

Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY

Date: December 12, 2011

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

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center
Status Report

RCA
Agenda Item No. 6(B)

Under the management of the Department of Cultural Affairs, the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center is continuing to enjoy enthusiastic media and audience response to presentations in its inaugural season. The Center's November presentations of Garth Fagan Dance, Brazz Dance Theater, and Nestor Torres featured world-class entertainers and community outreach involving Mays Conservatory School, Greater Miami Youth Symphony, the Thomas Armour Dance Conservatory, the Miami Children's Chorus, and students from the New World School of The Arts. In addition, master classes with Garth Fagan Dance for intermediate and advanced dancers from the community took place. The Center continues to emphasize its goals of presenting artistically excellent work and developing strong community outreach components in everything that it does.

This month, the Center is presenting two spectacular performances for the holiday season: a ballet performance of *The Nutcracker* by Miami Youth Ballet (December 2 and 3); and a musical production by the chorus Seraphic Fire called *O Holy Night* (December 17). In addition, the Center has secured several rental performances by cultural and community groups for the month of December: Miami Symphony Orchestra, Artistic Dance Studio, and Centro International Teoterapis.

For a complete listing of upcoming events, please visit the Center's website, www.smdcac.org.

The Center is finishing the recruitment of its staff with the appointment of its Theater Facilities Manager and has completed interviews for the position of Education and Outreach Manager. Interviews are being conducted currently for the Center's part-time House Manager.

Commissioner Dennis Moss has allocated People's Transportation Plan funds for the creation of a much-needed cross walk for and re-signalization of SW 211th street in front of the Center and its main parking entrance.

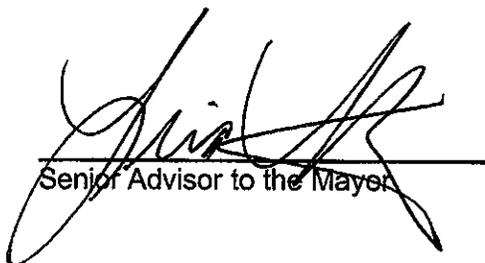
BACKGROUND

The South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center is located on S.W. 211 Street in Cutler Bay and is a multidisciplinary arts center designed to showcase the performing arts. The design team was led by architectural and engineering firm Arquitectonica International, Inc, and also included: theater consultant Fisher Dachs Associates, Inc.; acoustical and sound and communications consultant Artec Consultants, Inc.; and arts management consultant AMS Planning & Research Corp.

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The Center's 966-seat state-of-the-art Theater Building includes a fly tower, orchestra pit, front of house spaces (box office, lobby, restrooms, concessions, etc.), back of house support spaces (dressing rooms, storage and work areas, administrative offices, etc.) and a multi-purpose rehearsal space. The separate Activities Building of the Center houses an informal performance space, and smaller multi-purpose spaces for lectures, classes, or community gatherings. The Center's two buildings are joined by an outdoor promenade leading to a gently-sloping lawn for outdoor concerts and festivals along the Black Creek Canal.

Through Miami-Dade County's Art in Public Places Program, the Center has major public art works created by Miami artist Robert Chambers. An innovative light piece illuminates the translucent inner lobby wall with changing light designs created by computer-programmed LED fixtures. In addition, the lobby features two marble sculptures also created by Robert Chambers.



Senior Advisor to the Mayor