

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

May 16, 2018

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

Members Present

Adolfo Henriques, Chairman
Alejandro Aguirre
Mitchell Bierman
Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez
Xavier Cortada
Sandra Curbelo
Susana Ibarguen
Janá Sigars-Malina
Rosa Sugrañes
Monty Trainer

Members Not Present

Denise Gerson
Phyllis Simpkins

Staff

Marialaura Leslie, Deputy Director
Kelly Allocco
Francine Andersen
Patricia Arbelaez
Christina Beauvoir
Nikenna Benjamin
Sue Camp
Mary-Margaret Dale
Marshall Davis
Olga Gonzalez
Hanny Guedes
Teddy Harrell
Liliana Hernandez-Constenla
Carla Hill

Staff (continued)

Gilda Mooney
Alex Peraza
Adriana Perez
Dana Pezoldt
Katherine Revell
Amanda Sanfilippo
Javier Siut
Lisa Thompson
Pamela Valles
Graham Winick

The meeting was chaired by Adolfo Henriques. Chairman Henriques called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Requests for Excused Absences for May 16, 2018

A request for an excused absence for Denise Gerson was approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sugrañes; seconded by Mr. Trainer)

Approval of April 18, 2018 Minutes

The minutes of the April 18, 2018 Council meeting were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sugrañes; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

FY 2017-2018 Community Grants Program – Fourth Quarter Recommendations

Ms. Barba reported that the FY 2017-2018 Community Grants program panel, chaired by Councilor Janá Sigars-Malina, convened on May 10, 2018 to review 29 applications requesting \$209,685 for the Fourth Quarter of the program. The Panel recommendation of 29 applicants for a total of \$105,501 was approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)

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

Mr. Trainer - City of Miami - Little Haiti Cultural Center

Mr. Cortada – Miami Light Project

Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez – Haitian Cultural Arts Alliance

The Panel's recommendations to fund the remaining organizations were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

Artefactus Cultural Project, Inc. a/f/a for La Casa del Teatro, Inc.	\$4,216
Bascomb Memorial Broadcasting Found, Inc. a/f/a for Jazz Educators Community Coalition	\$2,248
COMPOSITUM MUSICAE NOVAE, INC.	\$4,215
Conecta: Miami Arts, Inc.	\$2,529
Cuatrogatos Foundation, Inc. a/f/a for Art for Us, Inc.	\$4,215
Culture and Community Association, Inc.	\$2,529
Facundo Rivero Performing Arts, Inc.	\$3,541
Fresh Start of Miami-Dade, Inc.	\$4,216

Haitian Neighborhood Center Sant La, Inc.	\$4,159
IFE-ILE, Inc.	\$4,216
Instituto de Cultura Peruana, Inc.	\$3,372
Magic Slippers Fine Arts Academy, Inc.	\$2,810
Major Players Cultural Arts Educational Development Center, Inc.	\$2,810
Miami Youth for Chamber Music, Inc.	\$4,216
Moulin Blue Professional Entertainment, Inc.	\$3,091
SBC Community Development Corporation of Richmond Heights, Inc.	\$4,216
Seminole Cultural Arts Theatre, Inc.	\$4,216
SOUTH FLORIDA CHAMBER ENSEMBLE	\$3,372
Sunshine's Heart, Inc.	\$2,810
The Miami Foundation, Inc. a/f/a for Flaming Classics	\$4,216
The Miami Foundation, Inc. a/f/a for Third Horizon	\$4,216
Troop of Actors, Inc.	\$4,216
Urgent, Inc.	\$4,216
Village of Palmetto Bay	\$4,216

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

Alyans Atizay Ayisyen, Inc. d/b/a Haitian Cultural Arts Alliance, Inc. a/f/a for Art In The Sky (Motion by Mr. Bierman; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)	\$4,215
City of Miami - Little Haiti Cultural Center (Motion by Mr. Bierman; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)	\$1,405
Miami Light Project, Inc. a/f/a for Flipside Kings (Motion by Ms. Sugrañes; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)	\$4,216
Miami Light Project, Inc. a/f/a for Greedy Pumpkin Head Projects (Motion by Ms. Sugrañes; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)	\$4,216
Miami Light Project, Inc. a/f/a for Literati Grove (Motion by Ms. Sugrañes; seconded by Mr. Aguirre)	\$3,372

FY 2018-2019 Community Grants Program Guidelines

The FY 2018-2019 Community Grants program guidelines were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sugrañes; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

FY 2018-2019 Grants Program Panels

The FY 2018-2019 Grants Program Panels for the Major Cultural Institutions (MCI) Grants Program and the Youth Arts Miami (YAM) Grants Program were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sugrañes; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update on FY 2018-2019 County Budget

Ms. Leslie reported that Department of Cultural Affairs is continuing to work with County's Office of Management and Budget for the FY 2018-2019 budget. She noted that the Department is monitoring the Bed Tax revenue projections as they have been reported to be higher than expected and there may be a possibility of an increase to the cultural grants budget. Ms. Leslie noted that the Department has requested an additional \$2.5 million to restore the budget to pre-recession levels and address the significant, growing needs of the cultural community and Department's cultural facilities as directed by the Council. She reported that the Department's internal budget hearing with the Office of Management and Budget was scheduled for Friday, May 18, 2018.

