

Memorandum



Date: September 20, 2023

To: Members, Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring

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

Subject: FY 2023-2024 Community Grants Program – First Quarter Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approve the funding of 30 grants for a total of \$186,000.00 from the FY 2023-2024 Community Grants Program – First Quarter.

BACKGROUND

The FY 2023-2024 Community Grants program panel, co-chaired by Councilors Janá Sigars-Malina and Sandra Curbelo, convened on August 25, 2023, to review 30 applications requesting \$230,000.00 for the First Quarter of the program. The Panel recommended funding 30 applicants for a total of \$186,000.00.

The projects recommended for funding represent a diversified range of activities and demographic locations. In its deliberations, the Panel carefully considered and applied the Community Grants guidelines as outlined below.

The Community Grants Program is responsive on a quarterly basis to organizations, which develop small and large-scale community-based programs, projects, events, and publications. The program is particularly sensitive to the needs of 1) indigenous cultural neighborhood activities and projects encouraging the preservation of heritage, traditions, and culture; and 2) social service organizations and cultural groups developing collaborative intervention projects.

The Panel specifically evaluated each applicant organization based on the following competitive review criteria: 1) quality of the program; 2) administrative capability; 3) marketing strategy; 4) fundraising efforts; and 5) geographic location of the event. Attached is a list describing the projects being recommended for funding.

Even though we are steadily emerging from the impact of COVID-19 on public programs scheduled for the First Quarter (October 1, 2023 –December 31, 2023), we continue to evaluate each proposal based upon both the quality of the application and the ability to satisfactorily address each of the evaluation criteria, as stated in the program’s guidelines. Before releasing grant funds to organizations, the Department will assess the feasibility of the grantees presenting public programs in identified venues and 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.

Attachment

**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs
FY 2023-2024 Community Grants (CG) – 1st Quarter
Grant Award Recommendations**

1- Afrikin Foundation, Inc. Recommended Award: \$6,370
2408 Florida Street
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
AfriKin Art Fair 2023
12/3/2023 - 12/15/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 2

Funds are requested to support the "Afrikin Art Fair 2023," "Miami's Contemporary Africana Art Fair: Celebrating the Beauty and Brilliance of Global Africa," which explores the fusion of Afrofuturism and traditional African aesthetics with Artificial Intelligence (AI) taking place at Scott Galvin Community Center. All grant funds are used for activities that occur in Miami-Dade County.

2- Afro Borinken Roots Performing Group, Inc. Recommended Award: \$6,370
500 NW 36 Street, #302
Miami, Florida 33127
Parrandón Navideño (Puerto Rican Christmas Concert)
12/9/2023 - 12/9/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 6

Funds are requested to support "Parrandón Navideño," a holiday concert featuring traditional Puerto Rican Christmas music and dances, including Villancicos (Christmas Carols), Aguinaldos (Folk Music), Plena y Bomba (Afro-Puerto Rican rhythms), and traditional plena dancing taking place at the Teatro Trail / Trail Theater.

3- Alyans Atizay Ayisyen, Inc. d/b/a Haitian Cultural Arts Alliance, Inc. Recommended Award: \$6,370
225 NE 59 Street
Miami, Florida 33137
Defiance: Open Resistance; Bold Disobedience
11/10/2023 - 12/31/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3

Funds are requested to support "Defiance: Open Resistance; Bold Disobedience," a documentary photography exhibition featuring images by Miami-based photojournalists and programming curated by Carl Juste aimed to spark conversations about democracy, protest, and defiance in the post-George Floyd United States, accompanied by a series of public discussions, workshops, and performances focusing on South Florida taking place at IPC ArtSpace.

**The districts identified for each grantee indicate the location(s) of the majority of the particular organizer's performance(s)/event(s)/project(s). However, audiences and participants attending the performance(s)/event(s)/project(s) come from throughout the County and the region.*

**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs
FY 2023-2024 Community Grants (CG) – 1st Quarter
Grant Award Recommendations**

4- Art for Us, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

10 SW South River Drive Neo Loft, #1904
Miami, Florida 33130
Aves al Viento (Birds to the Wind)
11/4/2023 - 11/5/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 5, 6

Funds are requested to support two presentations of the multidisciplinary musical “Aves al Viento (Birds to the Wind), which explores the themes of immigration, uprooting, and family separation, depicting the journey of immigrants taking place at Adriana Barraza Acting Studio.

5- Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc. afa Iberoamerican Art Foundation, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

15939 Biscayne Boulevard
North Miami Beach, Florida 33160
Cinema Venezuela 2023
10/3/2023 - 12/30/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 4, 5

Funds are requested to support the “Cinema Venezuela 2023,” a film festival featuring Venezuelan-made films followed by panel discussions by industry professionals taking place at Miami Dade College Koubek Memorial Center.

6- Arts Connection Foundation, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

1829 SW 22 Terrace
Miami, Florida 33145
Miami New Media Festival 2023
10/7/2023 - 12/10/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 5, 9, 12

Funds are requested to support the 18th edition of the “Miami New Media Festival,” a curated exhibition showcasing video art, performances, and site-specific installations created with emerging and low technological platforms. This year's program takes place at the I.D. Art Lab, Doral Contemporary Art Museum - DORCAM, and Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts, and will feature the topic, “Global Healing.”

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Grant Award Recommendations**

7- Center for Social Change, Inc. a/f/a The Things Lab **Recommended Award: \$4,670**
2103 Coral Way, #200
Miami, Florida 33145
The Things Lab
10/1/2023 - 3/31/2024

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 5

Funds are requested to support the inaugural pop-up of "The Things Lab," an interactive thrift-type store art installation and community space that doubles as a lending library for a curated collection of items. All the materials and objects procured for this initiative are rescued from landfills, and through creative repurposing, they are granted new life and purpose, promoting sustainable practices and reducing waste.

8- Center for Social Change, Inc. a/f/a Impact.Edition **Recommended Award: \$6,370**
2103 Coral Way, #200
Miami, Florida 33145
Who Is Miami: Storytelling for Change
11/24/2023 - 12/22/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 2, 3, 5, 6, 9

Funds are requested to support the multimedia transit storytelling exhibition "Who Is Miami: Storytelling for Change," a photodocumentary aimed to highlight the efforts of local changemakers advancing social and environmental justice in Miami. This exhibit will be displayed in bus stop shelters throughout Miami-Dade.

9- Centro Cultural de Puerto Rico en el Sur De La Florida, Inc. **Recommended Award: \$4,247**
7740 SW 100 Court
Miami, Florida 33173
Primer Encuentro De Trovadores (First Meeting of Troubadours)
11/12/2023 - 11/12/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 6, 10

Funds are requested to support "Primer Encuentro De Trovadores (First Meeting of Troubadours)," an interactive musical presentation celebrating history, art, poetry, cuisine, and music through Cuban and Puerto Rican troubadours improvising audience-provided statements into song-poems, showcasing the vibrant folkloric traditions of both cultures taking place at the Rebeca Sosa Theater.

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Grant Award Recommendations**

10- Collaboartive, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

4726 SW 75 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33155
Creative Play Programming
10/2/2023 - 12/20/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 5, 6

Funds are requested to support "Creative Play programming" a monthly open artist residence program showcasing exhibitions and activations by local artists, including workshops and artist talks taking place at the InterContinental Miami Hotel.

11- Community Performing Arts Association, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

15250 SW 108 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33157
La Griteria Cultural Artistic Festival
12/9/2023 - 12/9/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 9, 12

Funds are requested to support "La Griteria Cultural Artistic Festival," an annual holiday street festival featuring a parade, ethnic cuisine, live music, dance performances, and artisan showcases, highlighting the rich cultural traditions of Central and South America with a special focus on Nicaraguan heritage taking place in downtown City of Sweetwater.

12- Cuatrogatos Foundation, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

10854 SW 88 Street, #412
Miami, Florida 33176
The Reading Festival / Fiesta de la Lectura
10/3/2023 - 10/8/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12

Funds are requested to support the eleventh "The Reading Festival / Fiesta de la Lectura," a six-day event celebrating literature and arts during Hispanic Heritage Month featuring encounters with authors, storytellers, theater, and workshops, focusing on the theme of "respect and inclusion" taking place at Artefactus Black Box, Miami Dade College Koubek Memorial Center, Le Jardin Community Center, Macondo Coffee Roasters - Coral Gables, and various public schools in Miami-Dade.

