



Miami Dade College

Friday, February 26, 2021



The Daily News Clippings

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FEBRUARY 12, 2021

SOUTH DADE NEWS LEADER

MDC's The Reporter Named Top Student Newspaper in the State for 10th Consecutive Year



Miami Dade College's (MDC) award-winning newspaper The Reporter has been named the top college student newspaper in Florida for the 10th year in a row by the Florida College System Publications Association (FCSPA) at its annual virtual conference and awards ceremony.

The Reporter placed in 16 out of 19 individual categories, including 11 first-place awards. The competition recognized newspapers printed during the 2019-20 academic school year.

"This a tremendous honor that I'm grateful to share with the rest of last year's staff," said Heidi Perez-Moreno, who served as editor-in chief last year. "I'm proud of the work we were able to accomplish."

In addition to winning first place overall in general excellence, the newspaper's staff earned several individual top honors for In-Depth Reporting, Sports Writing, Editorial, Humor

Column, Newspaper Design, Feature Photo, Sports Photo, Picture Story, Editorial Cartoon, Website, and Headlines. Corbin Bolies won an inner circle award for placing top three in three different categories.

"It's exciting to see our work recognized with these awards," said Adriana Dos Santos, The Reporter's current editor-in-chief. "This is a great way to celebrate the dedication our staff puts in year in and year out."

The Reporter prints on a biweekly schedule (pre-COVID-19), has a circulation of 10,250 per print cycle and is supplemented by a website with video and audio content. It is distributed at all eight MDC campuses and has newsrooms at the North, Wolfson and Kendall Campuses. In the past ten years, the paper has won 149 awards from the FCSPA including 88 first-place honors. Learn more at www.mdcthereporter.com.

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H1

MIAMI HERALD | EDITORIAL

Black residents finally get their shot

Suddenly, everyone wants to reach Black seniors to help them get COVID-19 vaccines in South Florida.

First the federal government said it is opening a mass vaccination site at Miami Dade College's North Campus to reach more of the Black community, starting next week. Then the state followed on Thursday with six smaller sites it will open in Black and Hispanic communities, including one in Miami's Overtown neighborhood.

There are other vaccine distribution developments, too: Retail pharmacies offering shots now include Navarro Discount Pharmacy and CVS Pharmacy y más, an appeal to the Hispanic community. High-risk residents between 55 and 65 will be able to get vaccines through Jackson Health System, and teachers and

police officers over 50 will — finally — be eligible for the shots.

It's tempting to jump up and cheer. The county has even improved its standing in just a few weeks from having 27 percent of people 65 and older vaccinated with at least one shot to about 45 percent. That's good news.

But let's review.

HOLD THE APPLAUSE

More than 30,000 people in Florida have died from COVID. Gov. Ron DeSantis has refused to allow local governments to enforce mask mandates. The vaccine rollout has been confusing and geared to the digitally savvy, excluding many older folks. There's still no public plan for who is next in line for the life-saving shots. And Black seniors, across the state and in Miami-Dade, continue to lag terribly in vaccine rates.

Still feel like applauding? Neither do we.

It's particularly hard to understand, two months into this process, why Black seniors are only now getting this rush of attention. As Miami Herald reporter Bianca Padro Ocasio wrote Thursday, Miami-Dade's population is 17 percent Black, but only 7.6 percent of vaccinated residents have been Black, according to the state's own data

from Feb. 24.

And it's not much different in the rest of the state. Only 5.6 percent of Florida's Black senior citizens have been vaccinated, even though the state's population, like Miami-Dade's, is about 17 percent Black.

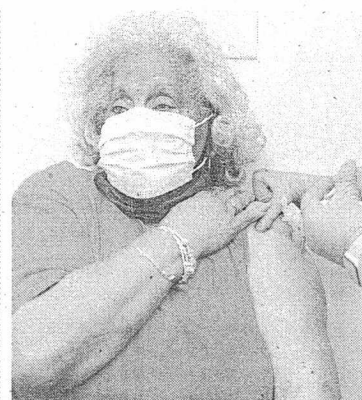
The county and Jackson are trying to bridge that gap, working with Black churches and community groups. But the obstacles are real. Vaccine hesitancy exists, especially in Black communities, where there's a well-founded historical distrust of the health system. Transportation to vaccine sites is a problem, and so is access to computers. A sustained effort by the state could overcome a lot of that.

