



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES
Cultural Affairs and Recreation Committee (CRC)**

Board of County Commissioners

Stephen P. Clark Government Center
Commission Chambers
111 N.W. First Street
Miami, Florida 33128

February 10, 2014
As Advertised

Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief
Clerk of the Board Division

Kerry Khunjar, Commission Reporter
(305) 375-5108





Stephen P. Clark
Government Center
111 N.W. 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

FINAL OFFICIAL Meeting Minutes Cultural Affairs & Recreation Committee

Javier D. Souto (10) Chair; Barbara J. Jordan (1) Vice Chair; Commissioners Jean Monestime (2) and Xavier L. Suarez (7)

Monday, February 10, 2014

9:30 AM

COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Members Present: Barbara J. Jordan, Jean Monestime, Sen. Javier D. Souto, Xavier L. Suarez.

Members Absent: None.

Members Late: None.

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent County Business: None.

1 MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Report: *Kerry Khunjar, Commission Reporter
(305) 375-5108*

**1A INVOCATION AS PROVIDED IN RULE 5.05
(H)**

1B ROLL CALL

Report: *In addition to the members of the Committee, the following staff members were also present:
~Senior Advisor to the Mayor Lisa Martinez
~Assistant County Attorneys Monica Rizo and Miguel Gonzalez
~Deputy Clerks Cindy White and Kerry Khunjar*

1C PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**1D SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS (SCHEDULED
TO BEGIN AT 9:00 AM)**

1D1

140201 Service Awards**Rebeca Sosa**PRESENTATION OF SERVICE AWARDS TO THE
FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES:***Presented***ZOILA Z. VEGA - LIBRARY - 35 YEARS
KENNETH WHITING, JR. - VIZCAYA MUSEUM - 35
YEARS

Report: *Chairman Souto acknowledged and commended Mrs. Zoila Vega and Mr. Kenneth Whiting Jr. for their numerous years of dedicated service to the County. He noted upon their retirement and the retirement of so many other employees whom have served the community for years, the County stood to lose immense experience and knowledge these men and women had acquired through the years. Commissioner Souto stated that the County should explore the possibility of retaining retiring employees in advisory roles so that their vast experience could benefit the community and County as a whole.*

Chairman Souto asked Mr. Joel Hoffman, Executive Director for Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, to provide the Committee with an overview of upcoming events.

Mr. Hoffman informed the Committee of Vizcaya's "Moonlight Garden Tours" and thanked Chairman Souto for his kind words and continuous support.

MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA

Assistant County Attorney Monica Rizo noted there was a scrivener's error on Agenda Item 2E. She pointed out that the fifth "whereas" clause should read "Miami Dade College" and not "Miami Dade Community College".

It was moved by Commissioner Suarez that the February 10, 2014 CRC Agenda be approved with the changes requested by Assistant County Attorney Rizo. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 4-0.

1E DISCUSSION ITEMS

1F PUBLIC HEARINGS

2 COUNTY COMMISSION

2A

140224 Resolution

Lynda Bell

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MAYOR, THROUGH THE PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES DEPARTMENT, TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO ASSESS THE TREE CANOPY AND GREENING IN COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 8 WITH INTENT TO INCREASE SAME AND TO PRESENT WRITTEN RESULTS OF STUDY TO BOARD WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Suarez

Seconder: Jordan

Vote: 4-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Monica Rizo read the foregoing proposed resolution into the record.*

Hearing no discussion, the Committee members proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed resolution, as presented.

2B

140222 Resolution

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.,

Sally A. Heyman

RESOLUTION DIRECTING MAYOR OR MAYOR'S
DESIGNEE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF
IMPLEMENTING AN ONLINE SELF-SERVICE PARKING
PAYMENT SERVICE FOR COLLECTION OF PARKING
FEES AT COUNTY-OWNED PARKS AND TO PRESENT A
REPORT TO THE BOARD WITH THE RESULTS OF THE
FEASIBILITY STUDY AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WITHIN SIXTY (60)
DAYS

Deferred to next committee meeting

Mover: Suarez

Seconder: Jordan

Vote: 4-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Monica Rizo read the
foregoing proposed resolution into the record.*

*Commissioner Suarez requested that the foregoing
proposed resolution be deferred to the next
Committee meeting (3/10).*

