

Memorandum



Date: December 14, 2016

To: Members, Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring, Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Spring". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

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 their 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. The A/E team is in the process of developing the construction documents, while the Department provides interim reviews.

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.

- African Heritage Cultural Arts Center: \$1.0 million + \$500,000 State Cultural Facilities Grant
- Joseph Caleb Auditorium: \$1.4 million (balance remaining)

- Miami-Dade County Auditorium: \$4.0 million + \$500,000 State Cultural Facilities Grant

The Department has actively pursued and continues to apply for additional funding from the State Cultural Facilities Grant Program through the following applications:

- FY 15-16 \$500,000 for the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center (awarded);
- FY 16-17 \$500,000 for Miami-Dade County Auditorium (awarded);
- FY 17-18 \$500,000 for Caleb Auditorium (application submitted on June 6, 2016; review panel met on October 26th and ranked the application number 14 of the 44 applications recommended for funding; funding pending approval by State legislature). The list of ranked applications is available at: <http://dos.florida-arts.org/grants/ranked-lists/createlist.cfm?program=cf&fy=2018&purpose=post>

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 2016-2017 | November 2016 |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Total number of students registered: | 90 | 5 |
| Number of arts production rentals: | 41 | 23 |
| Number of community rentals: | 41 | 26 |
| Number of arts groups using the Center: | 19 | 18 |
| Number of times arts groups use the Center: | 102 | 92 |
| Number of civic meetings: | 56 | 33 |
| Number of tours and outreach: | 52 | 36 |

Program highlights for November 2016 included:

- The After School Arts Program and the Saturday Arts Workshop continue to enhance the students' talents in the performing and visual arts. The curriculum is comprised of multi-arts classes and programs on a beginning, intermediate and advanced-level instruction in the classical, contemporary and ethnic forms of the arts. The After School Arts program consists of five sessions, each spanning 8 weeks, except for the last session which spans 7 weeks. At the conclusion of each session, a showcase production is presented to the parents and to the community to demonstrate the students' progressive development. The second session showcase will be held on December 16th at 6:00 PM.
- The Jonathan Spikes Foundation and Affirming Youth Organization, both in residency at the AHCAC, opened the South Florida premier production of a new powerful and moving play, *I AM WHAT I AM and I AM NOT WHAT YOU CALL ME*, written by Jonathan Spikes and Shanteria Griglen. The original play was directed by Andre' L. Gainey and featured set designs by Rachel Finley. Nearly 1000 patrons enjoyed the play staged at the Wendell A. Narcisse Performing Arts Theater during fourteen productions that ran from November 12 through November 20. Miami-Dade County Public Schools, with extensive support from District 2 School Board Member Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, partnered with the Center to bring 460 students from nine high schools (Booker T. Washington Senior High School, Central Senior High School, North Miami Senior High School, Miami Norland Senior High School, Miami Senior High School, American

Senior High School, Michael Krop Senior High, Miami Jackson Senior High and Miami Northwestern Senior High) to experience the production and participate in discussions with the artists.

- Playwright Tarell Alvin McCraney, an African Heritage Cultural Arts Center alumnus, is receiving glowing reviews and awards for the film *Moonlight*, partly filmed at the Center. Adapted from McCraney's unproduced play, *Moonlight That Makes Black Boy Look Blue*, the film has been nominated for nine 2016 Critic's Choice Awards and six Film Independent Spirit Awards, and won three Gotham Awards (Best Feature, a Special Jury Award and Best Screenplay). McCraney is also a recipient of the 2016 Knight Arts Challenge for the proposed creation of the 305/One Festival, which will celebrate the unique storytelling and solo performers emerging from Miami with a series of performances, film screenings and cultural activities.
- The Miami Urban Contemporary Experience (MUCE), in residency in the Amadlozi Gallery at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, presented *YOLAH! (YOUTH OF LA HABANA)* with an opening reception on November 26. The exhibition features a visual journey inside Cuba's African diaspora, bringing a dynamic cultural experience through photographic motifs celebrating Afro-Cuban youth and global exploration of black beauty of the pre-colonization era. Featuring the work of photographers Lee Hazzard and Saddi Khali and memorabilia from the Celia Cruz Foundation, the exhibition will remain in the Amadlozi Gallery through January 5, 2017.
- The Top Ladies of Distinction, a community civic resident at the Center, hosted its annual *Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon* in the Concert Hall on November 19 and had over fifty senior citizens in attendance. The organization's mission is to enhance the ideals, standards and general welfare of the community through service by encouraging and promoting activities that are conducive to the betterment of the urban community.
- Cheryl Mizell, the marketing director for the Center, is providing bi-weekly presentations announcing afro-centric arts events, including all of the Center's programming, to listeners of Cox Media's 99 JAMZ radio station. In addition to the Center's November 2016 events, Ms. Mizell reports on upcoming events at the Center such as:
 - The After School and Saturday Arts classes Holiday Show featuring dance, theater and vocal music presentations on Friday, December 16, 2016 at 6pm;
 - Open enrollment for the Kuumba - Winter Arts Workshop beginning Tuesday, December 27th – Friday, January 6, 2017;
 - The Center's production of *Venus*, January 11th through February 5, 2017 in the Wendell Narcisse Performing Arts Theater;
 - The Voices of Heritage (VOH) presentation of *The Journey*, a musical celebration honoring the VOH's 20th anniversary on Saturday, March 25, 2017;
 - The 3rd Annual Sankofa Jazz Fest on Saturday April 8, 2017;
 - *Together We Dance* on April 22, 2017; and
 - *Entourage* on April 29, 2017.

