10K Small Businesses initiative at MDC holds five-year anniversary celebration

TOPICS: 10K Anniversary Celebration Five-Year Initiative Mdc Small Business

By: Allison Horton  |  February 12, 2019
Miami Dade College (MDC) recently celebrated five years of educating local businesses on strategies for growth through the acclaimed Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses (10KSB) initiative.

More than 435 business owners have graduated from 15 cohorts at MDC, with participants from throughout South Florida representing more than 30 industries. The program was launched at MDC’s Freedom Tower in 2013 with the announcement by MDC’s president Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón of a five-year, $5 million commitment from the Goldman Sachs Foundation. Goldman Sachs Foundation recently renewed the commitment for a sixth year.

MDC’s provost, Dr. Lenore Rodicio, delivered the keynote address at the celebration and highlighted some of the remarkable achievements made by program alumni. Many graduates have seen significant revenue growth in their businesses since graduation and several have qualified for the nationwide INC 5000 magazine list of the fastest growing companies in the U.S.
Five alumni received awards from 10KSB at MDC in the following categories: Claudio Sorrentino of Body Details for the Largest Dollar Increase in Revenues; Antonio Noa of Three Sixty Energy Solutions Corp. for the Greatest Increase in Percentage Revenue Growth; Darrell Searcy of Chandler, Campbelle and Daschle for Largest Number of Jobs Created; Danny Sibai of Link2City for

The Greatest Percentage Increase in Job Creation, and Saliha Nelson of Urgent Inc. for Outstanding Social Impact by improving the lives of underserved South Florida youth.

The celebration included several alumni activities including a lively speed-networking session that fostered new business collaborations and a human resources workshop titled “How to Attract and Retain Top Talent in a Competitive Job Market,” led by Chris Collie, a 10KSB faculty member. The evening concluded with a dinner and continued alumni networking.

“We are so very proud that 436 10KSB alumni represent over $760 million in aggregate baseline revenues and more than 7,800 employees serving to provide support for up to 7,800 South Florida families,” said John Hall, executive director of 10KSB at MDC. “These blue-collar entrepreneurs represent the heart of our entrepreneurial economy.”

The 10KSB curriculum includes one-on-one advice, clinics, and workshops administered by subject matter experts. Goldman Sachs professionals also serve as panelists and judges for “Rocket Pitches,” which allow business owners to practice their business pitch to a potential lender or investor. Participants also learn to identify and evaluate

February events of interest to mark on your calendars

- Fashion tips its hat to a Miami landmark at Vizcaya luncheon
- Jewish Mambo dancers? The Mamboniks to premiere at 2019 Miami Film Festival
growth opportunities, understand financial statements, hire, retain and lead employees, negotiate successfully and create a comprehensive growth plan.

**Applicants should meet the following criteria:**
- Owner or co-owner of a business;
- Business in operation for at least two years;
- Business revenues of at least $150,000 in the most recent fiscal year, and
- Minimum of four employees, including the owner.

To participate in Cohort 17 of MDC’s 10KSB program (starting May 15), visit www.10KSBapply.com to apply or call 305-237-7824. The deadline to apply for Cohort 17 is Feb. 14.
Miami-Dade College Alumnus Selected for Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program

FEBRUARY 12, 2019 – Miami-Dade College alumnus and business owner, Richard Scheufler, founder of VIB Marketing Agency and the Marketing Foundation, was recently selected to participate in the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program. The 10,000 Small Businesses program was designed by Babson College, the country’s leading school for entrepreneurs. The selection process was quite competitive, and he was chosen from many outstanding small business candidates. In April, he and 32 other recipients in Northeast Ohio will join an esteemed group of only 600 Ohioans and 7,400 others across the U.S. out of the 28-million small business owners nationwide.

Scheufler is the co-founder of VIB Marketing Agency (vibmarketing.com), a one-stop shop for traditional and digital marketing services. VIB leverages technology with experience and data to provide clients with premium services ranging from website development to social media management to search engine marketing. Since 2014, VIB has grown from a team of two to eight departments with over 50 teammates.

VIB introduced marketing automation in 2019, making these corporate-grade services accessible to small and medium-sized businesses. Richard has also created three artificial intelligence-driven marketing tools. One of them that focuses on managing SEM better than a specialists is months away from the MVP- Minimal Viable Product. Much has been done to take VIB to new heights by creating sustainable competitive advantages with high barriers to entry that are hard to imitate.

Richard founded the Marketing Foundation 501(c)3 non-profit organization (marketing.foundation) as a way to give back. The Marketing Foundation provides free or low-cost marketing services to individuals and organizations that are striving to make our world and lives better. It is currently creating a business incubator in Zimbabwe to help businesses navigate and thrive in global market and has also teamed up with Oscar Ekponimo, creator of the Chowberry App, connects supermarkets to NGOs and low-income earners, allowing them to buy food that’s about to expire at a discount.

Ekponimo is considered to be one of the top disruptive creators in the world. He was recently invited to MIT to speak on the same stage as Elon Musk. The Marketing Foundation is working with Ekponimo to expand Chowberry to the U.S. as a way to address the problems of food deserts and food waste in our country.

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ABOUT VIB MARKETING AGENCY

With over 20 years of experience in marketing and public relations, our award-winning team applies digital marketing best practices along with the latest advances and trends in digital communications to raise customer awareness of your products and services. An unmatched level of personal service gives our digital marketing services an edge over the competition. We treat your Very Important Business as if it’s our own!
Miami Dade College offering free tax preparation through Apr. 14

**TOPICS:** Apr. 14 College Free Tax Preparation

Miami Dade

By: Norma Ardila | February 12, 2019

Miami Dade College (MDC) once again will provide free tax preparation services to low-income individuals, the elderly and non-English speaking residents throughout Miami-Dade County as part of the Internal Revenue’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA).
Administered and staffed by Miguel B. Fernandez School of Global Business, Trade and Transportation faculty and students, services are available through Apr. 14 at various MDC campuses.

Launched 25 years ago, the VITA program initially began at the Wolfson Campus and was extended to other locations, including the North, Kendall, InterAmerican, Homestead, and Hialeah campuses. VITA Centers are supervised by MDC’s School of Business professors and experienced coordinators. Students serve as volunteers who prepare free individual income tax returns for other students, their families and the general public. The returns are reviewed by the professors or experienced coordinators before being electronically filed with the IRS.

Every year the college-wide VITA Program has between 80 and 100 volunteers.

Last year, the program completed 2,404 individual tax returns, amounting to more than $2,754,184 in refunds. More than $977,005 in Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) was refunded to qualifying individuals. Overall, the program has given back to the residents of Miami-Dade County more than $50 million in refunds since it began a quarter century ago.

Requirements to have taxes prepared through the VITA program include social security card and social security cards of any dependents to be claimed; Photo ID; W-2 earnings statement; 1099 MISC (for self-employed only); 1099 INT (interest income), and any documents pertaining to expenses to be claimed.
Federal income tax returns must be in the mail and postmarked no later than Monday, Apr. 15.

**Area MDC VITA locations and hours:**
MDC’s Wolfson Campus (until Apr. 11),
300 NE Second Ave., Room 2103,
Walk-ins: Monday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m.,
Telephone 305-237-3151,
Languages spoken: English and Spanish.

MDC’s Kendall Campus (until Apr. 11),
11011 SW 104 St., Computer Courtyard, Bldg. 2,
Room 2118
Walk-ins: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (first come, first served)
Telephone 305-237-2502 or 305-237-2375,
Additional information: Taxpayers must arrive at the site at least one hour before closing to be served.
Languages spoken: English and Spanish.

MDC’s InterAmerican Campus (until Apr. 10),
627 SW 27 Ave., Room 3206,
Walk-ins: Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.,
Telephone 305-237-6484

Additional information: Customers will be accepted until 3 p.m., Languages spoken: English and Spanish.

MDC’s Homestead Campus (until Apr. 13),
500 College Terrace, Room D307,
Walk-ins: Saturdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.,
Telephone 305-237-5109,
Languages spoken: English and Spanish.
Miami Dade College again offers free income tax preparation help

Wednesday, January 16, 2019  0 Comments

By Norma Ardila, special to The Miami Laker

Miami Dade College (MDC) will once again provide free tax preparation services to low-income individuals, the elderly and non-English speaking residents throughout Miami-Dade County as part of the Internal Revenue’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA).

Administered and staffed by Miguel B. Fernandez School of Global Business, Trade and Transportation faculty and students, services will be available at various MDC campuses. Launched 25 years ago, the VITA program initially began at the Wolfson Campus and was extended to other locations, including the North, Kendall, InterAmerican, Homestead, and Hialeah campuses. VITA Centers are supervised by MDC’s School of Business professors and experienced coordinators.

Students serve as volunteers who prepare free individual income tax returns for other students, their families and the general public. The returns are reviewed by the professors or experienced coordinators before being electronically filed with the IRS. Every year the college wide VITA Program has between 80 and 100 volunteers.

Requirements to have taxes prepared through the VITA program include social security card and social security cards of any dependents to be claimed; Photo ID; W-2 earnings statement; 1099 MISC (for self-employed only); 1099 INT (interest income); and any documents pertaining to expenses to be claimed.

Federal income tax returns must be in the mail and postmarked no later than Monday, April 15, 2019.

The nearest MDC VITA location in northwest Miami-Dade is MDC’s North Campus (from now to April 11), 11380 N.W. 27 Ave., Bldg. 3, First Floor, Room 3101. Walk-ins: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Tel. 305-237-1199. Languages spoken: English, Spanish, and Creole

For more information about the MDC/IRS VITA program, call 305-237-3151.

Please login or register to post comments.
Free tax preparation and filing help

Tax Day is Monday, April 15, but if you're expecting a refund you can file as early as Jan. 29. Need help preparing your taxes? The following organizations offer free tax filing for those who qualify:

**Miami-Dade County** offers free tax preparation assistance for individuals or families with a combined income under $54,000 in 2017, elderly, disability, or need help reading and understanding English at Community Action and Human Services Department Service Centers. [Click here](http://www.miamidade.gov/freetaxprep) for hours, locations and for more information.

