

**MINUTES OF THE  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL  
September 15, 2021**

A meeting of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council was held at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium and online via Zoom.

<p><b><u>Members Present</u></b>          Brian May, Chairman          Alejandro Aguirre          Mitchell Bierman          Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, Second Vice Chair          Sandra Curbelo          Adolfo Henriques, Immediate Past Chair          Janá Sigars-Malina, First Vice Chair          Rosa Sugrañes          Justin Trieger</p>	<p><b><u>Members Not Present</u></b>          Jorge Plasencia          Cheryl Rees          Monty Trainer</p> <p><b><u>Others Present:</u></b>          Tiffany Crapp          Carlos Nazario</p>
<p><b><u>Staff</u></b>          Michael Spring, Director          Marialaura Leslie, Deputy Director          Kelly Allocco          Francine Andersen          Patricia Arbelaez          Roxana Barba          Stefania Barigelli          Nikenna Benjamin          Dorianny Cardenas          Tania Centeno          Marie Denis          Ivette Dominguez          Eric Fliss          Olga Gonzalez          Teddy Harrell</p>	<p><b><u>Staff (continued)</u></b>          Liliana Hernandez-Constenla          Regla Lee          Gilda Mooney          Steven Padilla          Alex Peraza          Adriana Perez          Dana Pezoldt          Katherine Revell          Pablo Rincon          Javier Siut          Christina Tassy-Beauvoir          Pamela Valles          Graham Winick</p>

Chairman Brian May joined the meeting via Zoom. Mr. Spring called the meeting to order on his behalf at 10:07 AM.

## ITEMS FOR RATIFICATION

### Approval of July 21, 2021 Minutes

The minutes of the July 21, 2021 Council meeting were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

### FY 2021 – 2022 Artist Access (ART) Grants Program Guidelines

Mr. Spring reported that there are no substantive changes to the guidelines for the Artist Access (ART) grants program. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

### FY 2021 – 2022 Grant Program Panels

Mr. Spring presented the grant panel list for the Community Grants (CG) and the Youth Arts Enrichment (YEP) grants programs. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

## ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

### Requests for Excused Absences for September 15, 2021

Requests for an excused absence were submitted by Councilors Jorge Plasencia, Cheryl Rees and Monty Trainer. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Sagrañes)

### FY 2021 – 2022 Summer Arts & Science Camps for Kids (SAS-C) Grants Program Guidelines

Mr. Spring reported that starting in FY 2021-2022, organizations that receive direct grant support from The Children's Trust under the Youth Development Initiative will no longer be eligible to apply to the Summer Arts & Science Camps for Kids (SAS-C). The guidelines reflect that change. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Ms. Sagrañes; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

### FY 2021-2022 Community Grants (CG) Program Panel Recommendations – First Quarter

Mr. Spring reported the FY 2021-2022 Community Grants program panel, co-chaired by Councilors Sandra Curbelo and Janá Sigars-Malina, convened on August 26, 2021 to review 20 applications for the first quarter of the program. The Community Grants Program is responsive on a quarterly basis to organizations, which develop small and large-scale community-based programs, projects, events, and publications. The Panel recommended funding 20 applicants for a total of \$150,000.00. No Councilor conflicts of interest were identified. A motion was made to fund all the of the panel's recommendations. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

After School Film Institute, Inc.	\$7,377
Arts Connection Foundation	\$7,377
Community Performing Arts Association Inc.	\$7,377
Cuatrogatos Foundation, Inc.	\$7,377
Florida Dance Education Organization, Inc.	\$7,377

Florida International Philharmonic	\$7,377
Key Biscayne Community Foundation, Inc. a/f/a Free Plastic, Inc.	\$7,377
Lemon City Cemetery Community Corporation	\$7,377
Merrick Festival Incorporated	\$9,837
Miami Beach Arts Trust, Inc.	\$7,377
Miami Center for Architecture & Design, Inc.	\$7,377
Miami Youth Orchestra	\$7,377
MUD Foundation, Inc.	\$7,377
Prizm Projects, Inc.	\$7,377
Siudy Flamenco Dance theater, Inc. a/f/a Nu Flamenco Collaborative, Inc.	\$7,377
Strength in Numbers/ Power in Connection, Inc.	\$7,377
Town of Cutler Bay	\$7,377
Voices of Miami, Inc.	\$7,377
Women Photographers International Archive, Inc.	\$7,377
Zunzun Arts & Education, Inc.	\$7,377

