

Memorandum



Date: June 21, 2023

To: Members, Cultural Affairs Council

From: Michael Spring 

Subject: FY 2023-2024 International Cultural Partnerships (ICP) Grant Program Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approve the funding of the list of attached grants for the FY 2023-2024 International Cultural Partnerships (ICP) Grant Program based upon their scores and the availability of funds.

BACKGROUND

The FY 2023-2024 International Cultural Partnerships Program Panel, chaired by Councilor Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, convened on Thursday, June 15, 2023 to review 12 applications requesting a total of \$405,000. The Panel recommended funding all 12 applications.

The International Cultural Partnerships Grant Program is designed to provide grants to professional Miami-Dade County based cultural organizations to support significant artistic 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 partnerships.

The ICP Program's FY 2023-2024 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. Funding for the ICP Grant Program is derived from departmental proprietary revenues. All funding recommendations are contingent upon approval of the Department of Cultural Affairs' FY 2023-2024 budget by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and Mayor and are subject to the availability of funds.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
FY 2023-2024 INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP GRANTS PROGRAM

1. Arca Images, Inc.

Discurso de agradecimiento

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the creation and presentation (including residencies) in Miami and Mexico City of *Discurso de agradecimiento (Thank You Speech)*, an exchange between Miami's Arca Images and Mexico's Ministry of Culture. Award-winning Spanish-Cuban playwright and director Carlos Celdrán, in collaboration with Arca Images' Alexa Kuve, theater artist and Director of Mexico City Theater System Ángel Ancona, and the production actors will be the key artists in both countries. Performances will take place at The Koubek Center in Miami and in Mexico City's Teatro de la Ciudad Esperanza Iris.

2. Ballet Flamenco La Rosa, Inc.

La Virgen y el Gitano

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support *La Virgen y El Gitano*, a work inspired by D. H. Lawrence's *The Virgin and The Gypsy*. The piece will be created in collaboration with La Truco, a dance company from Spain. Phase I of the project consists of two performances and one open rehearsal at The Colony Theatre on Miami Beach; Phase II consists of two performances in Barcelona, Spain the following year. Performances will be filmed and edited to be streamed online.

3. Bas Fisher Invitational, Inc.

Residency program with Norway

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support Bas Fisher Invitational's reciprocal residency program that sends two Miami artists to Norway and two Norwegian artists to Miami. In partnership with UKS (Unge Kunstneres Samfund) in Oslo, Norway, visiting artists will participate in month-long residencies that include public presentations. In addition to these career advancement opportunities, artists will research the countries' different approaches to cultural funding and municipal-artist partnership.

4. Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc.

Island Scapes: Ascending Triangle, Bermuda 2024

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubators' (DVCAI) exchange program with Bermuda. *Island Scapes: Ascending Triangle, Bermuda 2024* is in collaboration with the local host gallery, the Black Pony Gallery. As a first exchange to this isolated North Atlantic, Anglophone, Caribbean Island, DVCAI seeks to engage in collective workshops and studio visits between Miami and Bermudian artists. Reciprocal residencies occur with regional artists in 2024-2026 at the DVCAI Artist Studio 164 in Little Haiti, Miami.

5. Edge Zones, Inc.

Art of Uncertainty -Index –Miami/Santo Domingo

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support *Art of Uncertainty -Index –Miami/Santo Domingo*, the 15th edition of Edge Zones' annual cultural exchange between noted Florida-based and Santo Dominican artists. The focal point of the exchange program is to collaborate and experience creating art under different conditions, connect with peers and curators from other cultures and countries, and enrich the artists' curriculum by exhibiting alongside the top artists of their country and in museums.

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6. El Ingenio, Inc.

The blue eye

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the world premiere of the bilingual play, *The blue eye*. The piece will be created through an Argentinian/USA collaboration, incorporating actors, musicians, theatrical installation, and multimedia images about the poet Alfonsina Storni, a brave Argentine artist who lived at the beginning of the 20th century. The play will be presented in the U.S. and Argentina and will be recorded so it can be viewed as a movie on Ingenio's YouTube channel.

7. Fire Haus Projects

Macabrifesto

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the world premiere production and recording of *Macabrifesto*, a work for two pianos / eight hands, choir, vocal soloists, bass & two percussion, written by Miami composer Kirk Whipple. Central to this project is the international ensemble, The United Nations Piano Quartet, comprised of the American duo Whipple-Morales and the European duo, Chauvel-Sole-Leris. *Macabrifesto* is an international collaboration consisting of rehearsals, concerts and recordings taking place in Miami, Florida and Nice, France.

8. FUNDarte, Inc.

Dance, Muxeidad, and Indigenous Masculinity

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the creation of *Dance, Muxeidad, and Indigenous Masculinity*, a work created under the direction of Native Mexican choreographer Lukas Avendano, in collaboration with Miccosukee artist and activist Houston Cypress and local dancers in Miami. Partners include Contenidos Artisticos in Mexico City, who will facilitate residency activities in Mexico. This international cultural exchange closes with performances taking place in Mexico and the United States.

9. Karen Peterson & Dancers, Inc.

9th Korean International Accessible Dance Festival *Award to be calculated based on funding formula*

Funds are requested to support the collaboration between two dance groups: Karen Peterson and Dancers (KPD), based in Miami, Florida and the Light Sound Friends based in Seoul, South Korea. Phase I includes KPD's participation in the *9th Korean International Accessible Dance Festival*, (KAIDA) August 13 - 18, 2024, at the Arko Arts Theatre. Phase II of the project includes an invitation for Kiada dance artists to participate in Miami's *Forward Motion Dance Festival*, taking place in February 2025, at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium.

10. Miami Chamber Music Society, Inc.

ASMF / MCMS

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support *ASMF / MCMS International Exchange Project - Miami / London* - a collaborative partnership between Miami Chamber Music Society (MCMS) and the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields chamber orchestra. The residency will incorporate music performances, classical music and poetry commissions and free community events. The events will take place at the Sanctuary for the Arts in Miami and St. Martin in the Fields Church in London, England.

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11. Miami Music Festival, Inc.

2024 MMF Cultural Exchange Program

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support the exchange between Miami Music Festival (MMF) and Fundación Sinfonia Concertante de Panama (FUNSINCOPA). The project includes a commissioning of a new chamber orchestral piece by two composers – one composer from Miami-Dade County and one composer from Panama. Phase I will have Panamanian artists travelling to Miami and Phase II will have Miami-based artists travel to Panama to perform alongside Panamanian artists.

12. The Dance NOW! Ensemble, Inc.

Gli Altri/The Others –Phase II

Award to be calculated based on funding formula

Funds are requested to support Phase II of The Dance NOW!'s *Gli Altri/The Others - fantasy, dream, symbolism, and surrealism*, a two-year cultural exchange between the Dance NOW! Ensemble in Miami and Compagnia Opus Ballet (COB) in Florence, Italy. Phase II includes COB's residency in Miami (March 2024), the presentation of a new contemporary dance work blending the voices of three choreographers (Italy and United States), one music composer (Canada) and sixteen dancers, addressing themes of otherness, individuality and acceptance.