

# Memorandum



**Date:** June 16, 2021  
**To:** Members Cultural Affairs  
**From:** Michael Spring Director  
**Subject:** FY 2021-2022 Cultural Development Grants Program Recommendations

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

In light of the uncertainty surrounding the long-term impact of Covid-19 on public programs scheduled to begin after October 1, 2021, staff advised the Cultural Development Grants Program Panel at the panel's orientation to review and score each proposal based upon the quality of the application and the ability to satisfactorily address each of the evaluation criteria, as stated in the program's guidelines. The award recommendations will be computed using the established funding formula for this program. The program's FY 2021-2022 total allocation and the recommended grant award amounts per grantee will be presented to the Council for final review later this summer after all the Spring cycle grants program panels have convened and preliminary FY 2021-2022 budget numbers are received.

Final grant awards are contingent upon the availability of funds in the Department's FY 2021-2022 budget, which is subject to the County's Budget as adopted in September 2021. At that time the Department will assess the grantee's feasibility of presenting public programs in traditional venues and performing spaces; if necessary, the Department is prepared to exercise appropriate contractual flexibility to include virtual programs and other program delivery strategies, as may be necessary.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Council approve the funding of 19 grants for the FY 2021-2022 Cultural Development Grants Program.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Cultural Development Grants Program, chaired by Council member Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez convened on May 27, 2021 to review 19 applications requesting a total of \$1,140,000. The panel recommended funding all 19 applications.

The Cultural Development Grants Program, provides general operating support grants and technical assistance to a selected group of Miami-Dade County's mid-sized, artistically accomplished and culturally diverse performing, visual, literary and presenting arts organizations that are defining the cultural and artistic voice of Miami. Qualifying organizations are committed year-round to the creation or presentation of art which demonstrate the potential to achieve regional, national, or international visibility as evidenced by current programs and management structure and many times engage in strategic partnerships for greater artistic success.

The panel specifically evaluated each applicant organization based on the following competitive review criteria: 1) artistic merit; 2) management and financial capability; 3) efforts leading to long-term cultural enrichment for Miami-Dade County; and 4) effective and illuminating education programs and public outreach initiatives to specialized populations.

Funding for the Cultural Development Grants Program is derived from departmental proprietary revenues. All funding recommendations are contingent upon approval of the Department of Cultural Affairs' FY 2021-2022 budget by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and Mayor and are subject to availability of funds.

Attached is a list describing the projects recommended for funding.

## **MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS FY 2021-2022 CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM**

### **1. Ballet Flamenco la Rosa, Inc.** *FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the upcoming season of Ballet Flamenco la Rosa, a company dedicated to presenting authentic Flamenco dance with live music in theatrical settings and expand the art form beyond traditional limits and appeal to broad based audiences. This season the company will present collaborations of new works as part of their mainstage season at the Colony Theater on Miami Beach. Additionally, the company will continue to present smaller-scale performances at various venues throughout Miami Dade County and continue its series of educational and outreach performances in collaboration with various community-based organizations.

### **2. Chopin Foundation of the United States, Inc.** *FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the season activities of the Chopin Foundation of the United States, including the "Chopin for All" Free concert series, Chopin Salon Concerts, and three events presented in collaboration with other organizations. All events will take place within Miami-Dade County including venues such as Granada Presbyterian Church in Coral Gables, the Key Biscayne Community Center and the Chopin Foundation Salon in North Bay Village, among others. The Chopin Foundation of the United States seeks to assist young American pianists develop their careers as international concert artists and make the music of Frederic Chopin accessible to all audiences.

### **3. Contemporary Art Foundation (The Rubell Museum)** *FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the exhibition season at the Rubell Museum, located in the Allapattah neighborhood in the city of Miami. The mission of the Rubell Museum/Contemporary Arts Foundation is to support diverse artists at an early and critical stage of their development by acquiring, exhibiting, preserving and sharing their artwork. The museum brings contemporary art to an underserved part of Miami and prompts cultural engagement and debate, an essential freedom of a democratic society, by sharing with the world the physical and intellectual properties of art.

### **4. Coral Gables Congregational Church** *FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the Coral Gables Congregational Church Community Arts Program. The program stages its renowned June-August Summer Concert Series of internationally-renowned jazz and classical artists in performances and master classes. The program also offers an August-May Conservatory for the Arts to provide children (ages 5-18) with affordable in-depth music theory classes, one-on-one instrument training, and "active-learning" ensembles.

### **5. Cuban Classical Ballet of Miami** *FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the season of Cuban Classical Ballet of Miami. Founded in 2006, the company seeks to promote the art of classical ballet and the Cuban ballet style while developing future

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career classical dancers. This season's performances will take place at the Lehman Theater at Miami Dade College – North Campus, the Miami Dade County Auditorium and the Seminole Theater in Homestead. Additionally, special presentations of children's classics will be presented for students.

**6. Florida International University Board of Trustees, School of Music** *CDG award to be determined based upon available allocation*  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

Funds are requested to support the FIU Music Season presented by the Florida International University School of Music. The season will continue celebrating an over 20 years in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center with many world-renowned musicians. The concert season will include chamber festivals, chamber series, and orchestral, jazz, chorus, and Latin music. A distinguished lecture series of how music reaches far beyond the music community will also be presented.

**7. FUNDarte, Inc.** *CDG award to be determined based upon available allocation*  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

Funds are requested to support FUNDarte's season of cultural programming, serving South Florida's widely diverse community while supporting professional opportunities for local artists; educational residency activities with visiting artists that expand creative, critical and social perspectives among participants; and international exchange projects with artists in different disciplines and geographic locations.