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**Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs
FY 2023-2024 Community Grants (CG) – 1st Quarter
Grant Award Recommendations**

13- De La Cruz Theater Performing Art, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

8001 NW 7 Street, #4

Miami, Florida 33126

La Freddy de Cuba (Cuba's Freddy)

10/20/2023 - 10/22/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 6

Funds are requested to support 'La Freddy de Cuba (Cuba's Freddy),' an immersive original musical play set in the late 1950s, delving into the lives of Cuban female singers, including the notable La Freddy, uncovering untold stories while celebrating Cuban's heritage taking place at Sandrell Rivers Theater.

14- Doral Symphony Orchestra, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

9852 NW 52 Lane

Doral, Florida 33178

Winter Serenade: A Christmas Concert in Doral

12/8/2023 - 12/8/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 12

Funds are requested to support "Winter Serenade: A Christmas Concert in Doral," an orchestral concert featuring traditional Christmas pieces and classical compositions taking place at Doral Meadow Park.

15- Due to Arts, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$4,670

9300 NW 25 Street, #105

Doral, Florida 33172

Due to Arts Annual Festival

12/10/2023 - 12/10/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 11, 12

Funds are requested to support "Due to Arts Annual Festival," a talent festival where students taking dance, vocal, and instrumental music classes are given the opportunity to showcase their talents and have their skills evaluated by qualified industry professionals and educators, encouraging and inspiring excellence and improvement taking place at Florida International University's Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center

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FY 2023-2024 Community Grants (CG) – 1st Quarter
Grant Award Recommendations**

16- Florida Dance Education Organization, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

8901 SW 79 Court
Miami, Florida 33156
Daniel Lewis Dance Sampler
10/2/2023 - 12/30/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 5, 7

Funds are requested to support the thirteenth annual “Daniel Lewis Dance Sampler,” featuring two live performances and one online video dance performance showcasing Florida’s diverse dance community offerings taking place at the New World School of the Arts.

17- Friends of the Underline, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

1800 SW 1 Avenue, #504
Miami, Florida 33129
1st Annual Miami River Holiday Boat Parade
12/2/2023 - 12/2/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 2, 3, 5

Funds are requested to support the “1st Annual Miami River Holiday Boat Parade,” a public event featuring 40 festively decorated vessels parading through various riverfront parks and locations along The Underline's River Room including a fireworks show, live music, children's activities, and food trucks.

18- Havfama, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

120 NW 86 Court
Miami, Florida 33126
We are Humans / Somos Humanos
10/1/2023 - 12/16/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 6, 11

Funds are requested to support “We are Humans / Somos Humanos,” an eight-week long artistic presentation and educational workshop centered around a play by Oscar Reconco, which addresses themes such as immigration, gender identification, inclusion, equality, and education about sexual diseases and living with HIV taking place at Havanafama Theatrical Company, De Hostos Senior Center and Miami Social Club Adult Day Care

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Grant Award Recommendations**

19- Intentional Provisions Outreach Corporation a/f/a Tawana Dixon **Recommended Award: \$6,370**

1799 SW 8 Street
Homestead, Florida 33030
Art Beat
11/18/2023 - 11/18/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 9

Funds are requested to support “Art Beat,” a multi-disciplinary art exhibition featuring live music, performances and spoken word by local female artists from underserved communities throughout Miami-Dade County taking place at The Johnathan Schultz Gallery.

20- Les Ailes Du Desir Foundation, Inc. dba Miami Circus Arts Center **Recommended Award: \$6,370**

1395 NW 22 Street
Miami, Florida 33142
Circus Day at the Park - 2023 Edition
12/17/2023 - 12/17/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 7

Funds are requested to support “Circus Day at the Park,” an immersive family-oriented modern circus spectacle featuring performances, interactive sessions, circus apparatuses, and artistic activities taking place at Historic Virginia Key Beach.

21- Merrick Festival Incorporated **Recommended Award: \$8,493**

3125 Segovia Street
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
2023 Caroling Competition
11/1/2023 - 12/31/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 6, 7

Funds are requested to support the thirty-seventh annual “Caroling Competition,” a holiday showcasing the musical choir talents of over 1,500 young people from 30 Miami-Dade schools taking place on the steps of the 550 Building in Coral Gables.