Culture Shock Miami - Discount Tickets for Youth Program

Ms. Beauvoir reported that 1,106 tickets were sold in April 2018 and that 533 tickets have been sold to date for May 2018. Ms. Beauvoir highlighted performances at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, including a performance by Mandy Harvey at the All Kids Included Family Arts Festival on May 5, 2018. Harvey is an award-winning singer and songwriter who lost her residual hearing and was featured in the hit show *America's Got Talent*. Staff is currently working on the upcoming FY 2018-19 Culture Shock Presents season which will be launched with a comprehensive public relations and marketing campaign developed by agencies Matrix2 Advertising and Beber Silverstein Group.

Department Facilities Updates

South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center

Ms. Carla Hill reported that there was an extensive community outreach effort featuring Dance Theater of Harlem. The Center partnered with sister facility, the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, for The Black Ballerina and featured Virginia Johnson and provided students with school shows and classes. One of the highlights was the panel discussion moderated by WLRN/NPR's Nadege Green. Featured panelists included: Virginia Johnson, Dance Theatre of Harlem Artistic Director; Peter London, Founder and Artistic Director of The Peter London Global Dance Company; and Hattie Mae Williams of The Tattooed Ballerinas. The Center also hosted the "All Kids Included Festival" in May which was very successful.

Westchester Cultural Arts Center

Ms. Leslie reported the project is moving forward and will be ready to go out for construction bid, pending formal approval of the bid package from the Building Department. She noted the Department plans to use the same model used for the Sandrell Rivers Theatre, where the County owns the property and has an operating agreement with a non-profit entity to manage the venue. Mr. Alex Peraza provided a visual update and displayed construction renderings of the project. He reported the Center will be located at the Bird Road entrance to Tropical Park and pointed out features of the project including main theater, classrooms, canopy and plaza.

Coconut Grove Playhouse

Ms. Leslie reported the funded County, FIU and State-approved plan to bring great theater back to Coconut Grove continues to move forward and is currently on step three of the four-step approval process required from the City of Miami. The project is scheduled to appear before City of Miami's Planning, Zoning and Appeals Board on July 9, 2018.

Art in Public Places (APP)

Ms. Sanfilippo reported that artist Christina Lei Rodriguez was recommend to work on murals for the Westchester Cultural Arts Center. The team will continue to work with her as the project develops. She provided an update on the Jackson Health System (JHS) \$5 million artist call and reported that ten (10) artists and three (3) alternates were recommended to continue to develop proposals for specific locations in consultation with APP and JHS staff: Rob Pruitt, Cheryl Pope, Nice 'n Easy, Brian Bress, Olaf Breuning, Blane de St. Croix & Ellen Harvey, Karl Haendel, David Brooks, assume vivid astro focus (lead artist Elizer Sudbrack Simoes), Aziz + Cucher; and alternates, Friends with You, Jen Stark, and Pae White.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

- Ms. Leslie introduced two new staff members who joined the team as Cultural Projects Administrators: Katherine Revell, an arts administrator with more than 20 years of experience who worked at the Miami City Ballet for over a decade and was instrumental for the organization's capital campaign. She will work on the arts education and accessibility initiatives. Graham Winick, who previously worked with the Entertainment division for the City of Miami Beach's Department of Tourism, Culture and Economic Development. He will manage the Community Grants quarterly grant program.
- Ms. Leslie reported the Department was recognized for outstanding work with two National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards: the "Culture Shock Presents" series and the Miami-Dade County Auditorium's bilingual "Hot Theater Summer Series" featuring Nilo Cruz.
- Ms. Leslie reported Financial Disclosure Forms must be submitted by Councilors by the July 1, 2018 deadline. She also reminded Councilors to comply with the gift disclosure policy and submit those forms quarterly.
- Ms. Leslie reported the proposed budget for the National Endowment of the Arts fiscal year FY 2018-2019 is moving in the right direction and expected to increase. The NEA Chair Jane Chu has resigned and the Department is working closely with Americans for the Arts to monitor the state of federal arts funding.

COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Ms. Sigars-Malina recognized Chairman Henriques for being awarded the 2018 Jay Malina Award. She reported that Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden Mango Festival is July 15-17, 2018.

- Mr. Cortada visited the island of Haiti with a non-profit planting mangroves. He also reported that up and coming local artist Michael Graves has a show at Pinecrest Gardens Gallery. He encouraged Councilors to visit both.
- Mr. Trainer reported the Coconut Grove Arts Festival awarded 20 local students with \$1,000 scholarships.
- Mr. Bierman reported many that the Town of Cutler Bay is co-presenting with South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center and recently, collaborated with PAMM. He encouraged Councilors to attend the Rhythm Foundation's event at the North Beach Band Shell in Miami Beach on June 10, 2018.

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liliana Hernandez-Constenla". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Liliana Hernandez-Constenla