#### **FY 2021-2022 Major Cultural Institutions (MCI) Grants Program Recommendations**

Mr. Spring reported that Department's program staff determined it was not necessary to convene a panel meeting this year as all organizations supported through the Major Cultural Institutions (MCI) grant program have met all program requirements and continue to demonstrate their resilience during our most challenging time. This is an interim cycle for MCI grant recipients, as the program operates on a four-year review cycle. Funding for the program is derived from departmental proprietary revenues and all recommendations are contingent upon approval of the Department of Cultural Affairs' FY 2021-2022 budget and are calculated based on the funding formula.

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

Mitchell Bierman- Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of Jewish Museum of Florida

Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of Frost Art Museum

Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Wilsonian

GableStage, Inc. / Coconut Grove Playhouse

Adolfo Henriques- Florida Grand Opera

Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of Jewish Museum of Florida

Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of Frost Art Museum

Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Wilsonian

GableStage, Inc. / Coconut Grove Playhouse

Justin Trieger - New World Symphony, Inc.

A motion was made to fund all the of the panel's recommendations subject to Councilors with conflicts abstaining from voting on the applications affected. The Councilors with the above-mentioned conflicts of interest abstained from the voting. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. May; seconded by Mr. Bierman)

Adrienne Arsht Center Trust, Inc. d/b/a Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts  
Actors' Playhouse Productions, Inc.  
Friends of the Bass Museum, Inc., for the Bass Museum of Art  
Miami City Ballet Inc.  
New World Symphony, Inc.  
South Florida Art Center, Inc. d/b/a Oolite Arts  
The M Ensemble Company, Inc.  
The Miami Symphony Orchestra/ Orquesta Sinfonica de Miami, Inc.  
University of Miami, Lowe Art Museum

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

Adrienne Arsht Center Trust, Inc. d/b/a Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts  
(Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

Florida Grand Opera, Inc.  
(Motion by Ms. Sugrañes; seconded by Mr. Bierman)

Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of Jewish Museum of Florida  
Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum  
Florida International University Board of Trustees, for the benefit of The Wolfsonian  
(Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Sugrañes)

Museum of Contemporary Art, Inc.  
(Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Sugrañes)

New World Symphony, Inc.  
(Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

GableStage, Inc. / Coconut Grove Playhouse  
(Motion by Ms. Sugrañes; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

### **FY 2021-2022 Youth Arts Enrichment (YEP) Grants Program Panel Recommendations**

Mr. Spring reported that the FY 2021-2022 Youth Arts Enrichment Program (YEP) grants panel, chaired by Mireille Chancy-Gonzalez, convened on August 25, 2021, to review applications. The Panel recommended funding 29 applications for a total of \$550,000.00. The program was created as a joint initiative with the Department's longtime partner, The Children's Trust. The objective of the Youth Arts Enrichment grants program is to improve the lives of children through the arts by making the arts available to more children and families. Funding for the program is derived from the FY 2021-2022 grant awarded to the Department by The Children's Trust. All recommendations are contingent upon approval of the Department of Cultural Affairs' FY 2021-2022 budget.

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

Alejandro Aguirre – Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Mitchell Bierman – GableStage, Inc.; Museum of Contemporary Art, Inc.

