

Memorandum



Date: May 24, 2013

To: Honorable Javier D. Souto
And Members Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Giminez
County Mayor 

Subject: Directive 130560 - Language Classes at Miami-Dade County Libraries

At the April 4, 2013 Cultural Affairs and Recreation Committee, Commissioner Javier D. Souto requested the Miami-Dade Public Library Director to emphasize, facilitate and increase the number of Portuguese language classes in the County's libraries as well as increase instruction classes in languages spoken by countries doing business with the County.

As a learning institution, the Library System is the perfect venue for members of the community to be able to have access to language classes. As an example, and per community requests, the Library System has offered Spanish language classes and will be offering classes in conversational Italian at the Coral Reef and Palmetto Bay branches from May through August 2013.

The Library System is currently exploring partnership opportunities with the Brazilian Cultural Center, the Cultural Center for Language Studies and the University of Miami's Division of Continuing and International Education to provide language instruction in Portuguese, Haitian-Creole and Spanish. Dates and locations for these classes will be posted on the library's website and will be promoted at library branches.

c: Lisa M. Martinez, Senior Advisor, County Mayor's Office
Raymond Santiago, Director, Library Department