


Memorandum



Date: August 16, 2017

To: Members, Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring 

Subject: FY 2017-2018 International Cultural Exchange (ICE) Grants Program Recommendations

The program's FY 2017-2018 total allocation and the recommended grant award amounts per Grantee will be presented to the Council for final review later this summer, after all of the "Spring Cycle" grants program panels have convened. Final grant awards are contingent upon the availability of funds in the Department's FY 2017-2018 budget, which is subject to the County's FY 2017-2018 Budget once adopted in September 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approve the funding of 7 grants for the FY International Cultural Exchange Grants Program.

BACKGROUND

The FY2017-2018 International Cultural Exchange Program Panel, chaired by Rosa Sugrañes, convened on August 14, 2017 to review 15 applications requesting a total of \$432,000. The Panel recommended funding 7 applications.

The International Cultural Exchange Program is designed to provide grants to professional Miami-Dade County based cultural organizations to support significant artistic exchange, partnerships or collaborations with artists, arts professionals and/or organizations abroad. The principal objectives of the program are: 1) to elevate Miami-Dade County's image abroad; and 2) to support the efforts of Miami-Dade's artists and cultural organizations to improve their work by engaging in meaningful arts activities with artists, arts professionals (such as curators, historians, designers) and/or organizations abroad. Priority consideration is extended to projects that develop reciprocal relationships with another city, country or region, either as a component of the project for which application is being made, or as an anticipated extension of that project over a specified period of time. Additionally, projects are encouraged to demonstrate artistic excellence and originality within the organization's overall programming and goals.

The Panel specifically evaluated each applicant organization based on the following competitive review criteria: 1) artistic and cultural merit; 2) efforts leading to long-term cultural enrichment of Miami-Dade County; and 3) management capability. As set forth in the published guidelines, the panel's deliberations reflected the program's emphasized, targeted outcome to fund a selected group of projects at the highest possible percentage of their requests, thereby enabling the most significant opportunities for meaningful, long-term and developing cultural exchange.

Funding for the International Cultural Exchange Grants Program is derived from departmental proprietary revenues. All funding recommendations are contingent upon approval of the Department of Cultural Affairs' FY 2017-2018 budget by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and Mayor, and are subject to the availability of funds. Attached is a list describing the projects that are recommended for funding.

Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs
FY2017-18 International Cultural Exchange Grants Program
Grant Award Recommendations

1. Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc.

FY 2017-2018 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida's participation in the 2018 International Ballet Concert, a multinational cultural exchange of dance, choreography, and music. The program features professional Russian-style ballet companies from Poland, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia, Panama, Japan, Mexico, Peru and USA, each hosting on a rotating basis, and invited guest companies.

2. Ballet Flamenco La Rosa, Inc.

FY 2017-2018 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds will be used to support a collaboration between Ballet Flamenco La Rosa and dancer and choreographer Belen Maya, along with one musician and one dancer from Spain, to create "Verano y Humo", an original Flamenco Ballet inspired by Summer and Smoke, by American playwright Tennessee Williams to present in Miami and in Spain.

3. Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc.

FY 2017-2018 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support the third installment of Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator's (DVCAI) ICE program to Kingston, Jamaica. DVCAI will return to Jamaica with a group of 13-15 emerging contemporary artists working in various disciplines to create new works of art at Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts. DVCAI engages international cultural residencies with multiple exchanges and to invite artists to visit with DVCAI Miami artists' communities.

4. Edge Zones Art Center

FY 2017-2018 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support Art of Uncertainty – Remixing Miami, international cultural exchange project continues the mission of cultivating meaningful artistic relationships between the arts communities of Dominican Republic and Florida. More than 80 respected contemporary artists in 100 events that seeks to activate the urban landscape and feature the excellent work of outstanding South Florida and Dominican artists as they identify, research, and share Dominican art and culture through geographic spaces-sites.

5. FUNDarte

FY 2017-2018 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support the production and premiere of "Between Two Waters/Entre dos Aguas" (Part 2), a collaborative theater piece co-produced by FUNDarte (Miami) and La Saraghina de Stalker (Madrid), featuring artists from both cities. This work is being written by playwright Manuel De (Madrid), directed by Carlos Caballero (Miami), and performed by actors Mabel Roch (Miami) and Leticia Martín Lorenzo (Bilbao) in both Madrid and Miami.

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6. Karen Peterson and Dancers, Inc.

FY 2017-2018 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support a 6-day international cultural exchange including workshops and performances of Karen Peterson and Dancers and the world-renowned Candoco in London, England as well as a week-long dance festival entitled, FORWARD MOTION - AN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF PHYSICALLY INTEGRATED DANCE from September 26-30, 2018 in Miami.

7. The Dance Now! Ensemble, Inc.

FY 2017-2018 International Cultural Exchange Project

Funds are requested to support phase two of "Bridges Not Walls", a three year cultural exchange between Dance NOW! Miami (DNM) and Mexico City Ballet/Ballet De Camara Quintana Roo (MXCB/BCQR). Phase two includes a two-week BCQR residency in Miami, the creation and presentation of "Puentes No Muros" by the company resident choreographer Yazmin Barragan on DNM's dancers and a joint performance at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center on April 21, 2018.