The **City of Miami** and its partner sites offer free tax preparation assistance at various sites. The IRS-partnered sites is available to those whose annual household income does not exceed $53,000, while the City of Miami NET offices-Benefit Bank sites will help those whose combined income does not exceed $65,000. In addition to free tax preparation, the office can help with electronic tax filing and direct deposit of tax refunds. [Click here](http://www.rniamigov.com/nets/) for the NET offices website and more information.

The **City of Miami Beach** provides assistance for free tax preparation for people who make $54,000 or less, the disabled, elderly taxpayers and those who do not speak English. Tax preparation will occur in the Office of Housing and Community Services, located at 555 17 St., on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays through the end of tax season and appointments are required. To make an appointment or for more information, call 305.673.7491 (tel:305.673.7491).

**Miami Dade College** offers free tax preparation ([https://www.mdc.edu/main/singlesto/so/free_tax_preparation_services.aspx](https://www.mdc.edu/main/singlesto/so/free_tax_preparation_services.aspx)) for low-income individuals, the elderly and non-English speakers who live in Miami-Dade year-round. Hours and dates vary by location. College of Business students and faculty will be available at these campuses the following campuses. Bring all necessary paperwork, such as social security cards and earnings statements.

- **MDC Kendall Campus** 11011 SW 104 St., Miami 33176, Computer Courtyard, Building R, Room 101-07. Call for hours 305-237-2502 (tel:(305)%20237-2502). Customers must arrive at least one hour before closing to be served. English and Spanish spoken.
- **MDC’s North Campus** 11380 NW 27 Ave., Miami 33167. Building 1, Room 1119B. Call for hours 305-237-1199 (tel:(305)%20237-1199). Customers must arrive at least one hour before closing to be served. English, Spanish and Creole spoken.
- **MDC’s Wolfson Campus** 300 NE 2nd Ave., downtown Miami 33132 Building 3, Room 3115 Call for hours 305-237-3151 (tel:(305)%20237-3151). Customers must arrive at least one hour before closing to be served. English and Spanish spoken.

**Miami Dade County Public Libraries** – Get free federal income tax preparation help from IRS certified AARP Tax-Aide volunteers. Please bring last year’s tax return, all W-2 and 1099 forms, social security card and/or number for you and your dependents, and a photo ID. Space is limited. Please contact the branch for more information.

- **South Miami Branch** – Mondays, February 4 – April 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **South Dade Regional** – Wednesdays, February 6 – April 10 from 2-7 p.m.
- **West Kendall Regional** – Thursdays, February 7 – April 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Coral Reef Branch** – Fridays, February 1 – April 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **West Dade Regional** – Fridays, February 1 – April 12 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- **Coral Gables Branch** – Wednesdays, Feb. 6 – April 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Pinecrest Branch** – Saturdays, February 2 – April 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information about the MDC/IRS VITA program, click [here](http://www.mdc.edu/vita/) or please call 305-237-3151.

The Internal Revenue Service offers free online software and fillable forms so you can do your taxes yourself. Click here. (https://www.irs.gov/uac/Free-File:-Do-Your-Federal-Taxes-for-Free)


AARP Tax-Aide provides free help to low- and moderate-income taxpayers of any age (http://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide), with special attention to people over age 60. Most of the aides are in libraries or senior centers, and it’s best to make an appointment.

To find places near you that offer Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, search for a VITA location at the IRS’ website here. (http://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/jsp/vita.jsp?zip=&radius=5)

MORE FREE & CHEAP MIAMI

Free legal advice on Wednesdays (https://miamionthecheap.com/free-legal-advice-on-wednesday-13/)
Free Homestead trolley expands service (https://miamionthecheap.com/free-homestead-trolley-service-2/)
Free Coral Gables trolley expands service (https://miamionthecheap.com/free-coral-gables-trolley-expands-service/)
7 South Beach Art Deco hotels that won’t break the bank (https://miamionthecheap.com/south-beach-art-deco-hotels/)
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Free theater discounts for U.S. veterans and military families (https://miamionthecheap.com/theater-discounts-u-s-veterans-military-families/)
7 South Beach Art Deco hotels that won’t break the bank (https://miamionthecheap.com/south-beach-art-deco-hotels/)
Free theater discounts for U.S. veterans and military families (https://miamionthecheap.com/theater-discounts-u-s-veterans-military-families/)
Free Homestead trolley expands service (https://miamionthecheap.com/free-homestead-trolley-service-2/)
A recession is coming, but probably not as fast as you fear

BY JANE WOOLDRIDGE

FEBRUARY 12, 2019 03:17 PM

No need to fret about a recession later this year or in 2020, Wells Fargo’s chief economist said Tuesday. Ongoing economic growth, strong employment numbers, booming tourism and the Federal Reserve’s recent decision to freeze interest rates spell positive conditions for the next couple of years, said Mark Vitner at a Miami Herald Economic Outlook event. The event was held at Miami Dade College.
In the decade since the Great Recession, mobile computing and technological innovation have held inflation at bay, enabling consumers to easily find the best prices for all types of goods, Vitner said. That same technology has made job searching more efficient — meaning workers can more easily keep one job while looking for the next. As a result, today’s low unemployment rate of 4 percent may drop even lower, to 3.5 percent, said Vitner, who is also a managing director at the firm.

As for the 2017 tax cuts, their full impacts have not yet been realized, he said. And the economic recovery that had been concentrated in urban areas is now broadening, thanks in part to the creation of Economic Opportunity Zones, which encourage investment in specific zones across the country.

Mark Vitner, senior economist and managing director at Wells Fargo, at a Miami Herald event on Feb. 12.
Jane Wooldridge
Still, economic growth is slowing, and the trade dispute with China comes with risks, Vitner noted. China’s disregard for intellectual property rights is a concern, he said, and needs to be addressed. “What’s different about Trump is instead of getting together with a group of nations to negotiate, he thinks it better to go one-on-one. Who’s right I don’t know.”

The economic softening in Europe could also cause problems for the U.S., he said. “All expansions eventually end.”

Jane Wooldridge, an award-winning journalist and Miami Herald veteran, oversees coverage of real estate, economy, urban development, tourism, cruises, visual arts and Art Basel. She is president-elect of the Society of American Travel Writers. Find her on Instagram @JaneWooldridge.
Professional Bank President/CEO Abel Iglesias Appointed to Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta’s Miami Branch Board of Directors

2/12/19

Abel Iglesias, President and CEO of Professional Bank, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta’s Miami Branch. His term runs through December 31, 2021.

Iglesias has served as the Bank’s leader since 2016 after serving three years as its Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer.

Prior to joining Professional Bank, he was CEO of JGB Bank N.A., Senior Executive Vice President at BankUnited FSB, Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer at the South Florida region for the former Colonial Bank and Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer of Eastern National Bank.

Iglesias is on the board of directors of Doctor’s Hospital and Miami Dade College Center for Financial Training, for which he is a former chair. He is also former chair of Friends of WLRN and a former board member of the Latin Builder’s Association and City of Coral Gables Historic Preservation.

He earned a bachelor’s degree from Barry University and an MBA from the University of Miami.

Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta branch directors provide economic information from their industries and the branch territory to the district bank’s president and head office directors, who use the information in discussing monetary policy options and making discount rate recommendations. Iglesias was appointed by the Atlanta Fed’s board of directors. The board of governors appoints three Miami Branch directors, and the Atlanta head office directors appoint four.

About Professional Bank: Headquartered in Coral Gables, Fla., Professional Bank is one of Florida’s fastest-growing community banks. A subsidiary of financial holding company Professional Holding Corp. (OTC: PFHD), Professional Bank specializes in construction, residential and commercial real estate financing as well as business loans and lines of credit, including SBA financing. Known for high-touch customized concierge services, the Bank serves the needs of its customers through a full offering of deposit products, cash management services, online and mobile banking.

Founded in 2008, Professional Bank operates full-service branches and loan production offices in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties. For more
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Sponsored Agency/Corporate Program
Iglesias Appointed, Wynn Reappointed to Miami Branch Board of Directors

For immediate release: January 16, 2019

Abel L. Iglesias, president and chief executive officer of Professional Bank, has been appointed and Michael A. Wynn, board chairman and president of Sunshine Ace Hardware, has been reappointed to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Miami Branch. Their terms began January 1, 2019, and run through December 31, 2021.

Iglesias has served as president and chief executive officer of Professional Bank, headquartered in Coral Cables, Florida, since 2016. From 2013 to 2016 he was executive vice president and chief lending officer at Professional Bank. Before that, he was president and chief executive officer of JGB Bank N.A., senior executive vice president at BankUnited FSB, executive vice president and chief lending officer South Florida region for Colonial Bank, and executive vice president and chief lending officer of Eastern National Bank.

Iglesias is on the board of directors of Doctor's Hospital and Miami Dade College Center for Financial Training, for which he is a former chair. He is also former chair of Friends of WLRN and a former board member of the Latin Builder's Association and City of Coral Gables Historic Preservation.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Barry University and an MBA from the University of Miami.

Wynn has served as board chairman and president of Sunshine Ace Hardware in Naples, Florida, since 2005. He has held various positions with increasing responsibility with Sunshine Ace Hardware since 1992.

Wynn is a member of several boards of directors including, the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Collier Foundation (immediate past chair), Moorings Park Institute, and the Southwest Florida Economic Development Alliance. He is a member of the Young Presidents' Organization and serves on the advisory board of Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) Management.

Wynn received a bachelor's in business administration from the University of South Florida in 1997 and a master's in business administration from FGCU in 2005. He was awarded Hardware Industry's Top Gun Award, presented by the National Retail Hardware Association, in 2014; a finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2014; Junior Achievement's Business Hall of Fame Laureate in 2014; 2017 FGCU Alumni of the Year; and the 2017 Gulfshore Business Best Boss for a Large Company.

Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta branch directors provide economic information from their industries and the branch territory to the district bank's president and head office directors, who use the information in discussing monetary policy options and making discount rate recommendations. Wynn was reappointed to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Miami Branch by the Federal Reserve Board of Governors in Washington DC. Iglesias was appointed by the Atlanta Fed's board of directors. The Board of Governors appoints three Miami Branch directors, and the Atlanta head office directors appoint four.