*Hearing no further discussions, the Committee
members proceeded to vote on the motion to defer
the foregoing proposed resolution to the next
Committee meeting date of March 10, 2014.*

2C

140059 Resolution**Rebeca Sosa**

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SB 378 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION REQUIRING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO PROVIDE DISCOUNTS AT PARKS FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND VETERANS SO LONG AS THE LEGISLATURE PROVIDES FUNDING FOR SUCH DISCOUNTS SO THAT PROPERTY TAXES DO NOT HAVE TO BE INCREASED TO OFFSET THE COST; DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO PROVIDE A REPORT TO THE BOARD ESTIMATING THE FISCAL IMPACT ASSOCIATED WITH SB 378

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Suarez

Secunder: Souto

Vote: 4-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Monica Rizo read the foregoing proposed resolution into the record.*

Vice Chairwoman Jordan asked for clarification regarding funding for the foregoing proposed resolution. She expressed interest in knowing whether or not the current legislation, State Bill (SB) 378, included language related to state funding as she would be hesitant to support the foregoing proposed resolution if this was not the case.

Mr. Jack Kardys, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS), informed the Committee members that he did not believe the current legislation included language or provided for state funding.

Vice Chairwoman Jordan reiterated her concerns regarding the absence of state funding for the foregoing proposed resolution and added that she was apprehensive about the County being made to bear or absorb the cost. She noted she would fully support the foregoing proposed resolution if the current legislation included language regarding a state funding source.

Chairman Souto reviewed the foregoing proposed resolution and noted the proposal specified "so long as the legislature provides funding for such discounts so that property taxes do not have to be increased to offset the cost."

Commissioner Suarez enquired from Chairman Souto if the Committee would be provided an estimate of the financial impact that the foregoing proposed resolution would have on the County Budget.

Chairman Souto stated he believed that a report

would be generated showing the estimated cost to the County.

Commissioner Suarez noted he would move the foregoing proposed resolution with a caveat that a report detailing the fiscal impact to the County be prepared.

Commissioner Suarez asked Senior Advisor to the Mayor, Ms. Lisa Martinez, to provide a report detailing the fiscal impact that the foregoing proposed resolution would have on the County budget. He asked that the report be made available for review before the next Board of County Commissioner's Regular Meeting scheduled for February 19, 2014.

Hearing no further discussions, the Committee members proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed resolution, as presented.

2D

140212 Resolution**Sen. Javier D. Souto**

RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENTS OF IMPLEMENTING ORDER 3-38 FOR SECURING SPONSORSHIPS AND PURCHASING GOODS AND SERVICES FOR HOSTING THE 7TH ANNUAL MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE AND CATTLE SHOW TO BE HELD ON APRIL 11-13, 2014

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Souto

Seconded: Suarez

Vote: 4-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Monica Rizo read the foregoing proposed resolution into the record.*

Chairman Souto relinquished the Chair to Vice Chairwoman Jordan.

After the vote was taken Chairman Souto spoke about the upcoming 2014 Miami International Agriculture and Cattle Show (MIACS). He noted the three-day event was scheduled for the weekend of April 11 and was free to the public. Chairman Souto pointed out that in addition to being a showcase for cattle and agriculture, the event was family-friendly with all proceeds from the sale of refreshments and foods being contributed to a Charter School for autistic children.

Chairman Souto boasted about the “hi-tech” nature of the show, pointing out that it was responsible for bringing the best in the field of science and agriculture to the County. He noted the MIACS was the perfect stage for discussions regarding the newest advancements in agriculture and cattle ranching.

Chairman Souto stated that while Miami was famous for its beaches and tourism, Miami Dade County should also be recognized as an agricultural powerhouse responsible for growing and supplying food and produce throughout the country and world. He stated that Miami Dade County should strive for worldwide recognition as the “Silicone Valley” for agriculture and acknowledged the important role the County already plays as the main connector between the USA and Latin America as well as the Caribbean.

Chairman Souto spoke about the agriculture industry and the potential for job creation particularly in light of all the advancements made to-date in technology and farming. He reiterated the importance of the MIACS as well as the need to inform the public about the show and the industry.