As Romania Dukes, a community activist in majority-Black West Perrine, noted to the Herald, no one seems to have trouble finding the Black community when they need votes.

TROLLING FOR VOTES

All the while, the governor has continued to pop up in one senior-rich community after another, unveiling the latest location where the still-scarce shots will be available. DeSantis is up for reelection in 2022, and it shows with every "Seniors First" sign slapped on the podium at his press conferences.

U.S. Rep. Charlie Crist, the



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Jackson Health System partnered with houses or worship to ensure that seniors, such as Shirley Kemp, receive a COVID vaccination.

one-term Florida governor now in Congress, even asked the U.S. Department of Justice Sunday to investigate whether DeSantis' "blatantly political vaccine distribution decisions" violate federal law. Crist, a Democrat who may be considering a run for governor next year, made the request after DeSantis set up a vaccine site reserved for residents of a predominately white and wealthy area of Manatee County.

Florida, like every other state, knew for months that the vaccines were coming. Getting to this point, with the county's vaccination rate

finally hitting the state average and a new focus on vaccines in the Black community, shouldn't have been so hard. Seniors still shouldn't have to sit in cars for hours to get a shot, as happened last weekend in Miami Gardens at the county's first, no-appointment mobile-vaccination effort. And the sign-up process shouldn't be tilted toward affluent residents.

WHAT'S THE PLAN?

All of these issues would be helped if Florida would tell its residents and institutions what the plan is for vaccinations. As the Tampa Bay Times reported this week, an analysis by the Kaiser Family Foundation showed that every state except for Florida has done that.

In Florida, essential workers don't know when they will get their chance, nor do people under 65. The uncertainty is particularly hard as Florida International University and other large employers head back to in-person work soon.

A lot of vaccine distribution depends on the flow of shots to the state. But the governor's vote-banking tour isn't a plan. Florida deserves a transparent, thought-out set of steps to get the population, especially the Black community, vaccinated so we can start to put this deadly disease behind us.



EDITORIALS

Miami-Dade's Black residents finally get their shot in the arm. It's a start — and it's about time / Editorial

BY MIAMI HERALD EDITORIAL BOARD

FEBRUARY 26, 2021 06:00 AM

Duration 2:36

COVID-19 vaccination among Black Miamians is a matter of trust and access

City of Miami officials are bringing vaccines to senior centers in Black neighborhoods, where lack of access and trust issues slow the effort to vaccinate against COVID-19. BY CARL JUSTE

Suddenly, everyone wants to reach Black seniors to help them get COVID-19 vaccines in South Florida.

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Miami-Dade is expected to get a new federal vaccination center soon, on the campus of Miami-Dade College North. That's already in use by Miami-Dade for vaccination doses, but the Biden administration wants it used for the county's first federal "mass vaccination" site. MATIAS J. OCNER MOCNER@MIAMIHERALD.COM

<https://www.miamiherald.com/opinion/editorials/article249426815.html>

Local & State

Florida adds 7,128 cases and 129 deaths

BY HOWARD COHEN
hcohen@miamiherald.com

Florida's Department of Health on Wednesday announced 7,128 new confirmed cases of COVID-19. The state also announced 129 new deaths, 127 of whom were residents.

The state has recorded a known total of 1,885,661 cases and 30,878 total deaths. Of those deaths, 30,340 are residents and 538 are non-residents.

On Wednesday, the state reported the results of 118,244 residents tested on Tuesday. The state's positivity for first-time testers decreased from 6.50% to 5.99%.

Currently, 1,492,509 Floridians have completed the two-dose vaccination series of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines, and 1,299,509 have received the first dose.

SOUTH FLORIDA

● **Miami-Dade County** reported 1,064 new cases and 15 deaths, putting its pandemic totals at 405,563 cases and 5,353 deaths. In Miami-Dade, 119,287 people have received the first vaccine dose and 164,514 people have completed the two-dose series. Positivity decreased from 6.01% to 5.61%.

● **Broward County** added 903 cases and nine deaths, moving its totals to 191,968 cases and 2,361

deaths. In Broward, 97,324 people have received the first vaccine dose and 139,516 have completed the series. Positivity decreased from 7.28% to 6.8%.

● **Palm Beach County** reported 702 new cases and 14 deaths, bringing its cumulative count to 118,853 cases and 2,428 deaths. In Palm Beach, 111,722 people have received the first vaccine dose and 143,634 have completed the series. Positivity increased from 6.48% to 7.02%.