Contact: Jean Tate 404-498-8035
Higher Education

Going back to school after 50

A reader asks: How common is it for people seek out vocational training later in life?

This story is part of our Map to the Middle Class project, where we ask readers what they want us to investigate about educational pathways to financial stability. This question comes from Carolyn Porzilli in California. She asks: How common is the practice of returning to school for vocational training in workers over age 40, 50, & 60?

Army veteran Chester Dixon, right, works with William Moore, Georgia Department of Labor veterans representative, to apply for a new skills-based program to get out-of-work veterans trained and back in the job.
Carolyn Porzilli used to find work without any trouble. Not long after moving to a new city, and after a couple of tweaks to her resume, she’d easily slide into “some variation on a secretarial job,” she tells me.

That started to change as she got older. More recently, gig work along with editing and graphic design for her husband’s audio electronics business have paid the bills. But as she neared retirement age with only Social Security to count on, Porzilli decided to go back to school to pick up a new, marketable skill. Now 61, she’s about midway through a certificate program in medical transcription and editing.

The United States is notoriously ineffective at retraining workers who’ve been displaced by outsourcing and technological change, and it invests just 0.03 percent of GDP on training people, compared with Denmark’s 0.6 percent and Germany’s 0.2 percent.

For older Americans who want to retool their skills, they often have to spend a significant amount of their own money to return to school, and it can be daunting to determine if it’s worth it. (The Consumer Financial Protection Board found in 2017 that Americans age 60 and older owed an average of $23,500 in student loan debt, nearly double the average a decade earlier, though most of those loans were used to pay for children’s and grandchildren’s educations.)
For her part, Porzilli put down what she says was a modest amount toward her certificate program, and so far she’s happy with her investment, though she has yet to go on the job market. But she’s wondering about others like her: What steps are people in their 40s, 50s and 60s taking to retrain themselves?

It turns out the data on older students is imperfect, but here are some numbers we do know: Of the 12.1 million students enrolled in community colleges in 2015-16, about 903,000 were 40 or older, according to Martha Parham, senior vice president of public relations for the American Association of Community Colleges. Most of those older students, about 663,000, are participating in vocational programs like the one in which Porzilli is enrolled.

Parham says she doesn’t have data on whether those figures have risen, but, “anecdotally, I can tell you that that is a popular course of action,” she said. “We have a lot of those students who have a bachelor’s and are maybe coming back to learn a new skill or get certified as a realtor or become a chef.”

According to the latest data from the National Center for Education Statistics, meanwhile, some 22 percent of students enrolled in credential-seeking subbaccalaureate occupational education (like computer and information science, manufacturing and marketing) were age 35 and older.

Colleges and vocational programs have often struggled to accommodate older people. In 2015, the American Association of Community Colleges and the AARP Foundation produced a report on the shortcomings of higher education for older adults and ways to improve their transitions into school and back into the workforce. Older job seekers are not getting the information they need about in-demand jobs and cost-effective ways of training, nor are federal and
state workforce programs targeted to older Americans, the report said. (As my Hechinger colleagues have shown, not all training pays off and it can be difficult to sort out which do: Some cosmetology certificate programs, for example, charge nearly $20,000 on average and graduate students into jobs that pay little more than minimum wage.)

The AARP Foundation report recommended new requirements for better financial aid and career counseling for older people; tax reforms to provide more financial support for these students when they return to school; and more flexible learning opportunities, such as dividing programs into microcredentials that can be earned in just a few weeks.

Jacqueline Peña is dean of faculty at Miami Dade College’s North Campus, one of about 17 colleges and workforce organizations that received support through an AARP Foundation program to help people over 50 gather new skills and find jobs. Peña says that on her campus, the mean age of students is around 29, and that there’s a slowly rising population of students who are over 50.

The shift hasn’t been dramatic in credit programs such as engineering or psychology, she says, but the college is seeing more older Americans enroll in individual classes or non-degree programs. Introductory computer classes are particularly popular.

Peña says that, for these students, the “fear factor” of getting back into the classroom is particularly potent. Some have bachelor’s degrees (that’s true for Porzilli, who studied design). Still, “for a lot of our 50-plus who come to us, the confidence isn’t there,” says Peña. “They’ve been beaten up or underemployed for a while, they are struggling financially and perhaps in other ways.”
To help, Miami Dade has hired coaches who provide individual counseling on resumes, job searches, finances and personal matters. “We hold our 18-year-olds’ hands,” says Peña. “I think we need to do that a little bit differently for our 50-plus individuals, too.”

This story about adult learners was produced by The Hechinger Report, a nonprofit, independent news organization focused on inequality and innovation in education. Sign up for Hechinger’s newsletter.

The Hechinger Report provides in-depth, fact-based, unbiased reporting on education that is free to all readers. But that doesn't mean it's free to produce. Our work keeps educators and the public informed about pressing issues at schools and on campuses throughout the country. We tell the whole story, even when the details are inconvenient. Help us keep doing that.

Join us today.

In this story  Higher Education, Map to the Middle Class, Higher Ed, News, Adult learning, Data and research, Graduation and dropouts, Higher education affordability, Higher education completion

Caroline Preston

Caroline Preston is a senior editor. She previously worked as a features editor with Al Jazeera America's digital team and a senior reporter with The... See Archive ➔

@@cpreston
MOAD exhibit and discussions tackle Florida’s future

By: Gary Alan Ruse  |  February 12, 2019

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In one cautionary artwork Ronald McDonald is floating as the Sea level rises in South Florida.

Miami Dade College’s Museum of Art and Design is once again presenting a series of public programming relevant to the area with “The Speculative Machine,” focusing on climate, gentrification and systematic corruption.

The series is designed to accompany the current exhibit called “SUPERFLEX: We Are All in The Same Boat.” The first discussion panel, Speculative Machine I: Tools for a Thawing World, takes place on Thursday, February 21 at 7 p.m. at the Freedom Tower, 600 Biscayne Boulevard.

Gean Moreno, Curator of Programs at ICA Miami, explained the significance of the discussion.

“What is interesting about the Speculative Machine program are the points at which speculation touches upon the concrete realities of the city,” said Moreno. “It’s time to think about Miami in complex ways that refuse both the business-as-usual logic of accumulation and luxury and apocalyptic paralysis in the face of coming destruction. Somewhere in between or above these unimaginative responses, we
have to start figuring out new ways to live. We have to speculate on the futures that we want and on the ways in which we can make them materialize.”

Then on Thursday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. is Speculative Machine II: Specters of Climate, Community, and Corruption. This panel discussion explores how communities in Miami are affected by the interrelated issues of climate, gentrification, and corruption. It pays particular attention to trends within the cultural sector that either combat, or contribute to, the crisis, and it considers both the exposed and hidden manifestations of corruption upon the city’s urban landscape. Participants include George Yúdice (Professor of critical theory and cultural studies at the University of Miami, and Director of the Miami Observatory on Communication and Creative Industries), Timothy A. Barber (Executive Director of the Black Archives in Overtown, and former member of the City of Miami Historic and Environmental Preservation Board), and Mariana Boldu (Landscape Architect and Director of Resilience Design at Curtis + Rogers Design Studio, and Board Member of the City of Miami Sea Level Rise Committee).

Museum admission: $12 adults; $8 seniors and military; $5 students (13–17) and college students (with valid ID); free for MOAD members, MDC students, faculty, and staff, and children 12 and under. Regular Museum Hours: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 1–6 p.m.; Thursday 1–8 p.m. Accessibility challenges, call 305-237-7710 for details. For updates and a full schedule of events, visit www.mdcmoad.org
Museum of Art and Design at MDC Presents The Speculative Machine Series of Public Programs

Art Talk
Museum of Art and Design (MOAD) at Miami Dade College (MDC) will present The Speculative Machine, a series of four public programs exploring issues addressed in the current exhibition, SUPERFLEX: We Are All in the Same Boat, the first large-scale exhibition of the critically acclaimed Danish collective by the same name in the United States. On view in the Museum’s newly renovated facility at MDC’s Freedom Tower in downtown Miami, the exhibition focuses on installations and films in which the group addresses the economy, financial crisis, corruption, migration, and the possible consequences of global warming. Thursday, Feb. 21, at 7 p.m. Speculative Machine I: Tools for a Thawing World. Curator Gean Moreno & Professor Stefanie Wakefield deliver an experimental lecture on how artists such as SUPERFLEX suggest new ways of reckoning with Miami's rising sea levels & soaring inequalities.

Event Info: (305) 237-7700
Ages: Adults
Price: $12 adults; $8 seniors and military; $5 students (13–17) and college students (with valid ID); free for MOAD members, MDC students, faculty, and staff, and children 12 and under.
Event Website: http://www.mdcmoad.org/

Schedule
• Thu 2/21/19 at 7pm

Miami Dade College – Museum of Art + Design
600 Biscayne Blvd.
Miami, FL 33132
(305) 237-7700
www.mdcmoad.org/
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Speculative Machine I: Tools for a Thawing World

by Museum of Art and Design (MOAD) at MDC

Free

Date And Time
Thu, February 21, 2019
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM EST
Add to Calendar

Location
Museum of Art and Design @ MDC
600 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, FL 33132
View Map

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/speculative-machine-i-tools-for-a-thawing-world-tickets-55608613861
Description

**Gean Moreno** (Curator of Programs at ICA Miami) and **Stefanie Wakefield** (urban geographer and Visiting Assistant Professor in Culture and Media at Eugene Lang College at The New School, New York) deliver an experimental lecture on how artists such as SUPERFLEX suggest new ways of reckoning with Miami’s rising sea levels and soaring inequalities. Their presentation will be followed by a discussion on the tension between scientific, philosophical, aesthetic, and activist discourses.

Tags

- Things To Do In Miami, FL
- Seminar
- Community

Date And Time

Thu, February 21, 2019
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM EST
Add to Calendar

Location

Museum of Art and Design @ MDC
600 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, FL 33132
View Map

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/speculative-machine-i-tools-for-a-thawing-world-tickets-55608613861
MOAD at MDC provides open, critical, and collaborative frameworks for artistic experimentation and interdisciplinary risk-taking that explores the intersections of art, design, and other art forms with cultural action. MOAD advances Miami Dade College’s core values, contributing to the intellectual life of the college, engaging students and audiences from the community and the world beyond.