Commissioner Monestime commended Chairman Souto for all his hard work and acknowledged his dedication to making the Cattle Show a great event for the Miami Dade Community. He informed the Committee that Haiti's Ministry of Agriculture would soon be in touch with Chairman Souto's office regarding the scheduling of meetings in response to his offer to help that country's agricultural industry. Commissioner Monestime explained that Haiti's Ministry of Agriculture was attempting to include a representative from the University of Haiti's Agricultural Department in the discussions with Chairman Souto; hence the delay in setting up meetings.

Commissioner Monestime acknowledged and recognized Chairman Souto's attempts to expand the reach of the MIACS to the South American and Caribbean markets and applauded his efforts at sharing the knowledge and expertise the show had afforded Miami Dade County. He spoke of the many benefits that Haiti's agricultural industry stood to gain from meeting with Chairman Souto.

Commissioner Monestime offered his commitment to ensuring that the meetings were organized and facilitated between Chairman Souto and the representatives from Haiti's Ministry of Agriculture.

Hearing no discussion, the Committee members proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed resolution, as presented.

2E

140223 Resolution**Sen. Javier D. Souto,****Jean Monestime*****Amended***

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO STUDY DATA AND UNDERTAKE ANY NECESSARY RESEARCH IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON ANNUAL BASIS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY OF ALL MAJOR CULTURAL, SPORTING, ENTERTAINMENT, POLITICAL, EDUCATIONAL, RELIGIOUS, AND PROFESSIONAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES HELD IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS AND TO PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT WITH THE RESULTS OF SUCH STUDY TO THE BOARD AT THE MAY 20, 2014 BOARD MEETING

Report: *See Agenda Item 2E Amended, Legislative File No. 140424 for the amended version.*

2E Amended

140424 Resolution**Sen. Javier D. Souto,****Jean Monestime, Rebeca Sosa**

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO STUDY DATA AND UNDERTAKE ANY NECESSARY RESEARCH IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON ANNUAL BASIS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY OF ALL MAJOR CULTURAL, SPORTING, ENTERTAINMENT, POLITICAL, EDUCATIONAL, RELIGIOUS, AND PROFESSIONAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES HELD IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS AND TO PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT WITH THE RESULTS OF SUCH STUDY TO THE BOARD AT THE MAY 20, 2014 BOARD MEETING [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 140223]

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation with committee amendment(s)

Mover: Souto

Seconder: Monestime

Vote: 3-0

Absent: Suarez

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Monica Rizo read the foregoing proposed resolution, as amended with Committee amendment(s).*

Chairman Souto stated that he was pleased with the accomplishments of the Cultural Affairs and Recreation Committee (CRC) and noted he believed that the County had benefitted tremendously from all the work done by the Committee and the Cultural Affairs Department. He spoke of soccer superstar David Beckham's recent visit to the County, highlighting his stop at Kendall Soccer Park, the home of "Soccer 5" which boasts four illuminated soccer fields. Chairman Souto asked Mr. Jack Kardys, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS), to elaborate on the details of Mr. Beckham's visit to the park.

Mr. Kardys reported that Mr. Beckham's visit to the Kendall Soccer Park was a great success. He spoke about the overwhelming response from the community for Mr. Beckham's visit and stated he believed that the Kendall Soccer Park was the ideal location for the event.

Chairman Souto spoke about his involvement in the initiative to promote and grow soccer in Miami Dade County. He recalled the history of Kendall Soccer Park and all the underlying work that went into securing the land, as well as financing and constructing the facility.

Chairman Souto highlighted the fact that Kendall Soccer Park was not only self-sufficient but was one of many parks that generated income for the

County. He suggested that income generated by parks such as Kendall Soccer Park and the Equestrian Center located in Tropical Park be used to offset the operating costs for smaller parks throughout the County; thus creating a self-sufficient parks system.

Chairman Souto stated that while he was unaware of the reasons why Mr. Beckham chose Kendall Soccer Park as a stop in his visit to South Florida, he believed that the decision to use the Park was a clever one and fully supported Mr. Beckham's decision. He stated that while he was not involved in the efforts to bring Major League Soccer (MLS) to Miami, he hoped the venture would be successful and result in greater advancement and benefits for the citizens of Miami Dade County.

Vice Chairwoman Jordan opened the floor for public comments on the foregoing proposed resolution, as amended.