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. 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.

Joseph Caleb Auditorium attendance for fiscal year 2016-2017 is 10,231 to date.

Events for the month of November:

November 21, 2016 - Commissioner Audrey Edmonson Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway

Upcoming events in December:

- December 6, 2016 – Brazilian Voices School Performance
- December 9, 2016 – Hispanic Flamenco
- December 17, 2016 – AKI YAP Fall 2016 Culminating Event
- December 17, 2016 – Commissioner Audrey Edmonson’s Toy Giveaway

Miami-Dade County Auditorium

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

1. A 2,372-seat Main Stage theatre for major dance, theatre and music performances;
2. A “Mid-Stage” 450-seat theatre, utilized 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 the audience and performers share the stage of the Auditorium in an innovative studio theatre for more intimate and often, cutting edge shows.

MDCA welcomes more than 100,000 guests a year. Since the theatre opened its doors in 1951, MDCA 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. Programs are presented in English, Spanish and sometimes both. In order to best serve Miami’s diverse, multilingual audiences and persons with disabilities, simultaneous translation from English to Spanish and Spanish to English is made available through supertitles and live translation.

MDCA partners with outstanding non-profit cultural organizations and artists such as Centro Cultural Español, Guggenheim Fellowship winner Alexey Taran, and Pulitzer Prize-winning Cuban American playwright Nilo Cruz, to present high quality performances in the Main Stage, Mid-Stage and On.Stage Black Box configurations. With the objective of cultivating the work of outstanding, diverse arts groups and artists, MDCA co-presents with artistically excellent cultural organizations including Fundarte, Tigertail Productions, MDC Live (Miami Dade College’s performing arts series) and Teatro Avante. These partnerships have been instrumental in reasserting MDCA’s role as a significant hub of cultural exchange and an incubator for supporting and developing the work of Miami-Dade County’s premiere arts groups and artists.

The following is a summary of activity at MDCA:

| | FY 2016-2017 | November |
|-------------------|--------------|----------|
| Number of Events: | 33 | 14 |
| Attendance: | 16,230 | 9,785 |

Program highlights and rentals for November:

- In collaboration with FundArte and Culture Shock Miami, MDCA presented *Los Silencios del Baile* performed by Casa Patas Foundation. This marks the fourth consecutive year that Casa Patas performs at MDCA. The group’s audience has been growing steadily each year, whereby the initial one show offered in the On.Stage Black Box configuration has now grown to two shows in the Mid-Stage Theatre configuration with over 700 guests attending this year’s events.
- MDCA, in collaboration with Arca Images, presented *Lorca en un Vestido Verde*, written and directed by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Nilo Cruz. The story tells a fictional account of what the author imagines could have happened to the famed Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca upon his death. In what has become a constant hallmark in collaborations with Mr. Cruz, this production enjoyed glowing reviews from the critics and sold-out shows.
- MDCA, in collaboration with HALT and Dimensions Theater, presented the inaugural performance by the new dance company created by former Miami City Ballet stars Jennifer Kronenberg and Carlos Guerra. The beautifully staged performance, titled *Between Havana and Heaven*, was well received by both critics and patrons. The performance, originally scheduled for our Mid-Stage Theatre, was moved to the Orchestra Theatre configuration due to high ticketing demand.
- MDCA proudly hosted the installment ceremony of Miami-Dade County’s elected officials (Mayor and Commissioners).

