

**MINUTES OF THE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL**

June 20, 2018

A meeting of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council was held in the 6th Floor Conference Room of the Stephen P. Clark Government Center, located at 111 N.W. 1st Street, Miami, Florida.

Members Present

Adolfo Henriques, Chairman
Alejandro Aguirre
Mitchell Bierman
Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez
Xavier Cortada
Sandra Curbelo
Denise Gerson
Susana Ibargüen
Phyllis Simpkins
Justin Trieger

**Members Not
Present**

Janá Sigars-Malina
Rosa Sugrañes
Monty Trainer

Staff

Marialaura Leslie, Deputy Director
Carolina Alfonso
Roxana Barba
Christina Beauvoir
Nikenna Benjamin
Sue Camp
Tania Centeno
Mary-Margaret Dale
Marshall Davis
Eric Fliss

Staff (continued)

Teddy Harrell
Regla Lee
Gilda Mooney
Alex Peraza
Adriana Perez
Lisa Thompson
Pamela Valles
Graham Winick

The meeting was chaired by Adolfo Henriques. Chairman Henriques called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

INTRODUCTION NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

Ms. Leslie introduced and welcomed new Council Member Justin Trieger, who was appointed by Commissioner Audrey Edmonson. Mr. Trieger joined New World Symphony in 2011, where he currently serves as the Director of New Media and Distance Education. He is also the Co-Founder of Buskerfest Miami, a non-profit arts organization that improves civic life by presenting local artists in public spaces. Mr. Trieger has a Bachelor of Music from New York University and in 2016 he participated in the Miami Fellows program at The Miami Foundation.

PRESENTATION

Chairman Henriques introduced Frank Steslow, President of the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science. Mr. Steslow discussed the Museum's first year of operation in the new building and shared that one million visitors have visited the Museum since its opening in May 2017. The Museum has provided free admission to 230,000 visitors through their community programs, including the county-funded programs Culture Shock Miami and Golden Ticket. Free admission has been provided to 100,000 school kids. Mr. Steslow showed a video highlighting the Museum's programming. He reported that the Museum currently has close to 32,000 members, and the focus is now turning to fundraising.

Chairman Henriques and Councilor Aguirre congratulated Mr. Steslow on a successful first year.

Mr. Steslow invited the Council to visit the Museum and to offer feedback. He stated that the Museum is working with the County on relocating the bird hospital to Greynolds Park, and that the Museum is committed to continuing their work with community groups. He commented that there is a significant number of young adults, ages 16-25, visiting the Museum, which is an audience that typically does not visit science museums. This has been a welcomed surprise, and this audience will be kept in mind for future programming.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Requests for Excused Absences for June 20, 2018

A request for excused absences for Janá Sigars-Malina, Rosa Sugrañes, and Monty Trainer was approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez.)

Approval of May 16, 2018 Minutes

The minutes of the May 16, 2018 Council meeting were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

FY 2018-2019 Grants Panels

The FY 2018-2019 grants panels for the Capital Grants (CAP) Program, Community Grants (CG) Program, Developing Arts in Neighborhoods (DAN) Grants Program, and Festival and Special Events (FEST) Grants Program were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Berman; seconded by Ms. Simpkins)

FY 2018-2019 Grants Panel Recommendations

FY 2018-2019 Cultural Advancement (ADV) Grants Panel Recommendations

Ms. Beauvoir reported that the Cultural Advancement (ADV) Grants Program Panel, chaired by Councilor Ibarguen, convened on June 6, 2018 to review 19 applications requesting \$1,900,000. The Panel recommendation of funding all 19 applicants for a total of \$1,900,000 was approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

The Cultural Advancement Grants Program is designed to provide significant grants and technical assistance to a distinct group of Miami-Dade County's highest quality, mid- to large-size, culturally diverse performing, visual, literary and presenting arts organizations that have a history of distinguished artistic programming.

The following Council members declared a conflict of interest and abstained from voting on the following:

Mr. Henriques - Bakehouse Art Complex

Mr. Henriques - GableStage

Ms. Sigars-Malina - GableStage

Mr. Berman - GableStage

Mr. Cortada - Deering Estate

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations were approved unanimously, as listed below. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

It was noted that grant amounts will be determined based upon final ADV program allocation.

Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc

Bascomb Memorial Broadcasting Foundation, Inc. (WDNA-FM 88.9)

Centro Cultural Español de Cooperacion Iberoamericana, Inc.

City Theater, Inc.

Coral Gables Cinematéque, Inc.

Living Arts Trust, Inc. / O'Cinema

Locust Projects, Inc.

Miami Dade College - Cultural Affairs Department (MDC Live)

Miami Dade College - Miami Book Fair Year Round

Miami Design Preservation League, Inc.

Miami Light Project, Inc.

Miami Theater Hub d/b/a Miami New Drama

Seraphic Fire, Inc.

Teatro Avante, Inc.