MOAD believes in the promise of art and design to change our communities and the world.

We offer groundbreaking exhibitions and programs that explore the challenges and opportunities we face locally and globally. Our programming convenes leading artists, designers, and thinkers to address the urgent questions of our time. We strive to be a catalyst for action and a place that empowers people to rethink and remake their city.

As the museum of Miami Dade College, we follow its lead in operating throughout the city. Based in Downtown Miami’s Historic Freedom Tower, we consider ourselves a Museum Without Boundaries. Our programming takes place in many neighborhoods, inviting everyone to be a part of the conversation.

Our aim is to foster a reimagined Miami, built by and with its citizens. We hope you will join us on this journey.

For updates and full schedule of events, please visit: http://www.moadmdc.org.
More Events From This Organizer

THU, FEB 21 7:00 PM
Speculative Machine I: Tools for a Thawing World
Museum of Art and Design @ MDC, Miami
FREE
#Arts #Seminar

SUN, FEB 24 1:00 PM
Free Day at MOAD. Free Family Program
Museum of Art and Design @ MDC Freedom Tower, Miami
FREE
#FamilyEducation #Attraction

Other Events You May Like

SAT, APR 6 3:00 PM
Speculative Machine IV: Workshop for A Sustainable Culture
Museum of Art and Design @ MDC, Miami
#Community #Seminar

THU, APR 4 7:00 PM
Speculative Machine III: Hard Evidence: The Visibilities and Invisibilities of a... Museum of Art and Design @ MDC, Miami
#Community #Seminar

SUN, MAR 10 11
Calle Ocho Mus
Calle Ocho - 8 Sti
The Expo Chicago fair has named Jacob Fabricius, who serves as the artistic director of the Kunsthall Aarhus in Denmark, as the curator of its 2019 “In/Situ” section, which showcases large-scale sculpture, video, film, and site-specific works at Navy Pier’s Festival Hall. This year’s fair is slated to take place from September 19 to 22.

Before joining the Kunsthall Aarhus, Fabricius was associate curator at Cneai=, a contemporary art center outside Paris. Earlier, he served as director and curator at the Kunsthall Charlottenborg in Copenhagen and as director of the Malmö Konsthall in Sweden. He is the founder of the publishing company Pork Salad Press and a newspaper project called Old News, and he is a board member of the Danish Arts Foundation.

Fabricius recently organized an ongoing exhibition titled “SUPERFLEX, WE ARE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT” at the Museum of Art and Design at Miami Dade College in Florida. He also curated “Water from Ganges River in the Cup Made with Newspaper from Congo,” an upcoming show of work by Kim Beom at the Kunsthall Aarhus, as well as “iwillmedievalfutureyou1,” which opens at Art Sonje Center in Seoul in September.
He said in a statement, "I have been visiting and collaborating with Chicago's incredible art institutions since the late 1990s, drawing from the diversity, architecture and history of the city. Chicago has inspired my work a great deal, and Expo Chicago's immersive 'In/Situ' program provides the perfect framework for my exploration into pressing issues of sustainability and political systems."

Stephanie Cristello, artistic director of Expo Chicago, added, "Having followed the work that Jacob has done at Kunsthal Aarhus, one of the strongest interdisciplinary exhibition programs in northern Europe, and abroad, we look forward to furthering the exposition's commitment to presenting a program whose foundations are built upon contemporary global perspectives. His deep involvement with major Scandinavian institutions and the Chicago art scene will undoubtedly manifest an engaged program for our exhibitors and audience at the eighth edition this September."

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TOP POSTS

http://www.artnews.com/newsletters/
Superflex: We Are All in The Same Boat

Gallery, Installations

Museum of Art and Design at Miami Dade College presents Superflex: We Are All in the Same Boat, the first large-scale exhibition of the critically acclaimed Danish collective Superflex in the United States. The exhibition will focus on the group's humorous and playfully subversive installations and films that deal with the economy, financial crisis, corruption, migration, and the possible consequences of global warming. The exhibition will include a group of video, sculpture, and installation works selected for their relevance to the history, present, and future of the City of Miami. The works will reflect upon the situation of Miami from the perspectives of art, finance, climate, and a fictional, if plausible, future. The topics of water, migration, refugees, and the economy inevitably drive the conception.

Event Info: (305) 237-7700

Ages: All Ages

Price: $12 adults; $8 seniors and military; $5 students (13–17) and college students (with valid ID); free for MOAD members, MDC students, faculty, and staff, and children 12 and under.

Event Website: www.mdcmoad.org/

Schedule

- Thu 2/14/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 2/15/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 2/16/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 2/17/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Thu 2/21/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 2/22/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 2/23/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 2/24/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Thu 2/28/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 3/1/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 3/2/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 3/3/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Thu 3/7/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 3/8/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 3/9/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 3/10/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Thu 3/14/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 3/15/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 3/16/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 3/17/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Thu 3/21/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 3/22/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 3/23/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 3/24/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Thu 3/28/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 3/29/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 3/30/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 3/31/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Thu 4/4/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 4/5/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 4/6/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 4/7/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Thu 4/11/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 4/12/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 4/13/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 4/14/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Thu 4/18/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Fri 4/19/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sat 4/20/19 at 1pm-6pm
- Sun 4/21/19 at 1pm-6pm

Freedom Tower

address 600 Biscayne Blvd.

Miami, FL 33132

Average customer rating: 5

See reviews, rate this venue, upload venue photos
MOAD Miami Dade College presents the solo exhibition *All in the Same Boat* by SUPERFLEX.

The exhibition includes a group of videos, sculptures, and installations selected for their relevance to the land and future of the City of Miami. The works reflect the position of Miami from the perspectives of art, finance, and a fictional, if plausible, future. The topics of refugees, and the economy inevitably drive the exhibition. *We Are All in the Same Boat* includes the debut of a number of the works in the show, some have been newly reimagined for the city.

**SUPERFLEX**  
*WE ARE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT*  
MOAD - MIAMI DADE COLLEGE, MIAMI, US  
NOVEMBER 15 2018 - APRIL 21 2019

For more info: mdcmoad.org  
(http://www.mdcmoad.org/explore/Exhibit.asp?EventID=24042)

Image:  
SUPERFLEX, Still image from the film *Kwassa K’*
Course Hero Features 4 New Educators in Best Lessons Series

SOURCE Course Hero

Edtech company welcomes renowned biological and engineering professor and others into Educator Partners Program

REDWOOD CITY, Calif., Jan. 31, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Course Hero, an online learning platform where members can access over 20 million course-specific study resources contributed by a community of students and educators, today announced that 4 new educators are currently featured in the Course Hero Best Lessons Series. Among the new educators featured is a celebrated professor of biological and environmental engineering at Cornell University.

The 4 educators are Michael Timmons PhD, Professor of Biological and Environmental Engineering, Cornell University; Nicole Young, PhD, Assistant Professor of Business, Organizations, & Society, Franklin & Marshall College; Nicki Fraser, PhD, Adjunct Professor of Education, Miami Dade College, Miami; and Colin West, PhD, Instructor of Physics, University of Colorado, Boulder.

"Great educators can take complex, often daunting, topics and make them not only understandable but also enjoyable," said Course Hero cofounder and CEO Andrew Grauer. "These educators have helped thousands of students learn to love these topics, and their passion for teaching shines through in their creativity. Through our Best Lessons series, Course Hero is providing a platform for educators to share their incredible teaching techniques with other educators around the world."

Dr. Timmons holds a BS in Agricultural Engineering from The Ohio State University, an MS in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Hawaii, and a PhD in Agricultural Engineering from Cornell University. His lesson, "Teach Social Entrepreneurship with a High-Stakes Overseas Project," asks students to start a new company centered on engineering or biological technologies and social entrepreneurship in order to better understand the professional working world.

Dr. Timmons is also published widely and has served as primary editor on many Aquacultural Engineering Society meeting proceedings and for the series of biannual meetings sponsored by Virginia Tech on water recirculation systems. He was one of the founders of the Aquacultural Engineering Society and has served in several officer positions, including that of president.

Dr. Young holds a BA in Sports Management from Towson University, an MBA in Human Resource Management from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and a PhD in Organizational Behavior from the University of Connecticut. Her lesson, "Help Students Bridge Cultural Gaps Starting with Identity Pie Charts," has students build an "identity pie chart" and pair up with someone of opposite views in order to better understand the world as a whole and to challenge their preconceived notions.

Ms. Fraser holds both a BS and an MS in Public Administration from Florida International University and is a PhD candidate in Public Policy and Administration from Florida International University.
Her lesson, "Check Students' Understanding with a One-Minute Paper," tests students' ability to grasp key concepts in the social sciences and promotes knowledge of contemporary and historical forces.

Dr. West holds a BS in Applied Mathematics and Engineering Physics from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and a PhD in Physics from Stony Brook University. For his lesson, "Keep Lab Time Focused on Lab Work with Pre-Lab Instructional Videos," Dr. West prepared a new video for each of 12 lab assignments, using feedback from his colleagues, TAs, and students to determine what needed to be included in order for students to be properly prepared each week.

Course Hero's Best Lessons series highlights innovative teaching methods and tactical advice from college educators around the country. These articles are written by Course Hero editors and published to Faculty Club, Course Hero's teaching-focused community blog.

"Course Hero's vision is for every student to graduate confident and prepared," continued Grauer. "We are excited to partner with educators like Dr. Timmons to enable the best possible outcomes, for students and instructors alike."

In addition to the Best Lessons series, Course Hero also partners with educators through on-site lectures at Course Hero's headquarters and through video course creation.

Educators who are interested in learning more about Course Hero's Partnership Program are invited to contact educators@coursehero.com.

About Course Hero
Course Hero is an online learning platform where members can access over 20 million course-specific study resources contributed by a community of students and educators. The platform includes Practice Problems, Study Guides, videos, class notes, and step-by-step explanations to help with every college class-from economics to literature, biology to history, accounting to psychology, and everything in between. Course Hero has been recognized as one of the 2017 Technology Fast 500 by Deloitte and named a 2018 Best Place to Work in the Bay Area by the San Francisco Business Times and Silicon Valley Business Journal.

