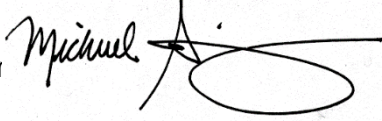


Memorandum



Date: July 15, 2020

To: All Members
Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring, Director 

Subject: FY 2020-2021 Dance Miami Choreographers' Program Recommendations

As of this date, the FY 2020-2021 Dance Miami Choreographers Program allocation is being recommended to continue at the same funding level as in FY 2019-2020, allowing for seven choreographers to be awarded. Any specific funding recommendations being considered and reviewed at this time are subject to the availability of funds in the Department's FY 2020-2021 budget, which is dependent upon the County's Final Adopted Budget in September 2020.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approve \$70,000 in funding support for seven (7) awards to Miami-Dade choreographers from the FY 2020-2021 Dance Miami Choreographers' Program.

BACKGROUND

Seven \$10,000 awards are being recommended for outstanding Miami-Dade choreographers selected by the program panel for the FY 2020-2021 Dance Miami Choreographers' Program. This program supports the artistic development of Miami-Dade County-based choreographers for the creation of new work in all dance forms, including contemporary, classical and traditional dance. A panel of national dance experts met on July 13, 2020 to review the submissions. The panel was comprised of: ShaLeigh Comerford, Artistic Director and Founder of ShaLeigh DanceWorks (Raleigh, NC); Chanel Dasilva, Artistic Director and Co-Founder of Move NYC (NY, NY); and Shamel Pitts, Artistic Director and Founder of TRIBE Multidisciplinary Dance Performance (Brooklyn, NY). The selection of the recommended award recipients was based primarily on the quality of the choreographers' work as evidenced by the work samples submitted via digital media. Funding for the Dance Miami Choreographers' Program is derived from Departmental proprietary revenues.

The recommended choreographers are:

\$10,000 **Maya Billig**
3615 Plaza Street Miami, FL 33133

Maya Billig has her roots in Miami-Dade County, where she currently lives, and presents her work. Through research-based practices, she develops choreographic work for film, stage, and site-specific performances. She is a Here & Now 2020 Artist for Miami Light Project and is currently an artist in residence at the Deering Estate.

\$10,000

Belaxis Buil

7708 NE 1st Street Apt. #1 Miami, FL 33138

Belaxis Buil resides in Miami, FL and travels abroad to create site-responsive pieces that unpack social-political topics and investigate native spaces that immerse the audience, inanimate objects and herself. Buil is a graduate of New World School of the Arts and holds an interdisciplinary arts degree ranging from dance, video, sculpture, photography, painting and installation. In December 2019, she graduated with an interdisciplinary degree from Florida International University versed in studio art, curatorial practice, art history and anthropology.

\$10,000

Carla Forte

44 NE 52ND ST, Miami, FL 33137

Carla Forte is a Venezuelan-born multidisciplinary artist based in Miami, Florida. Her work incorporates dance and film. She is one of the founders of the multidisciplinary art collective Bistoury Physical Theatre and Film. Her films have been screened at numerous film-festivals world wide and she has been awarded numerous grants and artistic residencies from prestigious programs around the world.

\$10,000

Lazaro Godoy

100 NE 43rd Street, Miami, FL 33137

Lazaro Godoy has danced extensively across Europe and throughout Israel performing in works of Hans van Manen, Nils Christie, Jiri Kylian, David Parsons, Stijn Celis, Inbal Pinto and Avshalom Pollak Dance Company, among others. He has choreographed several original works while performing for the Bern Ballet Company, Switzerland. In Tel Aviv, Israel, Lazaro developed projects StreetStage and Mi Casa Su Casa with friend/artist Anderson Braz.

Godoy in partnership with Carlota Pradera founded GodoyPradera Projects & Programs where he serves as artistic director and head choreographer and has produced numerous new works that have been commissioned and presented throughout Miami and New York.

\$10,000

Alexey Taran

44 NE 52ND ST, Miami, FL 33137

Alexey Taran is the Co-Founder, Choreographer and Artistic Director of Bistoury Physical Theatre and Film. His work involves respect and curiosity for the extraordinary creative movement of the Latin American megalopolis, both for its ambiguity as well as for the continent's ethnic-cultural diversity.

\$10,000

Enrique Villacresses

12488 Southwest 199th Terrace, Miami, FL 33177

Enrique Villacresses began choreographing at a young age. He has always maintained an unsustaiable curiosity for movement, invention and performance. His trajectory as an artist is to make sure the audience feels a genuine connection to his work. He has worked throughout Miami-Dade County and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance from New World School of the Arts.

\$10,000

Pioneer Winter

14640 NW 17th Drive, Miami, FL 33167

Pioneer Winter is a Miami-native choreographer, dancer, and filmmaker, and Founder/Artistic Director of Pioneer Winter / Collective. He has created a significant body of boundary-pushing work, including Gimp/Gait. Winter also produces the annual Cine-danse festival and directs Project LEAP (Living Equality through Arts and Performance), a free dance and creative communication program for LGBTQ teens that focuses on teaching how to use the arts for activism and social change. As a young queer artist, he uses social and cultural narratives to anchor his work.

In the event that additional funding becomes available, the panel would like to recommend funding the following choreographer(s):

\$10,000

Liony Garcia

2690 W 10th Ave Apt.8 Hialeah, FL 33010

Liony Garcia is a graduate of New World College. As a professional dancer/choreographer, Garcia has performed with BodyTraffic (L.A), Whole Project, Rosie Herrera Dance Theater and Bistoury Physical Theater (Miami). His choreographic works have been commissioned on numerous occasions by Miami Light Project, Thomas Armour Youth Ballet and Dranoff 2 Piano Foundation (Miami) as well as I.T.E (Canada). He has created original work accompanied by live music for New World Symphony's Musicians Forum.