festival, Inc.	\$4,875.00
Living Arts Trust. Inc. d/b/a O Cinema a/f/a for BISTOURY, INC.	\$5,625.00
McCauley Fund To Cure Paralysis, Inc. d/b/a Rise Up Gallery	\$4,500.00
Merrick Festival Incorporated	\$7,500.00
Miami Dade Broadband Coalition, Inc. a/f/a for Geeki Girl, Inc.	\$5,625.00
Miami-Dade County Parks Recreation and Open Spaces - Disability Services	\$5,625.00
Music in Miami, Inc.	\$5,625.00
PAXy, Inc.	\$5,625.00
Peter London Global Dance Company, Inc.	\$5,625.00
SAVE Foundation, Inc. a/f/a for Homo Sapiens	\$4,365.00

South Florida National Parks Trust, Inc.	\$3,000.00
Stars of the Performing Arts, Inc.	\$5,625.00
The German School of South Florida, Inc.	\$4,125.00
The Sunflower Society, Inc.	\$3,750.00
Village of Pinecrest - Pinecrest Gardens	\$7,500.00

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

Alyans Atizay Ayisyen, Inc. (motion by Ms. Gerson; seconded by Mr. Bierman)	\$3,750.00
Alyans Atizay Ayisyen, Inc. a/f/a for Future Roots Collective (motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina; seconded by Mr. Bierman)	\$5,625.00
Miami Short Film Festival, Inc. (motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)	\$11,251.00
University of Miami, Frost School of Music (motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina; seconded by Ms. Ibarguen)	\$11,251.00

Ms. Ibarguen inquired as to whether or not there is an issue with the County funding the John Paul II Film Festival. Ms. Barba noted that because of the nature of the organization, the application went through a very thorough review to determine that there would not be a issue.

Mr. Bierman asked if the grant program encouraged local filmmakers. Mr. Spring noted that while the Department does not currently have a grants program dedicated to local film production, a number of the grants programs support the activities of independent filmmakers, including the South Florida Cultural Consortium's Visual and Media Artists Fellowship Program.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Culture Shock Miami - Discount Tickets for Youth Program

Ms. Beauvoir reported that Culture Shock Miami prepares to wrap up its current season with more than 460 events made available to its target audience since the beginning of the 2014-2015 fiscal year. To date, 9,879 tickets have been sold for the current 2014-2015 cultural season. In addition, 2,005 students have been reached through free outreach performances and workshops in collaboration with the Miami-Dade Public School System and the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, bringing the program's total reach to date to 11,884. This represents an increase of 14.47% from the 2013-2014 cultural season.

Ms. Beauvoir introduced Katherine Robertson who is working with the program as an intern. She will be working with outreach and social media. She will also serve as the liaison for the student council.

Department Facilities Update

South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC)

Mr. Fliss reported that Thomas Armour Youth Ballet ended a very successful summer camp in August. The Center also hosted Miami Lyric Opera's production of *Rigoletto* and a camp for Guitars over Guns.

The Center produced *Tsunami* by Nilo Cruz which ran for 13 performances. Reviews of the show were excellent.

SMDCAC will be presenting a film series, Indie Flicks. Screenings are funded in part by a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment of the Arts.

In partnership with Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, the Center will be hosting regular dance classes, three days a week. Students who qualify for the reduced lunch program at school or are low income will receive reduced rates.

Joseph Caleb Auditorium

Ms. Valles reported that 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.

Ms. Valles noted that construction on the garage has been delayed. Within the next week, construction will begin on the tower structure.

To date, the Auditorium has had an attendance of 36,288 for FY 2014-2015.

7th Avenue – Carver Theater

Mr. Spring reported that an operating agreement between Fantasy Theater Factory and M Ensemble is being drafted. Fantasy Theater Factory will handle all operational needs and M Ensemble will serve as the resident theater company.

Art in Public Places Update

Ms. Reddick reported that Fringe Projects, temporary art installations throughout downtown as part of DWNTWN Arts Days, took place September 11 - 13. Among the featured artists were Dara Friedman, David Brooks and Nate Page.

In collaboration with Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces and the Friends of the Underline, Art in Public Places (APP) received a \$200,000 grant from ArtPlace America to implement a series of temporary art projects for a 10-mile park underneath the Metrorail. The consulting artist team of Bhakti Baxter, Nicolas Lobo, Naomi Fisher and Augustina Woodgate will collaborate to create works that vary in duration.

In collaboration with the University of Miami School of Communications, APP received a \$60,000 grant from the Knight Foundation to implement a series of temporary public art installations that will examine the impact of sea level rise on Miami-Dade County. A Call to Artists has been issued and will close on September 30, 2015.

APP is working with the City of Miami Beach to implement the public art requirements for the renovation and expansion of the City of Miami Beach Convention Center, a \$4.3 million project. Nineteen international artists will present proposals beginning September 28, 2015.

Ms. Reddick reported that APP has been approached by the Downtown Development Authority to administer the Downtown Baywalk Project. The proposed project will link downtown Miami's waterfront properties by creating a publicly accessible walkway along Biscayne Bay.

Mr. Aguirre inquired about the selection process for the City of Miami Beach Convention Center. Mr. Spring noted that a panel from the the City of Miami Beach Art in Public Places program has been appointed to review the proposals. He has been chosen to chair the deliberations. Ultimately, the finalists chosen by the panel will go before the City of Miami Beach Commission for approval.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

- Mr. Spring introduced new employee Olga Gonzalez who is working with Ms. Lee on the accounting needs of the department.
- He noted that the Department's facilities received more "Top Picks" in *The Miami Herald* Season Preview section than any other facility.
- Ms. Ibarguen expressed concern that there was a general lack of awareness about the work of the Cultural Affairs Council. Mr. Spring noted that all money is directed toward transactional activities, selling tickets as opposed to brand awareness. Mr. Henriques observed that there is high recognition and appreciation within the arts community of the Council's and Department's work.
- Mr. Spring noted that the Department has a set of talking points which will be redistributed to Councilors at the next meeting.
- Mr. Aguirre inquired about orientation on the Department's work for new officials. Mr. Spring reported that there is a very thorough orientation for new County officials.
- Mr. Spring reported that the Department will be hosting a summit celebrating the silver anniversary of the American with Disabilities Act. The event will be held at the Arsht Center September 24-25 and will feature national experts.
- Mr. Spring reported that the research and analysis phase for the Coconut Grove Playhouse is underway.

COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Mr. Trainer reported that New Word School of the Arts students continue to receive awards including BFA graduate Rafael Domenech who received the Tulsa Artist Fellowship.
- Ms. Sigars-Malina reported that the Bromeliad Society of South Florida will be holding a rare plant auction in October at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. She also noted that Fairchild has a new website.
- Mr. Jensen reported that the Redland Farm Life School will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2016. He also reported that the Seminole Theatre will open in November.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerry Landreth