Connect with Course Hero at www.coursehero.com or on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or Pinterest.

For more information, contact:
Grayling PR for Course Hero
coursehero@grayling.com


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Jewish Mambo dancers? The Mamboniks to premiere at 2019 Miami Film Festival

TOPICS: 2019 Dancers Film Festival
Jewish Mambo Miami Premiere The Mambonik

By: Robert Hamilton | February 12, 2019

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THE MAMBONIKS
Seduced by the Sounds of Cuba
The Mamboniks, a new documentary filmed in Miami Beach and South Florida, will have its world premiere on Mar. 3 at the Coral Gables Art Cinema as part of the 36th Miami Film Festival.

It is the first documentary to tell the little-known story of Jewish dancers from New York in the 1950s who fell in love with the song and dance of Cuba — before Fidel Castro and the Cuban Revolution of 1959 crashed the party. When much of America was discovering Elvis and rock-n-roll, Manhattan went mad for mambo, and surprisingly, many of its fans were Jewish.

“It appealed to the Jewish soul,” recalled Boynton Beach resident Rhea Anides, who grew up in the Bronx.
Like the beatniks of the era, the dancers earned a Yiddish-flavored nickname: "the mamboniks." They sparked a dance craze that swept the nation — and the world.

The Mamboniks (2019, USA, 90 minutes) features a lovable, animated, somewhat zany collection of retirees in South Florida — dancers, musicians, disc jockeys, club owners and record company moguls. They're still dancing — in their 70s, 80s and 90s, at the Gold Coast ballroom in Coconut Creek.

The love affair began in the 1920s Prohibition era, when American tourists visiting Cuba got their first taste of Afro-Cuban sounds, discovering rum, romance and the rumba. The music came ashore in Miami Beach, one of the early hotbeds for the exciting new sounds.

"Everywhere you went along Collins Avenue all you heard was Latin, Latin, Latin," recalled Miami Beach bandleader Rey Mambo (Marvin Baumel).

The film's soundtrack draws from the Cuban songbook and features Celia Cruz, Mongo Santamaría, and mambo king Pérez Prado.

Blessed with a catchy beat, the mambo pirouetted to prominence in mid-Fifties America. Life magazine featured it on its cover, and it spawned pop hits like Perry Como's Papa Loves Mambo.

It all ended with the Cuban Revolution and the arrival of the mop-haired Beatles during the British Invasion of the early 1960s.

The Mamboniks is the first film directed by Peabody Award-winning journalist Lex Gillespie, who
produced features for National Public Radio and the Smithsonian.

“My film is all about building bridges between cultures,” Gillespie said. “It celebrates diversity, something we can use more of today.”

The film is in competition for the Miami Film Festival’s prestigious Knight Foundation’s Made in MIA Award for the best film set in South Florida, which demonstrates a common ground of pride, emotion, and faith for the South Florida community.

Its world premiere will take place on Sunday, Mar. 3, 3:15 p.m., at the Coral Gables Art Cinema, 260 Aragon Ave. Tickets are available at the box office or at miamifilmfestival.com.
The Mamboniks Film Screening

Posted by MambonikFilmmaker on 02/07/2019 @ 01:00 PM

WHAT "THE MAMBONIKS," a new film about the Jewish love of Latin music and dance, will make its world premiere at the Miami Film Festival. Directed by Peabody Award-winning producer Lex Gillespie, the movie was filmed in South Florida and features many local residents in starring roles.

WHEN March 3, 2019, at 3PM

WHERE The Coral Gables Art Cinema, 260 Aragon Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33134, 786.385.9689


ABOUT THE FILM Bagels meet bongos in THE MAMBONIKS, a 90-minute documentary that tells the little-known story of the Jewish love affair with Latin music. Set in New York, Havana, Miami Beach, and the Catskill Mountains, this uplifting film features a lovable, somewhat zany collection of dancers from the 1950s. Now retired yet still dancing in Florida, they share their passion for the mambo, the hot dance from Cuba that became a world-wide sensation. With an infectious soundtrack including Tito Puente, Celia Cruz and mambo king Pérez Prado, this film explores a mostly unexamined aspect of Jewish life and culture.

WATCH THE TRAILER https://vimeo.com/267148924

Tags: miami beach, latin, women, families, seniors

Permalink | Comments (0)
MAD Solutions Screens the Journey at the Palestinian National Theatre/Al Hakawati on Wednesday, February 13

Published February 13th, 2019 - 07:03 GMT

Press Release [1]

In cooperation with Film Lab: Palestine, MAD Solutions will screen Iraqi director Mohamed Al Daradji's film The Journey at the Palestinian National Theatre/Al Hakawati on Wednesday, February 13, just one day ahead of its commercial release in Cinescape cinemas in Kuwait.

The Palestinian National Theatre/Al Hakawati is a Palestinian-owned theatre in Jerusalem's American Colony neighborhood. The theatre actively encourages and promotes Palestinian artistic and cultural activities and collaborates with the Palestinian Ministry of Culture, several United Nations organizations, and a wide range of local and international NGOs. Most recently, The Journey was screened at Roxy Cinemas in the UAE and Metropolis Cinema in Lebanon. It also took part in the 17th Dhaka International Film Festival in Bangladesh, and won the Best Screenplay award at the 1st Casablanca Arab Film Festival in Morocco marking its ninth international award after taking part in many film festivals. Selected as Iraq's official submission to the 2019 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, the film received the Best Actress award to its lead Zahraa Ghandour at the 4th Asian World Film Festival in Los Angeles. The Journey also won the Best Director award and Best Actress award to Zahraa Ghandour at the Malmö Arab Film Festival in Sweden, a Special Mention at the Oran Arabic International Film Festival in Algeria, the Jury Award and Best Actress Award at the Muscat International Film Festival, the Special Jury Award at its Egyptian premiere at the Sharm El-Sheikh Film Festival, in addition to the Grand Prize of the Arab World Institute to director Mohamed Al Daradji and Best Actress Award to Zahraa Ghandour at the Festival des Cinémas Arabes à Paris in France. The Journey landed its world premiere at the 14th Dubai International Film Festival (DIFF), within the Muhr Feature competition. The film screened at more than 10 international festivals all over the world, the last of which was at the Karama Human Rights Film Festival in Jordan. The film also took part in the 23rd Rabat International Festival for Author's Cinema, the Palestine Cinema Days and the Arab Film Festival Zurich, and competed in the official competitions of the BFI London Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival and the Busan International Film Festival. The film made its US premiere at the Miami Film Festival. The
Journey also screened at the Cairo Cinema Days in Egypt. The film is set in Baghdad in 2006. As Sara stands on the cusp of committing an unthinkable act, an unforeseen and awkward encounter gives her the opportunity to witness the potential consequences of her destructive action. But is this a second chance or an admission of guilt? Directed by Mohamed Al Daradji, who co-wrote the film with Isabelle Stead, The Journey stars Zahraa Ghandour and Ameer Jbara. The film is produced by Human Film, Iraqi Independent Film Center (IIFC), in cooperation with Lionceau Films, Iraq Al-Rafidain and Iraqi Media Network. The Journey received grants from the Doha Film Institute, AFAC - The Arab Fund for Arts and Culture, World Cinema Fund (WCF), the Centre National du Cinéma et de l'image Animée (CNC) of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, Institut Français, Netherlands Film Fund, SANAD Development Fund (Abu Dhabi Film Festival) and Screen Yorkshire. The film is distributed in the Arab world by MAD Solutions.
Today, the Miami Film Festival lineup was unveiled for the 2019 festival. The festival runs two film festivals each year, one in the Spring and the GEMS festival in the fall (with a focus on foreign film). This one in the spring has strong attendance, specializing in bringing international films and documentary features to South Florida. There are dozens of local filmmakers involved in the festival every year, and this year is no exception. The opening night film will be documentary “This Changes Everything” from director Tom Donahue.

There are several individuals to be recognized by the festival this year. Golden Globe-winning
film and television. Her most recent win came for her work “Sharp Objects” at the Golden Globes in January.

**Knight Heroes Recipients**

Meanwhile, a new program launches this year, titled the **Knight Heroes**. Created by the **John S. and James L. Knight Foundation**, the program looks to honor content creators shaping the future of visual storytelling from South Florida. The three individuals set to receive the honor are Barry Jenkins, Boots Riley, and Aaron Stewart-Ahn. Jenkins rose to national prominence when “Moonlight,” which was set in Miami, won Best Picture. Jenkins directed and co-wrote the film, earning an Oscar win for the screenplay. Riley became an interesting figure in the 2018 awards season with the release of “Sorry to Bother You,” a creative feature starring Lakeith Stanfield. Finally, Stewart-Ahn wrote the sci-fi horror film “Mandy” with co-writer Panos Cosmatos.

The rest of the program can be found below! Check out the list of films, some of which are set to make their premieres at the Miami Film Festival, while others are coming straight from successful runs at the Sundance Film Festival. Over 160 films will screen at the festival, so there should be plenty of films to check out!