Sandra Curbelo – The Dance Now! Ensemble

Adolfo Henriques - GableStage, Inc.; The Miami Children's Museum

Jana Sigars-Malina - The Dance Now! Ensemble

Rosa Sugrañes - Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Justin Trieger – New World Symphony

A motion was made to fund all the of the panel's recommendations subject to Councilors with conflicts abstaining from voting on the applications affected. The Councilors with the above-mentioned conflicts of interest abstained from the voting. They were approved unanimously. (Motion by Mr. May; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)

After School Film Institute, Inc.	\$25,599
Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Inc.	\$26,225
Brazilian Voices, Inc.	\$20,000
Coral Gables Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), Inc.	\$30,000
El Ingenio Inc.	\$25,568
Friendship Circle of Miami	\$18,778
Karen Peterson and Dancers, Inc.	\$9,400
Mahogany Youth Corporation	\$10,000
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Inc.	\$10,000
Mexican American Council, Inc.	\$26,412
Miami Chamber Music Society, Inc.	\$10,000
Miami City Ballet, Inc.	\$30,000
Miami New Drama, Inc.	\$25,505
Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center, Inc.	\$10,000
O, Miami, Inc.	\$25,787
Orchestra Miami, Inc.	\$10,000
Pinecrest City Music Project Inc.	\$10,000
Seraphic Fire, Inc.	\$26,662
South Florida Arts & Counseling Inc.	\$18,222
South Florida Symphony Orchestra, Inc.	\$10,000
The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.	\$26,568
The Murray Dranoff Foundation, Inc.	\$10,000
The Opera Atelier, Inc.	\$26,131

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

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Inc. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)	\$10,000
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GableStage, Inc. (Motion by Mr. Aguirre; seconded by Ms. Chancy-Gonzalez)	\$10,000
Museum of Contemporary Art, Inc. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Sugrañes)	\$26,600
New World Symphony, Inc. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Sugrañes)	\$10,000
The Dance NOW! Ensemble, Inc. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Mr. Trieger)	\$26,193
The Miami Children's Museum, Inc. (Motion by Ms. Sigars-Malina; seconded by Ms. Sugrañes)	\$26,350

### **FY 2021-2022 Grants Programs Panel Recommendations**

Mr. Spring presented the aggregate of all grants programs panel recommendations that will be adopted as part of the budget process. Mr. Spring reported that Miami-Dade County Mayor Levine Cava proposed the FY 2021-2022 County budget and recommended renewal of funding for the Department of Cultural Affairs. The recommendation includes the approved subsidy for Roxy Theatre Group to manage the Westchester Cultural Arts Center and a \$340,000 increase to the Department's budget to restore funding for arts education programs, for Culture Shock Miami, and for professional development workshops to improve artists' business skills. A motion was made to approve the Grants Program Panel Recommendations. (Motion by Mr. Henriques; seconded by Ms. Sigars-Malina)

### **Director's Report**

- Mr. Spring reported that at the first Budget Hearing the Board of County Commissioners voted for the millage rate that was set by the County Commission in July. The Commission will finalize the millage rate and the FY 2021-2022 budget at the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final public hearing on Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. During the public testimony, support was expressed for the \$500,000 subsidy in the Mayor's budget for the Historic Hampton House. There was no public comment on the Department's overall budget. Mr. Spring recognized Councilor Mitchell Bierman's attendance at the hearing.
- The Department submitted three grant applications to the SBA's Shuttered Venue Operators Grant program. The Department received awards to benefit Miami-Dade County Auditorium, the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, and the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center. The Department received an invitation to apply for a second round of funding. Staff promoted the opportunity widely and an analysis showed Miami-Dade County cultural groups secured 21% of all Florida awards.
- Mr. Spring reported that Miami-Dade County's court appeals have been filed for the Coconut Grove Playhouse project. Miami-Dade County Mayor Levine Cava and Commissioner Regalado are promoting the County Playhouse plan and will host a Zoom community meeting to provide the latest updates to public in early October.
- Department staff member Graham Winick has been promoted and is now the new Chief of Administration.

### **Councilor Reports**

- Mr. Bierman reported that he visited many galleries during his stay in New York. He noted that many exhibitions featured artists from the African and Caribbean Diaspora, and Franklin Sirmans and the Pérez Art Museum Miami are recognized as having put us on the map in a significant way.

- Ms. Sigars-Malina reported that the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden has family-friendly events happening at the garden. She also recognized the work of Rosie Gordon Wallace.
- Mr. Triegeer reported that the New World Symphony is scheduled to have its first in-person audience since March 2020.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.

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