● **Monroe County** added 26 new cases and no new deaths. Pandemic totals in the Keys are 5,747 cases and 46 deaths. In Monroe, 4,978 people have received the first vaccine dose and 5,893 have completed the series. Positivity decreased from 6.29% to 4.74%.

HOSPITALIZATIONS

As of 3 p.m. Wednesday, the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration agency said there were 4,077 people hospitalized. Of these, Broward had 593; Palm Beach, 321; and Monroe, 4, the agency said.

According to Miami-Dade's New Normal Dashboard, county hospitals reported 706 COVID-19 patients, down from 780 on Tuesday. There were 70 new patients and 136 were discharged.

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PEDRO PORTAL pportal@miamiherald.com, file 2021

A COVID-19 vaccination site at Miami Dade College North. In Dade, 164,514 people have completed the two-dose series.

Three New COVID-19 Vaccination Sites Opened In South Florida For Underserved Communities

By Peter D'Oench February 25, 2021 at 5:20 pm Filed Under: Broward College, COVID-19 Vaccine, Local TV, Miami News, Overtown, Peter D'Oench

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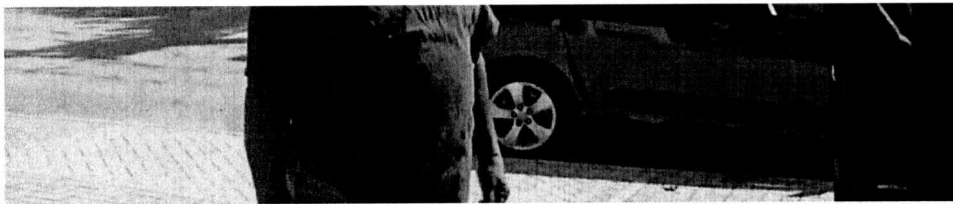
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Three New COVID-19 Vaccination Sites Opened In South Florida For Underserved Communities



MIAMI (CBSMiami) – Three new state-run COVID-19 vaccinations sites opened in South Florida on Thursday.

They are located at Broward College – North Campus, at 1000 Coconut Creek Boulevard in Coconut Creek; the Father Gerard Jean-Juste Community Center, at 690 NE 159th Street in Miami, and in an Overtown parking lot at 1551 NW 1st Avenue in Miami.

READ MORE: Woman Killed In Pompano Beach Triple Shooting

James Watley, who has lived in Overtown for 25 years, told CBS4's Peter D'Oench, "I love that this is a closer for people. A lot of people don't have transportation and now they can get to it."

Another Overtown resident, Ieshia Haynie, said "I think it's remarkable for anyone to bring materials to a neighborhood that needs them the most. I think we have been lacking in this area for some time."

The three sites were part of six that opened to provide greater access to the vaccine in underserved populations. The other sites were in Duval, Leon, and Osceola counties.

"These sites, which will administer 200 shots per day and be open seven days a week, will significantly increase access to the vaccine for seniors in these communities," said Governor Ron DeSantis.

The governor said the state will work with local community organizations to proactively schedule appointments.



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The Broward College North Campus will accept walk-ups, as well as those who have scheduled appointments.

READ MORE: Miami Weather: Mostly Sunny With A Building Breeze

The site will be open seven days a week from 8:30 a.m. through 5:30 p.m. It will operate from the Omni Auditorium and will be open for a minimum of two months. The 200 vaccines will be available each day on a first-come, first-served basis.

The state, in partnership with the federal government, will open another site at Miami Dade College North Campus on March 3rd. Vaccinations will be given by appointment only. The site will operate daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

This site will come with its own allotment of vaccine, above what the state is normally allocated.

The site will administer 2,000 vaccines per day. Additionally, it will have two smaller, mobile satellite sites that will conduct 500 vaccinations per day in underserved areas. Through this hub and spoke model, each site will offer 3,000 vaccinations per day.

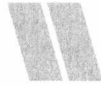
Dr. Aileen Marty, an Infectious Disease specialist with F.I.U., said, "The faster we get our people vaccinated the more we win against the virus. So I am delighted that there is going to be a FEMA vaccination site as well as more state-run sites announced by the Governor especially in underserved communities where we have seen the virus take hold and lead to so many deaths."

Marty urges people not to be skeptical about taking the vaccine.

