

Memorandum



Date: November 19, 2025
To: Members, Cultural Affairs Council
From: Ashlee K. Thomas, Interim Director
Subject: [Arts Education, Access & Engagement](#)

Culture Shock Miami (CSM) 2025-26 Updates –

- Program reach to date: 955 (ticket sales)
 - October 2025: 415
 - November 2025: 540
- Culture Shock Miami is preparing for the 2025-26 holiday season. In addition to the annual recruitment of events from cultural partners, special efforts are being made to collaborate more closely with organizations presenting holiday programs. To date, 16 free performances and 17 paid performances have been made available, resulting in 357 tickets. Holiday season ticket donations were provided by –
 - Area Stage
 - Armour Dance Theatre
 - Brevo Theatre
 - Beautiful Gates Production
 - Coral Gables Art Cinema
 - Dennis C. Moss Cultural Arts Center
 - FilmGate Miami
 - Miami City Ballet
 - Seraphic Fire

The Miami Book Fair has also provided 200 tickets to the 2025 festival taking place November 21-23.

- The Department engaged with the Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services and the Sheriff's Office, sponsoring a performance by Guitars Over Guns, at the Turn Around Police Academy (TAP) Graduation Ceremony on November 15. Launched in 2021, TAP is an intensive 11-week program offering a structured curriculum designed to transform the perspective of arrested and at-risk youth (age 13-17), encourage community service, and improve their relationship with law enforcement. Arts Education is exploring opportunities to continue this collaboration with Juvenile Services and the Sheriff's office by including an arts component in the TAP's Spring curriculum.
- In an effort to amplify the 20th Anniversary of Culture Shock Miami, marketing efforts are focusing on evergreen campaigns about the success of the program, and building a network of contacts for promotional opportunities at local colleges and universities. Our efforts also include brand enhancement with a new graphic treatment that promotes our programs to teens across Miami-Dade County.

- To date, Culture Shock Miami's subscriber newsletter list totals 25,901, and Instagram reached over 3,208 followers during the month of November.