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Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs Receives NACo Award for its ADA Silver Anniversary Summit

Event Celebrated 25th Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act

(Miami, July 6, 2016) – The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs has been recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its ADA Silver Anniversary Summit held in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Started in 1970, the NACo awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that enhance services for residents.

Held in partnership with the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts and the Florida Access Coalition for the Arts, the free Summit featured speakers and experts on accessibility and gathered more than 350 arts leaders to discuss accessibility and inclusion in the arts. The Summit also explored ways to enhance the creative experience for people with disabilities through innovative technologies such as The Beam®, which combines remote mobility and video conferencing to allow users who are physically unable to travel to virtually visit cultural institutions.

The ADA Silver Anniversary Summit was developed by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs as part of its [“All Kids Included - Accessible Arts Experiences for Kids”](#) (AKI) program. AKI creates inclusive arts and cultural programs so that kids of all abilities and their families can participate fully in the arts. AKI is an initiative of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, made possible with the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, and in part through grant funding provided by The Children’s Trust. The Children's Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County by making strategic investments in their future.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) represents county governments in the United States and provides essential services to the nation's counties. NACo advances issues before the federal government, improves the public’s understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and

taxpayers money. For more information and a comprehensive list of winning programs please visit NACo's website at www.naco.org.

It is the policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request materials in accessible format, sign language interpreters, and/or any accommodation to participate in any Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs program or meeting, please contact Francine Andersen at 305-375-4634 culture@miamidade.gov at least five days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service).

For more information on the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and its programs, please visit our website www.miamidadearts.org

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The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council develop cultural excellence, diversity and participation throughout Miami-Dade County by strategically creating and promoting opportunities for artists and cultural organizations, and our residents and visitors who are their audiences. The Department directs the Art in Public Places program and serves its board, the Art in Public Places Trust, commissioning, curating, maintaining and promoting the County's art collection. The Department also manages, programs and operates the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, a campus of state-of-the-art cultural facilities in Cutler Bay, as well as Miami-Dade County Auditorium, Joseph Caleb Auditorium and the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, all dedicated to presenting and supporting excellence in the arts for the entire community. Through staff, board and programmatic resources, the Department, the Council and the Trust promote, coordinate and support Miami-Dade County's more than 1,000 not-for-profit cultural organizations as well as thousands of resident artists through grants, technical assistance, public information and interactive community planning. The Department receives funding through the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children's Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida through the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Other support and services are provided by TicketWeb for the Culture Shock Miami program, the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the South Florida Cultural Consortium and the Tourist Development Council.