Ms. Renita Holmes, 5800 NW 7th Avenue, Suite 213, Miami, appeared on behalf of the Women's Association and Alliance against Violent Experiences (WAAVE), and spoke of the important role parks, recreational facilities and safe spaces played in the lives of children and victims of domestic abuse and violence. She called for the study to be more diverse and explore the issues of accessibility to parks and other cultural facilities by the less fortunate. Ms. Holmes also asked for the study to be more gender specific.

Hearing no further discussion, the Committee members proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed resolution, as amended.

2F

140227 Resolution

Sen. Javier D. Souto,

Rebeca Sosa

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO CONDUCT A STUDY ANALYZING THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ART AND CULTURAL EVENTS ON MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Souto

Seconder: Monestime

Vote: 3-0

Absent: Suarez

Report: Assistant County Attorney Monica Rizo read the foregoing proposed resolution into the record.

Hearing no discussion, the Committee members proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed resolution, as presented.

3 DEPARTMENTS

4 COUNTY MAYOR

5 COUNTY ATTORNEY

6 CLERK OF THE BOARD

6A

140202 Report

APPROVAL OF CLERK'S MEETING MINUTES FOR THE
JANUARY 15, 2014 CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND
RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING (Clerk of the
Board)

Approved
Mover: Jordan
Seconder: Monestime
Vote: 4-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Monica Rizo read the
title of the foregoing report into the record.*

*Hearing no discussion, the Committee members
proceeded to vote on the foregoing report, as
presented.*

7 REPORTS

7A

140253 Report

ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY- MONTHLY
STATUS REPORT (Mayor)

Report Received
Mover: Monestime
Seconder: Jordan
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Suarez

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Monica Rizo read the title of the foregoing report into the record.*

Commissioner Suarez requested a status update regarding the water damage at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts (AACPA).

Senior Advisor to the Mayor Lisa Martinez apprised the Committee of the latest developments regarding the water damage at AACPA. She noted a third-party engineer was currently in the process of identifying the scope of repairs needing to be done at the Center. Ms. Martinez pointed out that a settlement agreement was previously brought before the Board of County Commissioner's (BCC) and the Administration was proceeding with said agreement. She added that the next step would be to recoup monies already spent by the County on the repairs but this would not begin until the full repairs recommended by the third party engineer were completed.

Commissioner Suarez asked Ms. Rizo if there was any insurance or third-party liability coverage for the damages.

Ms. Rizo informed the Committee that she believed the claim process had already begun and there may be arbitration involved. She stated that she would contact the County Attorney assigned to the matter for more information and informed Commissioner Suarez that he would be contacted personally by said County Attorney.

Ms. Valerie Riles, Vice President, Board and Government Relations, AACPA, appeared on behalf of Mr. John Richard and provided the Committee with a brief oral report for the Center. She spoke of the past weekend's events highlighting performances by the Soweto Gospel Choir and its tribute to Nelson Mandela, Pat Metheny and the Unity Group, Zoetic Stage's production of "Assassins" performed at the Carnival Studio Theater and the Broadway hit

“Once”.

In keeping with the Center’s commitment to community outreach and its mission to offer arts education to the entire community, Ms. Riles informed the Committee that AACPA was offering artists residencies with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and the dance group “Raw”, led by choreographer Rennie Harris.

Ms. Riles noted an unqualified audit performed in January on the Center’s operations and budget revealed strong ticket sales and occupancy costs as budgeted. She spoke about the upcoming gala to be held on April 5, 2014, featuring Kevin Spacey.

Ms. Riles provided a summary of this week’s upcoming events featuring New World School of Arts’ (NWSA) production, “From Russia with Love”, Miami City Ballet’s “Triple Threat”, and a “Free Gospel Sunday” performance by Dottie Peoples.

Chairman Souto thanked Ms. Riles and the AACPA family for a job well done. He stressed the importance of community outreach and ensuring that the facility and program was made available to everyone. He echoed the sentiments of Ms. Renita Holmes regarding the positive impact that cultural activities and centers have on victims of domestic abuse and violence.

In response to Chairman Souto’s enquiry regarding the status of the selection process for architectural services for the design and construction of the Westchester Cultural Arts Center (WCAC) at Tropical Park, Mr. Michael Spring, Director of Cultural Affairs, advised the Committee that a notice for professional consultants was being finalized and would soon be issued so that the competitive selection process could begin.