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FY 2023-2024 Community Grants (CG) – 1st Quarter
Grant Award Recommendations**

22- Miami Art Club, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$4,670

7795 West Flagler Street, #18
Miami, Florida 33144
Holiday Art Show
12/10/2023 - 12/10/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 6

Funds are requested to support the "Holiday Art Show," a multi-disciplinary art exhibition showcasing artwork by Miami-Dade County artists aimed to celebrate creativity and engage the community in appreciating and supporting the arts taking place at Miami Art Club.

23- Miamibloco, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

1645 SW 36 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33145
Miamibloco Fall Season Show
10/1/2023 - 12/16/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 3, 7

Funds are requested to support the 'Miamibloco Fall Season Show,' a unique cultural experience showcasing Afro-Brazilian rhythms and techniques through music, dance, and circus elements taking place Miami Beach Bandshell.

24- Music in Miami, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

2941 NE 185 Street, #1308
Aventura, Florida 33180
Music in Miami 2023-2024 Concert Series
12/4/2023 - 7/31/2024

District Location(s) for Project Activity:

Funds are requested to support the "Music in Miami 2023-2024 Concert Series," musical concerts showcasing Cuban and Latin American colonial art compositions and instrumentation taking place at Gesu Catholic Church and St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church.

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Grant Award Recommendations**

25- North Bay Village

Recommended Award: \$6,370

1666 Kennedy Causeway, #300
North Bay Village, Florida 33141
Halloween Celebration and Winter Wonderland
10/26/2023 - 12/23/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 4

Funds are requested to support two holiday events, "Halloween Celebration and Winter Wonderland," festive events featuring music performances aimed to provide unique experiences for the community taking place at Dr. Paul Vogel Community Park.

26- Pioneer Winter Collective, Inc. a/f/a Juraj Kojs

Recommended Award: \$6,370

14640 NW 17 Drive
Miami, Florida 33167
Home is in the Heart: The House. The Kitchen
10/1/2023 - 12/15/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 2, 3

Funds are requested to support "Home is in the Heart: The House. The Kitchen," an interactive multimedia solo production that immerses audiences in the preparation of a traditional Slovakian dish, guided by the artist's personal childhood memories and family history. This captivating experience invites active audience participation and is taking place at The Bridge Miami.

27- Sybarite Productions, Inc.

Recommended Award: \$6,370

634 NE 71 Street
Miami, Florida 33138
LOVEisLOVE Miami
10/14/2023 - 10/14/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 1, 3

Funds are requested to support "LovelsLove Miami," a free community art and culture event featuring local and musical and dance performances, a screening of locally made short films, local artists painting live, and local food, drink, and craft vendors taking place at the Miami Beach Bandshell.

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Grant Award Recommendations**

28- TL Tango Lovers Organization, Inc. d/b/a Global Arts Organization **Recommended Award: \$6,370**

5241 SW 154 Place
Miami, Florida 33185
Volver by Tango Lovers
10/1/2023 - 12/31/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 8, 10, 11

Funds are requested to support the presentation of "VOLVER (The Comeback) by Tango Lovers" a live performance showcasing the fusion and evolution of tango taking place at Dennis C. Moss Cultural Arts Center with free tango dance classes for the public taking place at German American Club of Miami.

29- World Strings Music, Inc. **Recommended Award: \$6,370**

5741 SW 165 Court
Miami, Florida 33193
Secret Symphonic Concert
12/2/2023 - 12/2/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 9, 11

Funds are requested to support the "Secret Symphonic Concert," a musical performance through diverse musical genres accompanied by symphonic musicians, a soprano, and a dancer, with technology-enhanced visuals by local and international artists taking place at Xtrings - Professional Audio and Video Studios.

30- Zunzun Arts & Education, Inc. **Recommended Award: \$6,370**

11031 SW 47 Street
Miami, Florida 33165
Carols and Chocolate
12/10/2023 - 12/17/2023

District Location(s) for Project Activity: 5, 8, 9, 10

Funds are requested to support the annual "Carols and Chocolate," a traveling and interactive performance based on a repertoire of traditional songs and tales, in which musicians, actors, and visual artists provide cultural and educational performances that incorporate songs from different regions around the world. The event will take place at the Artefactus Cultural Center, Le Jardin Community Center, Centro Mater School, and Redland Christian Migrant Association's (RCMA) Schools: Redland, South Dade, and Fernando Villa.

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