For more information on MDCA’s events and offerings, please visit the website at: 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 2015-2016 | November 2016 |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|
| SMDCAC Presents | 17 | 10 |
| Number of Events: | 36 | 16 |
| Attendance: | 4,754 | 3,612 |

SMDCAC presented the following events in November:

- November 5: Monty Alexander: Harlem-Kingston Express
- November 11: Comic Cure: No Strings Attached
- November 12: B-The Underwater Bubble Show
- November 12-13: Siempre Flamenco
- November 17: Jose Limón class with Adrenaline Dance
- November 18: Jose Limón class with Miami Youth Ballet
- November 19: Limón Dance Company
 - Limón Dance Company Master Class for advanced dancers
- November 26: Estampas Porteñas Tango Company

Rentals for the month of November included:

- Every Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday: SMDCAC Dance Classes
- Every Tuesday: Pridelines meeting
- November 4: Laugh Till It Hurts (Comedy Show)
- November 16,13,20: City Reach Network Services

Upcoming events at the Center include:

- December 2-3: Miami Youth Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker*
- December 9: Winter Holiday Celebration Presented in Partnership with the Town of Cutler Bay and Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava
- December 10: *Elephant and Piggie's We Are In A Play*
- December 10: *The Hot Sardines, A Sardine Christmas*
- December 16: Seraphic Fire's On Winter's Night Holiday Concert

November Highlights:

- The Center held a reception with dignitaries and members of the Caribbean community in conjunction with the Jamaica Tourist Board before the Monty Alexander show.
- The Monty Alexander performance was aired live on WDNA 88.9 jazz radio.
- The Center hosted a pre-performance talk with Danny Lewis (former dancer and former Dean of New World School of the Arts Dance Department) and Colin Connor (Artistic Director) before the Limón Dance performance.
- Limón Dance Company was featured in *The Miami Herald*, *New Times* and *Art Burst* and Estampas Porteñas Tango Company was featured in *El Nuevo Herald*.
- The Center was present at the Miami Book Fair with a marketing booth (November 19 and 20)

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



Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

AFRICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

After School Arts Academy

Music. Theater. Dance. Visual Arts. Fashion.



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Ages 5 - 16

August 22, 2016 - June 8, 2017 · 2pm - 6pm

Transportation is available from selected Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

For more information please call or visit our website

6161 NW 22 Avenue Miami, Florida 33142 (305)-638-6771 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 material 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).



Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

AFRICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

Saturday Arts Workshop

Music. Theater. Dance. Visual Arts. Fashion.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Ages 5 - 16



October 1, 2016 - May 20, 2017 10:30am - 2:30pm

Students participate in three performing and/or visual art classes.

For more information please call or visit our website

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Stage Production: *I AM WHAT I AM and I AM NOT WHAT YOU CALL ME* (November 12-20)



Tarell Alvin McCraney, alumnus of the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, Playwright and Executive Producer for the award-winning film *Moonlight*



Gotham Awards

MIAMI - DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
AFRICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER
PRESENTS

YOLAH!

FEATURING ARTIST **LEE HAZZARD & SADDI KHALI**
11/26/16 - 01/05/17
CURATED BY: BART MERVIL-MIAMI URBAN CONTEMPORARY EXPERIENCE

OPENING RECEPTION

NOVEMBER 26TH
6PM - 9PM

AMADLOZI | GALLERY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
6161 NW 22ND AVENUE, MIAMI FL 33142

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Miami Urban Contemporary Experience (MUCE) in residency in the Amadlozi Gallery at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, presented YOLAH! (YOUTH OF LA HABANA) Art Exhibition

Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

AFRICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

KUUMBA WINTER ARTS WORKSHOP

Music. Theater. Dance. Visual Arts. Fashion.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN



DECEMBER 27, 2016 - JANUARY 6, 2017

(CLOSED ON MONDAY)

AGES 5-16

7:30 AM - 6:00 PM

This specialized program offers students an opportunity to explore a variety of performing and visual arts classes.

For more information please call or visit our website

6161 NW 22 Avenue Miami, Florida 33142 (305)-638-6771 ahcacmiami.org



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Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

AFRICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

6161 NW 22 Avenue Miami, Florida 33142 (305)-638-6771 ahcacmiami.org

2017 UPCOMING EVENTS





Casa Patas Foundation's *Los Silencios del Baile* performed in the Mid-Stage Theatre configuration
(November 5-6)



Lorca en un Vestido Verde
written and directed by
Pulitzer Prize-winning
author Nilo Cruz
(Nov.12-13 and 17-19)



Dimensions Dance Theatre's inaugural presentation *Between Havana and Heaven* (November 20)



Miami Youth Ballet Master Class with Limón Dance Company