Mr. Spring informed the Committee that his department had also begun working with the Budget Office in an attempt to identify supplemental funding sources for the construction of the WCAC. He expressed his optimism that alternative funds could be secured to offset infrastructural costs. Mr. Spring noted the site identified for the construction of the Center was a prime and prominent location situated at the entrance of Tropical Park. He voiced his hopes that a strong and creative architectural team

would soon be sourced to design a cultural arts center that would serve and make proud the residents of the community.

Mr. Spring promised to keep the Committee abreast of all developments regarding the selection of the architectural team.

Chairman Souto spoke about the accessibility of the area earmarked for the construction of the WCAC, noting Tropical Park was conveniently located so that visitors using mass transit could easily get to and from the Park.

Vice Chairwoman Jordan asked for clarification from Mr. Spring pertaining to whether or not the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) had already approved the proposal and funding for the development of the Center.

Mr. Spring explained that funding for the WCAC was secured through a general obligation bond (GOB) allocation and his department had been working closely with Chairman Souto regarding the planning and development of the Center. He explained that the WCAC was intended to be a small-scale neighborhood cultural arts center envisioned to include performance spaces, classrooms and multi-purpose activity rooms, which would welcome visitors to the Tropical Park.

Vice Chairwoman Jordan enquired as to the amount of money that was allocated through the bond.

Mr. Spring informed the Committee that a combined total of approximately eight million dollars was allotted for the design and construction of the Center.

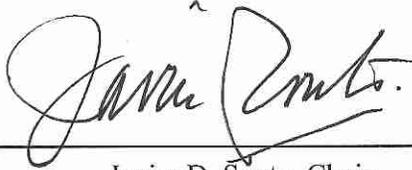
Chairman Souto noted based on preliminary designs the Center would house a three hundred seat theatre and other multi-purpose spaces.

Commissioner Monestime moved to receive the foregoing report.

Hearing no questions or comments, the Committee members proceeded to vote on the foregoing report, as presented.

8 ADJOURNMENT

Report: *There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 A.M.*



Javier D. Souto, Chair



CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE (CRC)

February 10, 2014

Prepared by: Kerry Khunjar

EXHIBITS LIST

NO.	DATE	ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
1	2/10/14	7A	Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts Center of Miami-Dade County-Monthly Status Report
2			
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Memorandum



Date: February 10, 2014

CRC

Agenda Item No. 7(A)

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

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos A. Gimenez".

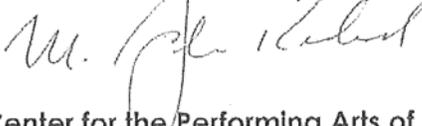
Subject: Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts Center of Miami-Dade County-
Monthly Status Report

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa M. Martinez".

Lisa M. Martinez
Senior Advisor

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 24, 2014
To: The Honorable Carlos Gimenez, County Mayor
From: M. John Richard 
Subject: Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade
County Monthly Status Report

Emmy, Oscar and Tony-winning actor Kevin Spacey will take the stage at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County's John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall for a special performance at the Center's eighth annual Gala on April 5, 2014. In an intimate evening of song and stories, Spacey will reprise hits from the Great American Song Book. Two of South Florida's most prominent philanthropists, Swanee and Paul DiMare, will chair the 2014 Gala event and the institution's name benefactor, Adrienne Arsht, will serve as Honorary Chair. Margaret and Mike Eidson are Co-Chairs.

Nurturing local artists

The Adrienne Arsht Center and Zoetic Stage are proud to present the Miami premiere of Assassins, Stephen Sondheim and John Weidman's Tony and Drama Desk Award-winning revue-style musical. Playing January 30 – February 23, 2014, in the Carnival Studio Theater (Ziff Ballet Opera House), Assassins continues the Arsht Center's highly acclaimed 2013-2014 Theater Up Close Series which features artistic collaborations from stellar local theater ensembles and nationally acclaimed theater companies. Assassins is the Arsht Center's first Broadway musical inside the Carnival Studio Theater. Zoetic's stellar cast is a 'who's who' of acclaimed local actors and all the elements are in place for an incredible theatrical event.

Arts Education

Last week the Arsht Center hosted the Tisch School of the Arts auditions for approximately 50 local and regional students looking to attend the school for their undergraduate studies in the disciplines of dance, vocal music and theater. This marks the fifth year the Arsht Center and New York University's top ranking drama program partner to bring the auditions to Miami making it possible for local and regional students to audition with little to no cost in travel and housing to NYC.