The Coral Gables Museum, Corp.

The Rhythm Foundation, Inc.

The Panel's recommendation to fund the following organizations, for which there were the above-mentioned Councilors' conflicts of interest and abstentions were voted on and passed unanimously as follows:

Bakehouse Art Complex, Inc.

(Motion by Mr. Bierman; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

GableStage, Inc.

(Motion by Mr. Cortada; seconded by Ms. Simpkins)

The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.

(Motion by Mr. Bierman; seconded by Ms. Simpkins)

FY 2018-2019 Cultural Development Group (CDG) Grants Panel Recommendations

Ms. Perez reported that the FY 2018-2019 Cultural Development Grants (CDG) program panel, chaired by Councilor Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, convened on June 1, 2018 to review 20 applications requesting \$1,000,000.

Councilor Gerson inquired about the scoring procedures for the grants programs. Chairman Henriques responded that each grants program has different scoring criteria and guidelines specific to the goals and objectives of the particular program. Councilor Aguirre asked for clarification. Ms. Leslie explained that the funding strategy of the entire portfolio of the Department's grants programs was designed to offer equitable access to cultural funding and asked Ms. Mooney to elaborate on the scoring process and program guidelines. Ms. Mooney clarified that annual operating support programs for mid-sized to large organizations, such as the Cultural Development (CDG) and Cultural Advancement (ADV) Grants Programs are designed to provide stable support to institutions of a certain level. Ms. Mooney noted that applicant organizations are evaluated every year to verify that they still meet the program criteria.

Chairman Henriques stated that since the Council approves the grant programs and guidelines annually, they can take time to review, discuss, and approve the next round of guidelines.

The following Council members declared a conflict of interest and abstained from voting on the following:

Mr. Cortada – Florida International University, Marjory Stoneman Douglas, FUNDarte, Miami Dade College

Mr. Henriques – Florida International University

Mr. Berman – Florida International University

Ms. Sigars-Malina – Florida International University

Mr. Aguirre – Miami Dade College

Mr. Triege – Miami Dade College

Ms. Curbelo – Dance NOW Miami

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations were approved unanimously, as listed below. (Motion by Mr. Cortada; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

It was noted that grant amounts will be determined based upon final CDG program allocation.

Ballet Flamenco la Rosa, Inc.

Chopin Foundation of the United States, Inc.

Coral Gables Congregational Church

Miami Beach Film Society, Inc.

Miami Beach Garden Conservancy

Miami Dade College – Koubek Center

Miami Dade College - Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives

Miami Dade College - Museum of Art and Design

Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center, Inc.

New World School of the Arts - Dance Division

Nu Deco Ensemble, Inc.

Olympia Center, Inc.

Patrons of Exceptional Artists

The Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center, Inc.

The Murray Dranoff Foundation, Inc.

Zoetic Stage

The Panel's recommendation to fund the following organizations, for which there were the above-mentioned Councilors' conflicts of interest and abstentions were voted on and passed unanimously as follows:

Florida International University Board of Trustees for the Benefit of School of Music
(Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Simpkins)

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Inc.
(Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Ms. Simpkins)

FUNDarte, Inc.
(Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Ms. Simpkins)

Miami Dade College – Koubek Center
Miami Dade College - Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives
Miami Dade College - Museum of Art and Design

(Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Ms. Simpkins)

The Dance Now! Ensemble, Inc.

Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Ms. Simpkins)

FY 2018-2019 Hannibal Cox, Jr. (HCJ) Grants Panel Recommendations

Ms. Mooney reported that the FY 2018-2019 Hannibal Cox, Jr. (HCJ) program panel, chaired by Councilor Trainer, convened on June 7, 2018 to review 22 applications requesting \$660,000.

The following Council members declared a conflict of interest and abstained from voting on the following:

Mr. Cortada – Miami Dade College Department of Arts and Philosophy, Teatro Prometeo, University of Miami

Ms. Gerson – University of Miami

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations were approved unanimously, as listed below. (Motion by Mr. Cortada; seconded by Ms. Simpkins)

It was noted that grant amounts will be determined based upon final HCJ program allocation.

Artists in Residence in Everglades, Inc.

Bas Fisher Invitational, Inc.

Creation Art Center Corporation

Cuban Classical Ballet of Miami, Inc.

Dade Heritage Trust, Inc.

Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator, Inc.

Edge Zones, Inc.

Friends of Chamber Music of Miami, Inc.

Hispanic-American Lyric Theatre, Inc.

Historic Hampton House Community Trust, Inc.

Karen Peterson and Dancers, Inc.

Main Street Players, Inc. d/b/a Main Street Players

Miami Lyric Opera, Inc.

Miami Short Film Festival, Inc.

Orchestra Miami, Inc.

Peter London Global Dance Company, Inc.

Saint Martha Concerts and Cultural Affairs, Inc.

Siempre Flamenco, Inc.

South Florida Composers' Alliance, Inc.