"The hard fact is that this is a horrible virus and this is a virus that has killed 500,000 Americans and continues to cause long-term illness in such a high percentage of victims. Moreover, there are new variants that can overcome the immunities that many people originally produced but these vaccines are specially designed to change the shape of the spike in such a way that your body produces a much higher quality immunity without having to go through this disease."

MORE NEWS: Plans Moving Forward To Rebuild FIU Bridge That Collapsed, Killing 6

To register for an appointment in the statewide system, individuals can either call the designated phone number for their county or visit myvaccine.fl.gov.



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**Sundial**

Teachers Next Up For COVID-19 Vaccines, Student Hunger, And Black Golfers Who Fought For Equality

LISTEN • 50:59

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Sarita Sanmiguel's kindergarten class at Redland Elementary in south Miami-Dade on Monday, Oct. 5, 2020, the first day that Miami-Dade public school students returned to their classrooms, after learning remotely since March due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Getting teachers vaccinated and getting food to students. Plus, the story of a group of Black golfers who stood up against segregation, the city and its white elites.

On this Wednesday, Feb. 24, episode of Sundial:

Teachers Are Next For COVID-19 Vaccines

The next group of people who will be eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine are classroom teachers, law enforcement officers and firefighters who are 50 years and above, announced Gov. Ron DeSantis at a Tuesday press conference in Hialeah.

WLRN is committed to providing South Florida with trusted news and information. In these uncertain times, our mission is more vital than ever. Your support makes it possible. Please donate today. Thank you.

What does this mean for South Florida teachers?

"I've had numerous phone calls, emails, Facebook messages, text messages that they [teachers] are excited that they're being considered. It's a first step to getting all of our educators in our school sites and buildings to all of Broward County Public Schools and across the state of Florida," said Anna Fusco, president of the Broward Teachers Union.

Broward has about 5,040 teachers age 50 to 64 who would qualify. Miami-Dade has 8,478 and Palm Beach County has 4,514 in that age group, according to our news partner the Sun Sentinel.

Teachers, and the others in this group, will be eligible to get vaccinated only at four FEMA sites across the state, according to Gov. DeSantis. The only FEMA site in South Florida is at Miami-Dade College North Campus.

"We don't yet know exactly whether it would be Moderna or the Pfizer vaccine [for teachers]. But, I do want to emphasize for listeners that these are both fantastic vaccines and that no one should feel upset because they got this one or the other one.

WLRN

1A

All of the medical experts say get whatever is offered to get that vaccine,” said Verónica Zaragovia, WLRN’s health care reporter.

If you’re looking for updates on the vaccine, you can check [here](#).

Teachers Are Next For COVID-19 Vaccines

LISTEN • 15:45



Student Hunger

Thousands of students in South Florida are struggling during the pandemic. And it’s not only the online classes, homework and test taking. Those who are most vulnerable also face the challenge of not having access to food.

“Before the pandemic they [schools] had sent home permission slips for people to sign up where they have to do an explicit act to say, ‘Yes, we need help.’ They didn’t get as much response as they expected. Now, what the schools are doing is, they just set up carts with bags of food. And when school lets out, the kids just grab a bag on their way to the bus or to the school,” said Nancy Klingener, WLRN’s Florida Keys reporter.

Klingener interviewed Denise Santiago, a principal at Horace O’ Bryant School in the Monroe County School District.

“It [feeding children] truly is not something new. It is something that I feel like has always been a challenge for us, having been at the same school, the same clientele of children that come to our school. The need has always been there, but it is a greater need and it is something that we do discuss more,” Santiago said.

You can find all of the stories from our Class of COVID-19 series [here](#). And sign up for the special newsletter focused on the stories behind the reporting in the series [here](#)

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Student Hunger

LISTEN • 9:06



A Group Of Black Golfers Who Fought For Equality In The 1940s

A group of Black recreational golfers from the 1940s stood up against the city of Miami and white elites to oppose segregation on the city's public golf course.

Black people could play on the course but only one day a week, Monday, which was the day that was set aside to maintain the course and do things like cut the grass.

"It was just really an affront to their human dignity," said Yanela McLeod, who is a professor at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University. "This is a symbol of segregation that Black people are going to look at to say if we tear that down, that's going to express our demand for equal rights in this country."

McLeod is the author of the book "The Miami Times and the Fight for Equality." It explores that golf course fight, which was led by the Black-run newspaper The Miami Times, which remains in publication to this day.