**8. Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Inc.** *CDG award to be determined based upon available allocation*  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

Funds are requested to support activities and programs at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center. The center is dedicated to protecting the natural environment by providing environmental educational programs to the private and public school systems, as well as hosting various cultural arts events and programs that celebrate the environment. Events include rotating art exhibits, outdoor installations and lectures. All events will take place at the Biscayne Nature Center located on Key Biscayne.

**9. Miami Beach Garden Conservancy** *CDG award to be determined based upon available allocation*  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

Funds are requested to support the development and execution of horticulture and education programs, arts and culture programs; including music, live performance and visual art, lecture series, family programming and film presentations at the Miami Beach Botanical Garden. General access to the garden is free and open to the public.

**10. Miami Dade College – Koubek Center** *CDG award to be determined based upon available allocation*  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

Funds are requested to support the Koubek Center's season of multidisciplinary, Hispanic heritage-rooted programs which include The Little Havana Social Club, a live music series celebrating Miami's diverse Latin cultures; Playtime, a bilingual cultural series for families; and En Residencia, an artist-residency program rooted in social practice for Latino artists. Located in Little Havana, the Koubek Center seeks to produce and present multi-disciplinary artistic programs that inspire, inform and entertain as well as build community through the arts.

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**11. Miami Dade College - Lynn and Louis Wolfson II  
Florida Moving Image Archives**  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the series of curated screenings and activities which explore the history and culture of Florida, especially South Florida, by means of its moving images, whether film or video offered at the Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Archives at the Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus. Since 1960, the Wolfson Archives is dedicated to preserving Florida's moving image history, sharing Florida's moving image history with educators, students, historians and individuals interested in Florida, providing filmmakers valuable visual elements for telling their stories, providing a nurturing training ground for future archivists, becoming a center for excellence and expertise in film preservation.

**12. Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center, Inc.**  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the season of programs presented by the Cultural Arts Department of the Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center (MARJCC). This season, the Department will present a variety of community oriented cultural arts programming designed to appeal to general audiences, including dance programs, theatre presentations, a concerts series, author presentations, film and educational lectures. Programs will take place at the MARJCC and various locations throughout Miami-Dade County.

**13. New World School of the Arts - Dance Division**  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the New World School of the Arts (NWSA) Dance Division's Professional Choreographers' Presentation Series. National and internationally renowned professional choreographers will create and/or stage significant works of dance in collaboration with professional dancers from NWSA. Each work will be premiered for the general public as part of the New World School of the Arts' Dance Division Concert Series in the fall and and spring. Performances will take place at various locations, including the New World School of the Arts Theater, the Little Haiti Cultural Arts Center, the Olympia Theatre at the Gusman Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Miami, and the Aventura Arts and Cultural Center, among others.

**14. Olympia Center, Inc.**  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the presenting efforts of the *Olympia Theater Presents!* series. The series includes performing, visual arts, history, and humanities programming to audiences along the Flagler District corridor in downtown Miami. This season's activities include programs such as Street Stages, Bicycle Theatre and Street Art Galleries exhibitions.

**15. Orchestra Miami, Inc.**  
*FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the performing season of Orchestra Miami, whose mission is to provide symphonic music for all residents of South Florida. This season, Orchestra Miami will present several concerts for adults and children, which will take place at various venues throughout Miami-Dade County,

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including Pinecrest Gardens, the North Beach Bandshell, and Miami Dade County Auditorium, among others. In addition, Orchestra Miami will continue its education and outreach program at various schools throughout Miami-Dade County.

### **16. Patrons of Exceptional Artists** *FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds will be used to support Patron's of Exceptional Artists' *Miami International Piano Festival* season including the *Miami Beach Discovery Series* at the Colony Theatre and the Aventura Cultural Series at the Aventura Cultural Arts Center as well as outreach initiatives at the Betsy Hotel Piano Salon. Both Series feature exceptional education opportunities with the artists and noted musicologist, Dr. Frank Cooper. Patrons of Exceptional Artists seeks to to discover, promote, support, and document the masters of the keyboard emerging in this generation; rediscover repertoire; serve as a resource to agents, promoters, and orchestras; and build audiences of the future to help ensure the existence of classical music.

### **17. The Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center, Inc** *FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the season of programs presented by the Cultural Arts Department at the Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center in Kendall. The department presents a full series of cultural, performing, literary, fine and visual arts programming at the center and other venues primarily located in central Miami-Dade. This season's programs include, but are not limited to, the annual Jewish Book Festival, visual art exhibitions by Sandi Goldman and the *Terra inFirma* exhibition program, and dance performances by local dance companies.

### **18. The Dance Now! Ensemble, Inc.** *FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support the Dance Now! Ensemble performing season. This organization seeks to develop contemporary modern dance theatre that articulates the international cultural life of South Florida and reflect the region's multi-ethnicity. This season includes a twenty-four week season with six (6) main stage concerts, four (4) community/site specific performances and educational programming which include classes, a summer intensive, lecture/demonstrations and open rehearsals at the Little Haiti Cultural Complex. The company will present their mainstage performances at the Colony Theatre on Miami Beach, the Little Haiti Cultural Arts Center and the North Beach Bandshell, among others. Educational and outreach performances will take place at various locations throughout Miami-Dade County.

### **19. The Murray Dranoff Foundation, Inc** *FY 2021-2022 Season*

***CDG award to be determined  
based upon available allocation***

Funds are requested to support Dranoff 2 Piano performance season. The Foundaiton will present a season of internationally-renowned pianists and top local artists performing in Miami-Dade County's major concert venues, including the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts and the Aventura Arts and Cultural Center. In addition, the Foundaiton will premiere a 2 piano commission for Miami audiences and present live classical music performances, engaging over 10,000 teens in Miami-Dade County middle and high schools.