The Panel's recommendation to fund the following organizations, for which there were the above-mentioned Councilors' conflicts of interest and abstentions were voted on and passed unanimously as follows:

Miami Dade College - Department of Arts and Philosophy

Miami Dade College – Teatro Prometeo

(Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Ms. Curbelo)

University of Miami – Frost School of Music

Motion by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez; seconded by Mr. Trieger)

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update on Federal Arts Budget

Ms. Leslie noted that the Trump administration recommended terminating the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). She reported that last week (June 14, 2018) the Senate Appropriations Committee approved the FY 2019 funding increases for several federal cultural agencies based on the allocations set earlier in the week by Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. The Senate matched the House of Representatives' \$2 million funding increase for the NEA and NEH, bringing their budgets up to \$155M each for FY 2019. Ms. Leslie further stated that the Department will continue to work with Americans for the Arts and the Arts Action Fund to monitor progress these bills as they move into conference, and that it is expected that this increase will pass since both the Senate and the House have the same number.

Update on FY 2018-2019 County Budget

Ms. Leslie reported that we continue to work on the budget for FY 2018-2019 and that our Chief of Budget and Finance, Regla Lee, and her team have been working closely working with Michael and the budget office. She noted that the bed tax projections are looking positive. She noted that Michael will keep the Council updated.

Culture Shock Miami - Discount Tickets for Youth Program

Ms. Beauvoir reported that 802 tickets were sold in May 2018 and that over 600 tickets have been sold to date for June 2018. Museum tickets are especially popular during the summer months. Ms. Beauvoir reported that Culture Shock Miami will sponsor the presentation of a free camp performance and a public performance by Dimensions Dance Theatre Miami at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC) in July. Staff is currently working on the upcoming FY 2018-19 *Culture Shock Miami Presents* season which will be launched with a comprehensive public relations and marketing campaign developed by agencies Matrix2 Advertising and Beber Silverstein Group. Details of the season will be shared at the July Council meeting.

Department Facilities Updates

African Heritage Cultural Arts Center

Mr. Harrell reported that the Center had 535 students in its after school programs this year, and they have 240 students registered for the Summer Arts program. Highlights of the Center's work include the Voices of Heritage program which pairs students with gospel artists and Winds of Heritage which is the Center's dance apprentice program. The YALS and WALL-IN programs will continue this summer at the Caleb Auditorium due to the Center's loss of two portable spaces. The Center welcomes Florencia Guerrier as the new dance director. Mr. Harrell invited the Council to come to the Center to see the programs first-hand and to meet their talented students.

Westchester Cultural Arts Center

Ms. Alfonso reported the project is moving forward and the bids for a contractor are scheduled to be submitted later in the summer. She noted that there is a mandatory meeting on June 25, 2018 for contractors who wish to bid on the project and the cone of silence is currently in effect.

Art in Public Places (APP)

Ms. Alfonso reported that APP is working on a \$900,000 art allocation for the Carrie Meek Foundation development project at the Opa-locka Airport. One of the project's buildings is the future Amazon Center. The Art in Public Places Trust met on May 25, 2018 and selected a short list comprised of the following 25 artists:

Leonardo Drew
Luis Gispert
Olaekan Jeyifous
T. Elliott Mansa
Onajide Shabaka
Ruby Sky Stiler
Mickalene Thomas
Fred Wilson
Janet Echelman
Mark Fornes
Devra Freeland
Rosario Marquardt, R & R Studios
Jorge Pardo
Morel Doucet
Vickie Pierre
Michelle Polissaint
Michael Vasquez
Adler Guerrier - Alternate
Musa Hixson - Alternate
Ruben Ochoa - Alternate
Loriel Beltran - Alternate
Brookhart Jonquil - Alternate

Rita McBride - Alternate
George Bates - Alternate
Ralph Gilbert - Alternate

Coconut Grove Playhouse

Ms. Leslie reported that we continue to move forward through the four regulatory approval steps with the City of Miami for the Coconut Grove Playhouse. She noted that we are scheduled to meet with the City of Miami Planning, Zoning and Appeals Board on July 9th.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Leslie reminded the Council that Financial Disclosure forms are due on July 1st and that forms are available at the meeting.

COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Mr. Cortada visited Boston to participate in HowlRound's Institute of Theatre and Climate Change conference. He also visited New Hampshire to participate in the Art and Science conference. Pinecrest Gardens will feature an installation mounted by his FIU students on June 21. He will attend the upcoming Arctic Cycle's North Pole exhibition in Tampa.
- Mr. Trieger reported that the *Make Music Miami* event will celebrate the first day of summer by offering free performances around Miami-Dade County on June 21st.
- Ms. Simpkins saw the Opa-Locka building. She looks forward to seeing the art that will be selected for it.
- Ms. Ibargüen, Ms. Curbelo, and Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez offered their thanks and appreciation to the grants administrators.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary-Margaret Dale