

Memorandum



Date: July 8, 2013

To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center Status Report

CRC
Agenda Item No. 7(C)

The second season of the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC) commenced on October 1, 2012. For the eight month period following the start of season two, SMDCAC held 196 events among the three performance venues (Mainstage, Black Box and Lab Theater) hosting over 49,426 patrons and guests. The Center continues to emphasize its goals of presenting artistically excellent work and developing strong community outreach components in everything that it does. A comparison of attendance at events from May 2012 and May 2013 shows an increase of over 55%.

SMDCAC was the proud to host the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Meeting on May 20. This provided a great opportunity for our elected officials and their staffs to experience the Center as a place to host events. This was the first of a series of BCC meetings that may take place throughout the County.

The Center's second season of performance presentations concluded in late May with four Cabaret performances by New York City songstress Connie James. In June, the Center hosted two outreach classes: dance classes with Alvin Ailey dancer Clifton Brown (June 7 and 8) and The Art of Exotic Dance for Everyday Women (June 15 and 22). The Clifton Brown classes were for advanced or professional dancers to learn and practice technique in the Horton and Modern styles. The Art of Exotic Dance classes were community classes open to women ages 18 and above as a workshop on how to build self-awareness and confidence.

In June, the Center continues to provide the South Miami-Dade community with a great facility for school graduations and recitals. June events included: Artistic Dance Theater recital (June 1), Miami-Dade County Police Department graduation (June 3), Archimedean Academy graduation (June 4), Somerset High School graduation (June 5), Roxy Theater performance (June 9), Stars Dance Theater recital (June 14), Miami Dance Project recital (June 15), Focal Point Dance recital (June 22-23), and Adrenaline Dance recital (June 29). In addition, the Greater Miami Youth Symphony Advanced Summer Camp was held at the Center (June 10-28) with a culminating concert open to the public on June 28.

The Center is preparing for the 2013-2014 season of presentations which begins in October. A season highlights brochure is currently available outlining some of the upcoming shows which include: Diavolo Dance, Stanley Clarke and The Harlem String Quartet, Fisk Jubilee Singers, Tango Fire, Broadway's Godspell, Kurt Elling, Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Take 6, Driving Miss Daisy performed by the Walnut Street Theatre, Pancho Sanchez and James Carter, and the Trey McIntyre Project. The full season brochure with a special offering to "Build Your Own Subscription" will be available in early August.

The South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center has for the fourth consecutive year successfully received programming funding from South Arts through their competitive grants process. This year's funding totals over \$20,000 and includes:

- \$12,000 Award for the presentation of the Fisk Jubilee Singers
- \$ 4,018 Award for the presentation of Walnut Street Theater, Driving Miss Daisy
- \$ 6,150 Award for the presentation of Complexion Contemporary Ballet Company

Ongoing capital improvements continue at the facility to include new signage over the Black Box and Backstage entrances, wayfinding signage throughout the property to assist our public, artists and business operations.

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

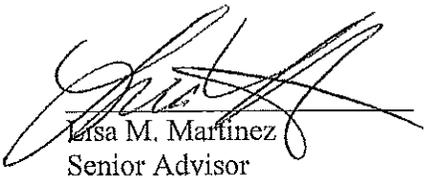
BACKGROUND

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.

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.

This season Mercedes-Benz of Cutler Bay has generously sponsored the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center's Cabaret Series.



Lisa M. Martinez
Senior Advisor

**All Kids Included Family Arts Festival
May, 2013**

