

Memorandum



Date: June 13, 2011

RCA

Agenda Item No. 7(R)

To: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Alina T. Hudak
County Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alina T. Hudak".

Subject: Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County –
Monthly Status Report

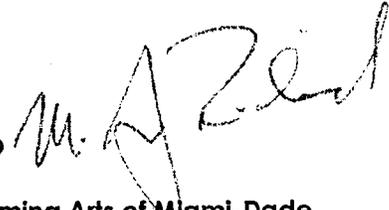
Attached please find the monthly status report and financials provided from the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County.

Attachment

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Spring".

Michael Spring
Director, Cultural Affairs

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 23, 2011
To: Alina Hudak, County Manager
From: M. John Richard, President and CEO 
Subject: Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade
County Status Report

Earlier this month over 150 of Miami's community and business leaders gathered for the Center's inaugural State of the Arsht Address. Our purpose was to share some of the highlights of our first four seasons, culminating with this landmark 5th Anniversary Season. As a mission-driven public/private partnership, the Center takes its stewardship responsibilities very seriously. The State of the Arsht provided an opportunity to share how the Center has served our community by reinvesting the resources received to date, and how we intend to put future resources to work for our community.

Free Community Programming

So far more than 4,000 people have taken part in the free Family Fest series this year—with a total of over 23,000 kids and adults since the series began in 2008. This year's series concluded on May 14 with "Creole for Kidz & The History of Zydeco," a Big Easy-style party, spotlighting American Roots music from Louisiana and Mardi Gras-flavored fun for the whole family. This season has been a diverse spectacle of music and dance. At the *Milkshake* concert in November, kids were so inspired by the Grammy nominated band that they rocked the house with the 'electric' guitars they had just crafted themselves. In January, the Knight Concert Hall was filled to capacity for a performance by *Balé Folclórico da Bahia*, whose capoeira, samba and carnival style moves and music captivated families. Youngsters then took a musical trip around the world with the global rhythms of the Miami Music Project in March. These are just a few highlights from this season's Family Fest series, which always feature family-friendly out-of-doors activities and performances that provide engaging opportunities for parents to share arts activities with their children.

On May 19 the Adrienne Arsht Center hosted a *Cirque Eloize iD* Kickoff party - a special free event for the community previewing the Center's summer theatrical spectacle that begins performances July 26 in the Ziff Ballet Opera House. The July performance will feature graffiti art by artists from Primary Flight— Miami's original open air museum and street level mural installation, responsible for mural

art in the Wynwood Art District. The community preview evening ended with a thrill when the Cirque Eloize *iD* cast performed a spectacular display of acrobatic feats.

Nurturing International Artists

Intensely aware of the precarious position of many Haitian arts groups following the catastrophic 2010 earthquake, the Adrienne Arsht Center was determined to help the country in some meaningful way. To this end, the Adrienne Arsht Center convened an outstanding group of community leaders committed to helping Ayikodans, a Haiti-based danced company, develop long term tools for success so that they may continue to inspire pride in the strength, beauty and richness of Haitian culture. Co-chairs John Yearwood from *The Miami Herald* and Youri Mevs of WinGroup guided the committee which included Miami-Dade Commissioner Jean Monestime, Haitian Consul Ralph Latortue and Spanish General Consul Cristina Barrios. Working with the committee the Center produced a fundraiser for the dance troupe in order to help the company through their immediate challenges.

Led by visionary choreographer Jeanguy Saintus, the talent and resilience of the Ayikodans subsequently led to the Adrienne Arsht Center's commission of a new work from the company set to premiere in Miami in spring 2012.

Summer Programming

The Tony Award-winning production of *Hair* kicks off the summer on an exuberant high. Opening May 31, and featuring an extraordinary score of unforgettable songs including "Aquarius," "Let the Sun Shine In," "Good Morning, Starshine," and "Easy to be Hard," *Hair* is easily one of the most euphoric and moving works ever produced by the America musical theater. This production is so popular that New York City audiences have demanded it return to Broadway for the summer, following its national tour.

City Theatre, now in its 16th season, will present three productions at the Adrienne Arsht Center this summer. Up first, June 2 – 26, is the ever-popular *Summer Shorts*, a chance to see seven of the country's best short plays in one non-stop evening of comedy and drama. The 2011 edition features TV and stage star Jai Rodriguez, known not only for Bravo TV's "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy," but also for indelible performances in the iconic Broadway musicals *Rent* and *The Producers*. Jai will also be in town to share his *Dirty Little Secrets*, a hilarious and provocative show, suitable for mature audiences only, being given just four performances on June 10, 17, 19, and 24. Finally, last year's family musical triumph, *Camp Kappawanna*, returns by popular demand June 15 – 26, with several new songs by Lisa Loeb and a joyful and insightful book by Marco Ramirez.

Celebrating 26 years of Hispanic culture Teatro Avante returns to the Center to present the acclaimed *International Hispanic Theater Festival* July 7 – 24. Featuring the best theater groups from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico,

Spain, and the United States this year's festival will be a continent-spanning tribute to Chile.

Finances

This year's projections call for a balanced budget (see attached document).

- During the first seven months of the fiscal year, the Adrienne Arsht Center hosted 304 events.
- All performances have sold at 69% through April.
- Arsht Center Presents and Broadway have sold at 71% for the year compared to budget of 68%.
- Occupancy costs for the year are \$4.5 million which is on budget.

Very Special Event

On June 13, 2011, the President of the United States, Barack Obama, will be at the Adrienne Arsht Center for a DNC fundraiser for his re-election campaign. The festivities will take place in the John S. and James L. Knight concert Hall.