INCLUDE ARTS AND CULTURAL GROUPS IN THE CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS
Special Meeting of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners
Monday, July 27, 2020 at 10:00 am
You must pre-register to speak. Go to https://www8.miamidade.gov/global/calendar/government-meetings.page and in the calendar, click on the Monday, July 27, 10 am meeting

Speakers have 2 minutes and this is strictly enforced - Expect to wait

Subject: Use of CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds
Objective: County Commission approval of funds for cultural relief from the $474 million of federal Coronavirus Relief Funds allocated to Miami-Dade County

Begin your comments by introducing yourself, stating your organization’s name, and providing your business address

Select from these talking points and personalize them (keep everything to 2 minutes):

Arts Organizations Are Businesses
• Non-profit cultural organizations are small businesses with growing financial losses and laid-off employees
• Arts businesses were among the first to be closed and will be among the last to re-open
• Our business survival is at stake
• Without support, hundreds of arts businesses and thousands of jobs will be lost

Arts Events Will Help Restart Our Economy
• Cultural organizations and events have been a major factor in shaping Miami-Dade County’s image as a diverse and dynamic place to visit and grow a business
• The arts will be essential to the re-opening of our economy
• Tourism relies on the cultural and entertainment opportunities that help attract visitors to our destination
• Workers and their families enjoy the arts as part of the benefit of making this home

Here Are the Facts
• From March through May, cultural businesses lost almost $60 million in revenue and more than 9,000 jobs
• Arts workers range from artists to accountants and security guards to managers.
• The arts are a $1.4 billion industry in Miami-Dade County, employing more than 40,000 people
• In March, arts businesses stopped operating – no ticket sales, no admissions, and fewer donations since everything was closed
• Like all other businesses, expenses did not stop – utility bills, rent, payroll, health insurance continued to be due

Coronavirus Relief Funds Can Help
• Coronavirus relief funds can be used to provide economic support to those suffering from business interruptions due to COVID-19-related business closures
• To reopen, arts businesses will have additional expenses to ensure public health safety – purchase of PPE, sanitizing supplies and services, additional staff, communications and marketing to promote the new audience protocols, etc.
• Elected officials in other communities are approving millions of dollars of these federal relief funds to help their arts organizations survive – some examples include Sacramento and Orange County, California; Phoenix and Mesa, Arizona; Oklahoma City; Fort Worth and San Antonio, Texas; Kansas City, Missouri
• Miami-Dade County is a national leader in supporting the arts. Now is the time for you to help and ensure that all of our investment in the arts is not lost