"They are behind the scenes launching this lawsuit and trying to figure out the best way to tear down segregation in all aspects of public life in Florida and particularly in Miami," said McLeod. "And so because it lends its pages as a voice of protest, also for information and unification, it will get the attention that it needs for people to rally behind this golf case."

The case eventually reached the state Supreme Court, which opened the door for the golf course to be desegregated.

A Group Of Black Golfers Who Fought For

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FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Publix to begin offering COVID-19 vaccines in Miami-Dade and Broward

Walter Morris | 7 News WSVN | Elitsa Bizios

(WSVN) - Publix will begin offering COVID-19 vaccines to eligible South Floridians in Miami-Dade and Broward counties.

Starting Monday, all Publix pharmacies in the two counties, 136 in total, will begin administering the vaccine to those 65 and over.

"It means a lot to me, you know, because that's going to give me peace of mind," Pierre Chery said.

Appointments can only be made online and will open up to the public on Friday at 7 a.m. Publix said appointments cannot be made by calling the store or the pharmacy.

The online reservation system typically opens every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning for vaccine appointments at Florida Publix pharmacies, depending on the number of vaccines received from the state and federal governments.

The supermarket chain joins other retailers, such as Walmart and CVS y Mas, to offer COVID-19 vaccinations in South Florida.

Those who can get vaccinated at Publix pharmacies include individuals 65 years of age or older, health care personnel with direct patient contact, a resident of a long-term care facility or a staff member of a long-term care facility.

Cars lined up at a Walmart parking lot in Lauderdale Lakes to receive a vaccine on Thursday.

"Everybody should get it, protect ourselves and our children and our grandparents and everybody," said Fay Tench, who waited in line for a vaccine.

With more vaccines on the way to pharmacies across the region, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis said more people will have the opportunity to get inoculated. The governor announced more permanent vaccination sites will come to South Florida, like the Overtown Youth Center, Oak Grove Park in North Miami Beach and Broward Community College North.

"We're looking at within the next four to six weeks that you're going to see this, potentially, really turn a corner, just in terms of how ready access people have to it," DeSantis said in Jacksonville on Thursday. "These sites will offer at least 200 vaccines a day. I would say without question, barring any problems with the vaccine distribution, you're going to see the age lower sometime in March for sure."

"Instead of telling people to be patient, we'll need to start persuading the remaining people that haven't been vaccinated that they need to be vaccinated," Broward County Mayor Steve Geller said.

The Food and Drug Administration will review data from Johnson & Johnson's single-dose COVID-19 vaccine on Friday. If it is granted emergency use authorization, federal officials said 3 to 4 million doses will be ready to go next week.

"I don't know for sure how many vaccines that means for the state of Florida," DeSantis said. "We think it's gonna be tens of thousands. I mean, I hope it's more than that, but at a minimum, we think it will be tens of thousands."

Starting on Wednesday, Miami-Dade College's North Campus will become a federal mass vaccination site.

"It will be administering 2,000 vaccines each day on site and an additional 1,000 per day through mobile units that will travel directly to harder to reach communities," Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava said.

Around 200 seniors in Miami received their second dose of the vaccine on Thursday thanks to the city's mobile vaccination program.

"We're going to keep doing this, so that by the end of next week, beginning of the following, all those who were vaccinated for the first time would have had their second vaccination," Miami Commissioner Joe Carollo said.

For more information or to make an appointment at Publix, [click here](#).

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FL MIAMI

Three New COVID-19 Vaccination Sites Opened In South Florida For Underserved Communities

By Peter D&#039;Oench

CBS Miami
16h

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0:00 / 3:16

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Trending People

Lady Gaga

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“These sites, which will administer 200 shots per day and be open seven days a week, will significantly increase access to the vaccine for seniors in these communities,” said Governor Ron DeSantis.

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Related: What You Need To Know About Getting The COVID-19 Vaccine In South Florida

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Jill Biden

Jill Biden is an American educator and activist who served as Second Lady o...



George Harrison

George Harrison was an English musician, singer-songwriter, and...



David Foster

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Bruce Springsteen

Bruce Frederick Joseph Springsteen (born September 23, 1949) is an...



Tiger Woods

The name Tiger Woods is synonymous with golf, and why would it not be? ...



Tom Holland

Tom Holland is a British actor, best known for portraying the famous...



Mandy Moore

Amanda Leigh Moore (born April 10, 1984) is an American singer,...