Nearly 100 students from local high schools and universities in Miami such as Florida Memorial University and Miami-Dade College participated in this month's Jazz Roots: Sound Check. The program, now in its seventh season, invites young musicians to observe a private sound check with the artists and have a question and answer session where students can learn about the career path of the guest artist. This month Grammy Award winning trumpeter and composer Chris Botti

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and his band improvised with the students on the Knight Concert Hall stage. Afterward, the students attended the Chris Botti concert, all free to the schools and students.

On Saturday, February 1st, the Center will host the Arsht Center Scholar auditions in partnership with the American Dance Festival School Auditions. For the past three years, the Arsht Center has awarded a full tuition scholarship to promising Miami-based dancer who has a high level of technical ability and creative potential. The three hour audition will be held at the Arsht Center's Peacock Foundation Studio. The Arsht Scholar will spend six weeks at the ADF School working with choreographers and dancers from around the world in Durham, North Carolina.

In mid-February the Center's Arsht Goes to School program will take Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater dancers for a special in school master class at Northwestern Senior High School in Liberty City. Fulfilling the Arsht Center's mission to go into the classroom with world-class artists to work with students in their own learning environment, the master class will be for 35 students at Northwestern's PAVAC magnet program.

Black History Month Celebration

The internationally acclaimed Soweto Gospel Choir launches Black History Month at the Arsht Center on February 5th with a moving tribute to Nelson Mandela. This rousing celebration will showcase the 24-member choir's signature mix of African gospel, reggae, and original arrangements of American pop music. February 2014 will also feature performances by the venerable Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, gospel legend Dottie Peoples and award-winning choreographer Rennie Harris who will present *Love American Style*, a new hip-hop musical to be performed by RHAW. As part of the RHAW Miami engagement at the Arsht Center, members of the Rennie Harris Awe-Inspiring Works street dance team will connect with the community and work with local school students through a residency and series of workshops.

Community Engagement

Earlier this month, I had the honor of being invited to speak to The Strategic Forum at Nova University. The Strategic Forum (TSF) was founded in 1999 in New York City and expanded in 2004 to South Florida. It is an organization consisting of prominent CEOs, entrepreneurs and business leaders who represent diverse public and private businesses and organizations. Members meet monthly to engage with invited guests from a variety of business, government and civic organizations.

Financials

- The Performing Arts Center Trust received an unqualified audit report for FY 12-13.
- The Center continues with a strong financial foundation. Ticket sales for December were strong.
- With three months of actual data, we project meeting the balanced budget at fiscal yearend.
- Occupancy costs are as budgeted.
- Chris Botti set a new Arsht Center ticket sales record for the *Jazz Roots Series*, beating out this season's Wynton Marsalis concert ticket sales as the highest-grossing *Jazz Roots* concert ever.

Upcoming Performances

- On January 24th and 25th, Music Director Franz Welser-Möst opens the 2014 Cleveland Orchestra Miami season in the Knight Concert Hall with concerts that feature music from past Viennese eras.
- Florida Grand Opera presents Giuseppe Verdi's *Nabucco*, Tuesday January 28th through February 1st for six performances in the Ziff Ballet Opera House.
- Winner of five 2004 Tony Awards including Best Revival of a Musical, *Assassins* plays in the Carnival Studio Theater January 30th through February 23rd.
- In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of its 1913 premiere, Franz Welser-Möst and the Cleveland Orchestra perform Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* on January 31st and February 1st in the Knight Concert Hall.
- *Once*, Broadway's 2012 Tony Award-winning Best Musical based on the Academy Award-winning film will make its South Florida debut in the Ziff Ballet Opera House Tuesday, February 4th through 9th for eight performances.
- Experience a powerful tribute to Nelson Mandela, as part of a spirited performance by international sensation Soweto Gospel Choir on February 5th in the Knight Concert Hall.
- South Florida is in for a once-in-a-lifetime musical experience when the Pat Metheny Unity Group makes its Arsht Center debut on February 7th in the Knight Concert Hall.

January 24, 2014

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Town Square Neighborhood Development Corporation

The TSNDC Board of Directors meet regularly to address the neighborhood development issues. We appreciate the ongoing advice and counsel of Lisa Martinez, Senior Advisor to Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez, and Michael Spring, Director of Cultural Affairs on behalf of the County.