**2019 Miami Film Festival Lineup**

**CINEDWNTWN Series – Presented by Miami Downtown Development Authority.**

- “Singular,” Directed by Dennis Scholl and Marlon Johnson – World Premiere
- “The Extraordinary Journey of Celeste Garcia,” directed by Arturo Infante
- “Huracán,” directed by Cassius Corrigan – World Premiere

**Awards Night Gala – Closing Night Film**

- “Gigantes,” directed by Enrique Urbizu – North American Premiere
Knight MARIBAS Award Competition
• “303” Germany, directed by Hans Weingartner -US Premiere
• “The Accused,” directed by Gonzalo Tobal – US Premiere
• “An Affair” Norway, directed by Henrik Martin Dahlsbakken – North American Premiere
• “Ash Is Purest White,” China, directed by Jia Zhang-ke
• “Buy Me A Gun” directed by Julio Hernández Cordin
• “Dear Son” Tunisia/Belgium/Grance/Qatar, directed by Mohammed Ben Attia
• “Divine Love” Brazil/Uruguay/Denmark/Norway, directed by Gabriel Mascaro
• “Dogman” (Italy/France, directed by Matteo Garrone
• “Florianopolis Dream” Argentina/Brazil, directed by Ana Katz
• “Golden Youth” France, directed by Eva Ionesco – US Premiere
• “The Good Girls” Mexico, directed by Alejandra Márquez Abella
• “Helmet Heads” Costa Rica/Chile, directed by Neto Villalobos
• “Juanita” Dominican Republic/Spain, directed by Leticia Tonos – International Premiere
• “Marjoun and the Flying Headscarf” USA/Lebanon/The Netherlands/Qatar, UAE, Canada, directed by Susan Youssef – World Premiere
• “The Most Beautiful Couple” Germany/ France, directed by Sven Taddicken – US Premiere
• “The Nightingale” Australia, directed by Jennifer Kent
• “Non-Fiction” France, directed by Oliver Assayas
• “Notti Magiche” Italy, directed by Paolo Virzi – US Premiere
• “The Projectionist” directed by José María Cabral’s
• “Shadow” China, directed by Zhang Yimou
• “Tremors” Guatemala/France, directed by Jayro Bustamante -US Premiere, Marquee Series Presentation
• “The Trouble With You” France, directed by Pierre Salvadori
• “Yuli” Spain/Cuba/UK/Germany, directed by Iciar Bollain
• These films will compete with the 2018 GEMS Festival lineup for the prize

![Image of a woman](image)

**Miami Film Festival Marquee Series**

Each film in this section will be accompanied by an on-stage conversation with talent and film personalities discussing their work.

- “*Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am*” – Directed by **Timothy Greenfield-Sanders**, who will be in attendance
- “*Tremors*” – Directed by **Yaro Bustamante**, who will be in attendance
- “*Miles Davis: Birth of the Cool*” – Directed by **Stanley Nelson**, who will be in attendance
Miami Film Festival Documentary Spotlight Series

- “Apollo 11” USA, directed by Todd Douglas Miller
- “The Infiltrators” USA, directed by Alex Rivera and Christina Ibarra
- “Knock Down the House” USA, directed by Rachel Lears
- “Mike Wallace is Here” Israel, Directed by Avi Belkin

Documentary Achievement Award

- “16 Bars” USA, directed by Samuel Bathrick – Reel Music Presentation
- “Ask Dr. Ruth” USA, directed by Ryan White
- “The Biggest Little Farm” USA, directed by John Chester
- “Botero” Canada/Colombia/Italy/Monaco/France/USA/China, directed by Don Millar
- “Chasing the Thunder” USA, directed by Mark Benjamin and Marc Levin
- “Coming Home: Colombia” USA, directed by Eric “DJ EFN” Narciandi
- “Eliades Ochoa: From Cuba to the World” Mexico/Cuba, directed by Cynthia Biestek – USA Premiere
- “Errol Flynn’s Ghost: Hollywood in Havana” USA, directed by Gaspar González
- “I Used To Be Normal: A Boyband Fangirl Story” Australia, directed by Jessica Leski
- “Kenbe Fem: A Haitian Story of Survival, Unity & Strength” USA/Haiti, directed by Mark Goodnow – World Premiere
- “Last Street” Spain/Jamaica, directed by Amanda Sans – World Premiere
- “Los Reyes” Chile/Germany, directed by Iván Osnovíkoff and Bettina Perut
- “The Silence of Others” Spain/USA, directed by Robert Bahar and Almudena Carracedo
- “The Weight of Water” USA, directed by Michael Brown
This prize is open to all documentaries making their Florida debuts, including "This Changes Everything," "Miles Davis: Birth of the Cool," the Spotlight Series, and more.

Zeno Mountain Award presented by Fringe Partners

- "Carlotta’s Face" Germany, directed by Valentin Riedl & Frédéric Schuld
- "Cathedrals" USA, directed by Benjamin Caro
- "How I Got To The Moon By Subway" USA, directed by Tyler Rabinowitz

Knight Made in MIA Award Feature Films

- "Magic City Hustle" Directed by Billy Corben – World Premiere, Opening Night Film
- "Screwball" Directed by Billy Corben – Miami Premiere, Opening Night Film
- "The Great Mother”, directed by Dave LaMattina and Chad Walker
- "Huracán,” directed by Cassius Corrigan – World Premiere
- "The Mamboniks,” directed by Lex Gillepse – World Premiere
- "Miami Basel: Art’s Winter Playground,” directed by Aaron Glickman. World Premiere
- “A Name Without a Place,” directed by Kenny Riches – World Premiere
- “Off The Rails,” directed by Damian Fitzsimmons – US Premiere
- “Pahokee,” directed by Patrick Xavier and Ivette Lucas
- “Singular,” Directed by Dennis Scholl and Marlon Johnson – World Premiere

Knight Made in MIA Award Short Films

- “Diva & Astro”, directed by Angel Barroeta. *NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
- “Hierophany”, directed by Kevin Contento.
- “Liberty”, directed by Faren Humes
- “Marcus”, directed by J.R. Poli.
- “My Daughter Yoshiko”, directed by Brian Blum. *WORLD PREMIERE
- “Nocturnal Creatures”, directed by Darwin Robles.
- “The Sea”, directed by Andrés Joan.
- “Six Degrees of Immigration”, directed by Jayme Gershen.
- “Two Brothers”, directed by Montana Cypress.
HBO Ibero-American Feature Film Award Competition

- “The Best Summer of My Life” Spain, directed by Dani de la Orden – North American Premiere
- “Breathe” Argentina, directed by Arturo Castro Godoy – International Premiere
- “Buñuel in the Labyrinth of the Turtles” Spain/The Netherlands, directed by Salvador Simó
- “Domingo” Brazil, directed by Fellipe Barbosa and Clara Linhart – North American Premiere
- “Fireflies” Mexico/USA/Greece/Dominican Republic, directed by Bani Khoshnoudi – North American Premiere
- “Following You” Venezuela/USA, directed by Carmen La Roche – World Premiere
- “José” Guatemala, directed by Li Cheng
- “Perro Bomba” Chile/France, directed by Juan Cáceres – World Premiere
- “Rojo” Argentina/Brazil/France/Netherlands/Germany, directed by Benjamin Naishtat
- “This is Not Berlin” Mexico, directed by Hari Sama
- “Wandering Girl” Colombia/France, directed by Rubén Mendoza – North American Premiere
- Previous nominees from the Fall Miami GEMS Festival will also compete

HBO Ibero-American Short Film Award Competition

- “A Fishes’ Recall” Colombia, directed by Christian Mejía Carrascal – North American Premiere
- “Fragile” Cuba, directed by Sheyla Pool – North American Premiere
- “Lucy” Venezuela, directed by Roberto Gutiérrez
- “This Is Your Cuba” – USA/Puerto Rico, directed by Brian Robau – World Premiere
- “Vaca” Spain, directed by Marta Bayarri

Jordan Ressler First Feature Award
• Priya Ramasubban for “Chuskit” (India)
• Cathy Yan for “Dead Pigs” (China)
• Arturo Infante for “The Extraordinary Journey of Celeste Garcia”
• Adam Stein and Zach Lipovsky for “Freaks” (Canada/USA)
• Etienne Kallos for “The Harvesters” (South Africa/Greece/France/Poland/Switzerland — North American Premiere
• Rudy Riverón Sánchez for “Is That You?” (United Kingdom)
• Rubén Sierra Salles for “Jasmines in Lídice” (Venezuela/Mexico) – World Premiere
• Celia Rico Clavellino for “Journey to a Mothers’ Room” (Spain/France)
• Maria Winther Olsen for “Nina” (Faroe Islands/Denmark)
• Katherine Jerkovic for “Roads in February” (Canada/Uruguay)
• Alexandre Moratto for “Socrates” (Brazil)

**Miami Film Festival Alacran Music In Film Award**

• “Ash” China, directed by Li Xiaofeng
• “Giant Little Ones Canada, directed by Keith Behrman
• “Hidden Man” China, directed by Jiang Wen
• “Hotel Mumbai” Australia, directed by Anthony Maras
• “In The Aisles” Germany, directed by Thomas Stuber
• “Knife+Heart” France/Mexico/Switzerland, directed by Yann Gonzalez
• “The Mustang” France/USA, directed by Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre
• “Rattlesnakes” USA/UK, directed by Julius Amedume
• “Score: Haiti” USA/Haiti, directed by Pete Maiden – Reel Music Presentation, World Premiere
• “Sorry Angel” France, directed by Christophe Honoré
• “Standing Among the Living” Sierra Leone/UK, directed by Sam Liebman, Tyson Conteh, Mungo Benson
• “The Tomorrow Man” USA, directed by Noble Jones
• “With Love” Canada, directed by Marc Bisaillon – International Premiere

**Fashion in Film Festival presented by Miami Design District**
• "The Enigma of Fashion" – A selection of films by Segundo de Chomón, Sonia Delaunay, Hans Richter, Lewis Klahr, Jacques Baratier and Martin Creed, amongst others, which animate clothes, shop mannequins and magazine illustrations, allowing them to assume lives of their own and assert a powerful sense of their reality as material things.

• "The Inferno Unseen" + LIVE MUSIC by Rollo Smallcombe. Henri-George Clouzot's. "The Inferno" is one of the most tantalizing uncompleted projects in film history. This is a newly edited assemblage of rushes filmed in 1964. Followed by Fashion in Film Festival opening night party sponsored by MC Kitchen.

• "Underground Glamour" – A pairing of José Rodriguez-Soltero's lavish "Lupe" and Ron Rice's landmark psychedelic masterpiece "Chumlum" features two of the most accomplished uses of superimposition in underground film, transporting drag glamour into a profoundly hallucinatory dimension; introduced by Tom Gunning.

• "Choreography of Movement" – Dance, clothing and cinema come together to draw attention to the unique ways in which these art forms explore, magnify and shape one another – features Charles Atlas's acclaimed film "Hail the New Puritan".

• "The Art of Fashion Film" – Focusing on contemporary fashion film as a means of investigating the properties of both dress and cinema, this program highlights the great potential of this burgeoning form to enrich and challenge established conventions of fashion and beauty imagery. Followed by a panel discussion chaired by Christian Larsen, additionally sponsored by Ornare.

• "Rapsodia Satanica" – A masterpiece of silent Italian cinema by Nino Oxilia, conceived as an "opera d'arte totale" amalgam of all the arts of the time, including the avant-garde fashion designs of Mariano Fortuny. With an introduction by Eugenia Paulicelli.

Miami Film Festival IMDbPro Short Film Award

• "Bug" France, directed by Cédric Prévost
• "Calm Your Curls" USA, directed by Christopher Rivas
• "The Changing Same" USA, directed by Joe Brewster and Michèle Stephenson
• "Cured" USA, directed by Gabriel Villanueva
• "Duck Duck Goose" Canada, directed by Shelley Thompson – US Premiere
• "The Electric Chair" Spain, directed by Joan Martín Giménez – World Premiere
• "Face In Salt" United Kingdom, directed by Joseph Wallace – World Premiere
• "Freaks of Nurture" Canada, directed by Alexandra Lemay
• "I Signed The Petition" (UK/Germany/Switzerland, directed by Mahdi Fleifel
• "Loving Out Loud" Cuba/Spain, directed by Carles Bosch, Nabil Bellahsene, Elvira Gálvez, Sara Rancaño and José M. Restrepo – World Premiere
• "Malabar" USA, directed by Freddy Rodriguez – World Premiere
• "Me 3.769" USA, directed by Elaine del Valle – World Premiere
• "The Moon Never Dies" Brazil/USA/Spain, directed by Mariona Lloreta
• "Naysayer" USA, directed by David M. Helman
• "Newborn" Canada, directed by Ray Savaya
• "The Orphan" Brazil, directed by Carolina Markowicz
• "Pa'lante" Puerto Rico/USA, directed by Kristian Mercado
• "Paseo" Canada/Spain, directed by Matthew Hannam
• "Raymonde or the Vertical Escape" France, directed by Sarah Van Den Boom
• "Second Acts" USA, directed by Anya Adams
• "Shadow Cut" New Zealand, directed by Lucy Suess
• "The Wrecker Kings" USA, directed by Kevin Berriz

The 36th Annual Miami Film Festival runs from March 1 to
NAMIC Announces 2019 Chapter Officers

NEW YORK, USA, February 7, 2019 /EINPresswire.com

-- The National Association for Multi-Ethnicity in Communications, Inc. (NAMIC) has announced its 2019 roster of Chapter Board Officers.

NAMIC has 18 chapters nationwide, led by a boards of directors responsible for

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shepherding the NAMIC mission in their respective regions.

“Our chapters are the foundation to NAMIC’s success and I am excited to work with this talented group of officers,” said A. Shuanise Washington (http://namic.com/the-team/), president and CEO, NAMIC. “Our regional leadership is responsible for creating local programs and experiences that foster the mission of NAMIC for members and partner companies throughout the nation.”

The 2019 slate of NAMIC chapter officers, some of whom are newly elected, is presented below. Some board positions will remain open until filled without active boards, including the regions of Tennessee, Texas and Western Pennsylvania.

NAMIC officers (newly elected or re-elected) in 2019 are as follows:

NAMIC – Atlanta
President – Lynnette Smith, Manager, Specialized Advertising, Manager, The Weather Channel
Vice President – Charles Neal, Sr. Manager of Technology, Cox Communications, Inc.
Secretary – Cea Mosley, Manager, OnDemand Digital Initiatives, Turner
Treasurer – Robert Wade Jr., Analyst 3, Finance & Accounting, Comcast Cable

NAMIC – The Carolinas
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Vice President – Tanara Tipton, System & Tools Business Sr. Analyst, Charter Communications
Secretary – Lakeysia Council, Operations Manager, Charter Communications
Treasurer – Morris Whitner, Director, Business Planning, Charter Communications

NAMIC – Chicago
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Vice President – Andre Brown, Director, Comcast
Secretary – Elizabeth Aguirre, Local Marketing Manager, Metro by T-Mobile
Treasurer – Traci Barnes, Senior Human Resources Manager, Comcast

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Secretary – Morgan Hampton, Executive Assistant, Charter Communications
Treasurer – Rasheeda Graham, Manager of Virtual System Operations Engineering, Charter Communications

NAMIC – Detroit
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Vice President – Shannon Dulin, Manager, Government & Regulatory Affairs, Comcast-Heartland
Treasurer – Shezaina Akyalcin, Analyst 2, Finance & Accounting, Comcast Cable

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Secretary — Morgan Johnson, Account Manager, Revenue Marketing, Starz
Treasurer — Kiana Sinclair, Senior Account Manager, WebMD

NAMIC - Philadelphia
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Vice President — Dwayne Edghill, Senior Project Manager, Comcast Business
Secretary — Cassandra Moore, Founder and CEO of TMYK Group (The Moore You Know)
Treasurer — Se Kwon, Program Manager, Comcast

NAMIC — San Francisco Bay Area
President — Mitzi Givens Russell, Franchise Operations and Compliance Manager, Comcast Cable
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For more information on the National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications, Inc, visit www.namic.com (http://www.namic.com) or contact NAMIC National headquarters at 212-594-5985.

ABOUT NAMIC
NAMIC (National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications) is the premier organization focusing on cultural diversity, equity and inclusion in the communications
industry. More than 4,000 professionals belong to a network of 18 chapters nationwide. Through initiatives that target leadership development, advocacy and empowerment, NAMIC collaborates with industry partners to expand and nurture a workforce that reflects the cultural richness of the populations served. Please visit www.namic.com (http://www.namic.com) or follow @NAMICNational on Twitter for more information about NAMIC and its many opportunities.

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Inside Trump’s ‘Cubanization’ of America’s Venezuela policy

By Franco Ordoñez

McClatchy Washington Bureau

(TNS)

WASHINGTON — The new top diplomat from Venezuela strode to the microphones outside the White House and asked for the free world's help to “liberate” Venezuela from a Cuban colonist.

Donald Trump's team couldn't have scripted it better.

It was a short, but impassioned speech by opposition leader Carlos Vecchio. He thanked President Trump for his help fighting to restore democracy in Venezuela and asked for international backing in the call for new elections. And he took clear and deliberate aim at the Trump administration's new favorite adversary, Havana.

"This fight is not about ideology," Vecchio said. "This is a fight between democracy and dictatorship. This is a fight between a dictatorship which is totally controlled by the Cuban regime against the free world."

The moment reflects the success the White House has had reshaping Venezuela policy with an eye toward Cuba, or as some put it, the "Cubanization of Venezuela policy."

Trump is expected to ratchet up the pressure even more during his State of the Union address on Tuesday.

Senior administration officials say that Cuban leaders have propped up the embattled Caracas government and that President Nicolás Maduro would be out of power if it wasn’t for the Cuban intelligence operatives who have enabled Maduro to control restless Venezuelans and block efforts to replace him.

"There really is going to be no long term resolution to the crisis in Venezuela without neutralizing the Cuban role there. That has to be on the table," said José Cárdenas, who served in the National Security Council under George W. Bush and regularly speaks with Trump administration officials.
No matter how hard Trump attacks Cuba and Venezuela in his address to the joint session of Congress, Trump is likely to get rare bipartisan support from Cuban-American lawmakers such as Republican Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, who has pushed Trump to take a stronger stance on Cuba, and Sen. Bob Menendez, the ranking Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee who accused Cuban leader Miguel Díaz-Canel along with Russia’s Vladimir Putin with keeping Maduro in power.

"As Cuba continues to export its communist ideology, and sends its coercive security forces throughout Latin America, we must continue to advocate for a hemispheric reality that serves the national interests of the United States and our regional allies," Rubio told McClatchy.

Trump promised during his presidential election campaign to take a harder line on Cuba than did then-President Barack Obama. While he took steps to reverse Obama-era policies of rapprochement toward Cuba, more significant change to Trump’s approach came when John Bolton was installed as the National Security Adviser, followed by Mauricio Claver-Carone as head of the National Security Council’s Western Hemisphere Affairs.

Even before he joined the Trump administration, Bolton advocated for stronger restrictions against Cuba. In 2002, as undersecretary of state, he accused Havana of trying to develop biological weapons. Claver-Carone was one of the most outspoken opponents of the Obama administration’s rapprochement with Cuba.

Trump never sought a briefing on Cuba’s intelligence role in Venezuela until after Bolton arrived, according to sources familiar with the discussions. In fact, he didn’t ask much about Cuba until months into his first term and that was to discuss Obama’s policy and how it could be reversed.

"Whatever is animating Trump on Venezuela, I don’t think its Cuba," said Mark Feierstein, the National Security Council’s senior director for Western Hemisphere affairs under Obama. "Trump has never demonstrated a concern about Cuba. As we know he tried to do business in Cuba. We know that he privately told Obama that he agreed with what Obama was doing on Cuba policy."

It’s not that Cuba isn’t seen as a malevolent force in Venezuela, Feierstein and others say. Cuban officials are training and embedded in intelligence and security services. Few doubt those ties, but critics question Havana’s true influence on the South American country’s 30 million Venezuelan citizens.

"Are the Cubans doing things to help, of course, but it’s more on the margins than it is a kind of real threat that they are the propping up the regime," said a person familiar with the discussions.

Trump hinted at the new pressure campaign during his United Nations speech to world leaders in September, after Bolton’s arrival, announcing new sanctions and criticizing the Maduro government and "its Cuban sponsors."

But, if there was ever any doubt after that, Bolton cleared it himself during a now infamous "Troika of Tryanny" speech in Miami targeting Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua, another authoritarian government, ahead of the 2018 congressional elections.

"These tyrants fancy themselves strongmen and revolutionaries, icons and luminaries," Bolton said in a policy speech at Miami Dade College’s National Historic Landmark Freedom Tower. "In reality they are clownish, pitiful figures more akin to Larry, Curly and Moe. The ‘Three Stooges’ of socialism are true believers, but they worship a false God."

The Cuban embassy didn’t respond to specific questions about ties with Venezuela, but referred McClatchy to the foreign ministry’s twitter page that includes tweets supporting Venezuela and Maduro’s sovereignty.

Benjamin Gedan, who was responsible for Venezuela policy on the National Security Council during the Obama administration, said the crisis in Venezuela offers the administration an opportunity to highlight Cuba’s "nefarious impacts on the region," including Cuba’s role monitoring and repressing dissent in Venezuela. He described the new team of having a Moby Dick-like obsession with Cuba.

"By cracking down on Venezuela, the White House bludgeons Cuba’s top ally, and limits whatever assistance Venezuela is still providing Havana," Gedan said. "For key members of President Trump’s national security team, Cuba is a foreign policy white whale."
To commemorate the one-year anniversary of the Parkland, Florida shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, the Department of Theater at the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television (UCLA TFT) and NewYorkRep will present one of a nationwide series of staged readings of the award-winning, Off-Broadway play Church & State this Thursday, Feb. 14 at 5:30 p.m. at UCLA TFT's 1330 Macgowan Hall. Written by Jason Odell Williams,

Church & State tells the story of a gun-loving senator running for re-election. He examines his position on the Second Amendment following a shooting at his children's school. The play explores how religion, guns and social media influence our political system.

Tickets are complimentary and will be available at the venue prior to the reading.

UCLA TFT student Anna Mader directs student cast members Carl Ballantine, Mary Alex Daniels, Beatrice Brown and Jacob Cherry. The creative team includes sound design by Yasmine El-Tayeb and dramaturgy by Danielle Jensen, a graduate of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Produced by UCLA TFT students Olivia Robertson and Emma Wenkert.

NewYorkRep is partnering with The Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, which is providing speakers to lead talk-backs following performances at some locations, including UCLA TFT.

NewYorkRep Artistic Director Markus Potter noted, "I was proud to direct the off-Broadway production of Church & State, and now honored to partner with the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence to use the message of the play to stand in solidarity with the Parkland community, to deliver a unified message to the country that we reject blood-soaked apathy and demand common sense gun safety legislation."

"Having helped produce this important play in New York and then watch continued gun massacres occur, it seemed important to take it off the shelf and carry the message across the country," said NewYorkRep Executive Director Gayle Waxenberg.

"Church & State starts a much-needed dialogue about gun violence prevention," said Kyleanne Hunter, Vice President of Programs, Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence. "Using humor, we can dive into a tough topic and have meaningful conversations. With
a gun-violence prevention Congress now in the House, it is exciting that we can move from thoughts and prayers to action. We’re excited to help facilitate this dialogue.”

Other university theaters that will also present the reading on Feb. 14 include: Indiana’s Butler University; The University of Kansas; Tulane University; Pittsburgh’s Point Park University; Miami’s New World School of the Arts; and North Carolina’s Elon University.

Church & State had its New York premiere, presented by lead producer Charlotte Cohen, Off-Broadway at New World Stages in 2017.

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El séptimo arte vuelve a invadir Miami

El séptimo arte invade nuevamente las calles de Miami. Faltan sólo dos semanas para que comience la trigésima sexta edición del Festival de Cine de Miami. Y tal como de esperarse, no defraudará a los amantes del cine.

Abriendo con broche de oro, el festival presentará This Changes Everything, un documental que examina la desigualdad de género en las industrias de cine y televisión. Cuenta con la participación estelar de Meryl Streep, Rosario Dawson, Zoe Saldana, Natalie Portman, Reese Witherspoon, entre otras actrices de renombre.

Entre alfombras rojas, celebraciones, estrenos especiales, programas educacionales, charlas con actores, actrices y directores, el Festival de Cine tiene algo para todos los cinefilos. La veterana actriz, Patricia Clarkson, quien recientemente recibiera el Globo de Oro, será homenajeadada con el premio Precious Gem.

El estreno mundial de Singular, un tributo a la famosa cantante de jazz Cécile McLorin-Salvant realizado por los cineastas estadounidenses Dennis Scholl y Marlon Johnson, se transmitirá en el teatro Olympia. McLorin-Salvant estará presente durante la proyección y deleitará a los asistentes tras el esfuerzo del documental.

Con más de 160 largometrajes, documentales, cortometrajes, de todos los géneros y procedentes de más de 40 países diferentes. El Festival de Cine de Miami, el único, auspiciado por una institución universitaria en Estados Unidos, continúa atrayendo la diversidad y lo mejor del talento hispano.

Algunas de las opciones durante estos 10 días de fiesta cinematográfica serán el estreno de Acusada, que cuenta con papeles protagónicos de Lali Espósito, Gael García Bernal, Leonardo Sbaraglia y dirigida por el aclamado director Gonzalo Tobal.

Asimismo, pueden echar a volar la imaginación en El viaje extraordinario de Celeste Garcia, una coproducción cubano-alemana, en la cual debuta como director el guionista Arturo Infante y protagoniza la veterana actriz María Isabel Díaz Lago. Y si le gustan los suspenso, no se puede perder el estreno mundial de Huracán, cuya trama penetra el exigente y riguroso mundo de las artes marciales mixtas (MMA, según sus siglas en inglés). Y la loada cinta cinematográfica Yuli, dirigida por la cineasta Iciar Bollain, presenta la historia del bailarín Carlos Acosta, una leyenda del ballet cubano.

El Festival concluirá con el gran estreno de Gigantes, del director español Enrique Urbizu, el cual será presentado por las estrellas de la serie, Juan Carlos Librado e Isak Férriz.

Para aquellos que aman la ciencia ficción, el Festival presentará un evento especial para conmemorar el 40 aniversario de Alien, el clásico del aclamado director Ridley Scott. La presentación, AFTER DARK, tendrá lugar a la medianoche en el O Cínamo Miami Beach.

Y por supuesto como todos los años, tendremos un sin número de concursos y programas educacionales para aquellos que aspiran ser parte del séptimo arte. Pero quizás uno de mis favoritos es el Concurso Cineslam, auspiciado por la Fundación de la Familia Lynn and Louis Wolfson II, donde estudiantes universitarios del Sur de la Florida exponen sus producciones. Este concurso, específicamente, fomenta el uso de material de archivo en las producciones cinematográficas. Es como tomar un viaje al pasado.


El Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón es el presidente del Miami Dade College.
Aplausos

10 sugerencias para el fin de semana de Presidents’ Day

Connie Ogle
cogle@miamiherald.com

Algunos fines de semana hay tan pocas cosas que hacer que lo más atractivo es pedir por Uber Eats y sentarse a ver algo en Netflix.

Pero el fin de semana del día de los Presidentes no es uno de ellos.

Uno de los fines de semana más activo de Miami ya está a la vuelta de la esquina, y es tiempo de decidir hacia dónde vamos a dirigir. Pero esa decisión no va a ser fácil.

Estas actividades ocurren en muchos lugares de la ciudad, ya sea que le guste el arte, los botes o los relojes. O quizás busque alguna actividad donde los niños puedan estar entretenidos el día entero.

Aquí les brindamos algunas ideas para ayudarlo a planificar esos tres días libres del sofá estarán en el mismo sitio el próximo fin de semana.

**Festival de arte de Coconut Grove**

Más de 360 artistas exhibirán sus obras, pero el mayor evento también cuenta con música, actividades culinarias y zona familiar para los niños.

_Febrero 16-17 de 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Febrero 18 de 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; 2700 S. Bayshore Drive; $15; cgaf.com_

**Art Wynwood**

Las carpas ya están colocadas al lado de la bahía. Este año, el octavo de Art Wynwood (aunque no esté cerca de Wynwood) se ha unido con el Miami Yatch Show lo que resulta muy conveniente. Puede disfrutar de los yates y súper yates mientras disfruta de arte que si puede comprar.

_Febrero 14: Preview de 6-10 p.m.; Febrero 15-17 de 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Febrero 18 de 11 a.m.-6 p.m. One Herald Plaza, Miami; $30 o $55 o pase para varios días o VIP $200; artwynwood.com_

**Miami International Boat Show**

Es la época para los amantes de los botes y para aquellos que venden lo que se necesita. Por lo general puede subir a la mayoría de los botes, de manera que aunque no esté pensando comprar uno puede empezar a soñar.

_Febrero 14-18 de 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Miami Marine Stadium Park & Basin, 3501 Rickenbacker Causeway; $25 por un día, $45 por dos días; miamiboatshow.com_

**III Points**

¿Cuánto le gusta la música? Si la contestación es “Adoro la música todo el tiempo” entonces puede que prefiera disfrutar de estos tres días (o por lo menos uno de ellos) en III Points Y, cuando decimos días, queremos decir noches. Este festival, que se lleva a cabo en Wynwood, dura hasta las 5 de la mañana y cuenta con más de seis tarimas y más de 100 intérpretes, incluyendo Tyler, the Creator, James Black, SZA, ASAP Rocky, Erykah Badu y Herbie Hancock.

_Febrero 15-17 de 5 p.m.-5 a.m., Mana Wynwood, 318 NW 23rd St., Miami; tickets $75 and up. Un pase de tres días para público en general cuesta $208 y un pase VIP de tres días cuesta $375. El impuesto y otros cargos no están incluidos._

**Festival Gay8**

Este festival gratis es una celebración de comida, arte, música y cultura, con actuaciones de drag y una competencia de sandwich con Burger Beast como juez. También podrá disfrutar de películas LGBTQ gratis en el Teatro Tower o traer su perro para aquellos que no estén cerca de Wynwood.

_Febrero 14: Preview de 6-10 p.m.; Febrero 15-17 de 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Miami Marine Stadium Park & Basin, 3501 Rickenbacker Causeway; admisión $20, $15 para Florida residents; miamichildrensmuseum.org_

**Relojes y Maravillas**

Treinta marcas de lujo mostrarán los relojes más impresionantes y la joyería de lujo a lo largo de este fin de semana. También habrá happy hours, talleres para hacer relojes y un tour por las tiendas del distrito.

_Febrero 15-17, Palm Court in the Miami Design District; watchesandwonders.com_

**Año Nuevo chino**

¡Es el año del cerdo! Es el momento para celebrar con comida china, arte, artesanías y muchos tipos de presentaciones culturales, incluyendo acrobacias y tamborileros Taiko.

_Febrero 17 de 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fred Shaw Plaza at Miami Dade College’s Kendall campus, 11011 SW 104th St., Miami; $10, menores de 12 años $5; y menores de 5 años entradas gratis._

Torneo de modelos de voíbil.

_Febrero 16-17 de 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Drive y Eighth St., Miami Beach; gratis o VIP $300-$500; modelvolleyball.com_