G Dragon

G-Dragon is a South Korean singer, songwriter, rapper, model and record... producer. He worked as a trainee for 6

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Marty urges people not to be skeptical about taking the vaccine.

“The hard fact is that this is a horrible virus and this is a virus that has killed 500,000 Americans and continues to cause long-term illness in such a high percentage of victims. Moreover, there are new variants that can overcome the immunities that many people originally produced but these vaccines are specially designed to change the shape of the spike in such a way that your body produces a much higher quality immunity without having to go through this disease.”

To register for an appointment in the statewide system, individuals can either call the designated phone number for their county or visit myvaccine.fl.gov.

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Ron Desantis

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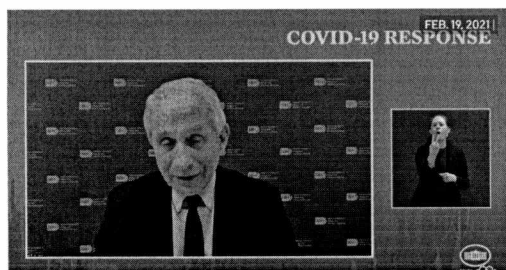
CORONAVIRUS VACCINE

New Covid Vaccination Site to Open at Miami-Dade College

New site opening soon one of four new locations statewide

Published 2 hours ago • Updated 29 mins ago

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Fauci Details Timeline for Vaccine Test ...

The site will open in early March and administer about 2,000 vaccinations per day.

A new COVID-19 vaccination site will be opening at Miami-Dade College next month, one of four new federally supported sites that will be operating in Florida, Gov. Ron DeSantis announced Friday.



5. Similar sites will be opening in Orlando, Tampa and Jacksonville.

"MDC is very proud to be chosen as a committed partner in helping our community and the entire country reach normalcy during this global pandemic," college president Madeline Pumariega said in a statement. "This latest designation speaks to the important role the College plays in this community and the nation and our ability to effectively serve as a community resource during times of crisis – including opening our campuses as food and technology distribution sites over the last 12 months."

Local



31 MINS AGO

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2 HOURS AGO

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The sites will operate seven days a week, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. with about 2,000 vaccine doses available per day.

Download our mobile app for iOS or Android to get alerts for local breaking news and weather.

Each site will also have two smaller mobile satellite sites that will perform 500 vaccinations per day in underserved areas, DeSantis said.

The sites are opening through a partnership between the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Department of Defense, the Florida Department of Health, Florida Division of Emergency Management and Florida National Guard.

To preregister with the statewide system, individuals can either call the designated phone number for their county or visit myvaccine.fl.gov.

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Gov. Ron DeSantis may act soon to get COVID-19 shots into the arms of law enforcement officers, sources told NBC 6.

Coral Gables Police Chief Ed Hudak said the actions of his officers are the perfect example as to why they need to be vaccinated soon.

"We may be riding around with masks on, but we may be rendering aid right away," Hudak said.

Two Coral Gables officers responded to a call of a woman drowning and went into action trying to revive her. The officers are now off the streets because the woman ended up testing positive for COVID-19, Hudak said.

On Friday, Miami-Dade announced that the federal government will be providing 2,000 vaccines a day at Miami-Dade College North and another 1,000 with a mobile van. Sources told NBC 6 DeSantis may be issuing an executive order allowing some of the additional shots to go to police.

"I think the governor should — he's also a supporter of law enforcement," said Miami-Dade Commission Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz. "And I think that he will make sure that will happen sooner than later. We gotta protect our people."

As of Monday, of the 565 Miami-Dade officers that have tested positive for COVID-19, 37 of them still are not back at work.

"We need to get the officers vaccinated," said Steadman Stahl president of the South Florida Police Benevolent Association. "We lost two corrections officers due to it. It's the No. 1 killer across the country that's taking lives of law enforcement officers and we need those vaccines."

The governor's office did tell NBC 6 it's doing all it can to get people vaccinated quickly. When it comes to those 3,000 additional shots from the federal government, if they are delivered directly to the county, they may not need the governor's approval to give them to law enforcement officers.

37 Years MIAMI TODAY

WEEK OF THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021

At college, enrollment recovering

BY ABRAHAM GALVAN

As students adjust to new campus protocols, Miami Dade College has seen an increase in enrollment, narrowing its gap to a 7% total decline from pre-covid days compared to 12% last fall.

MDC's Wolfson Campus downtown has been focused on supporting students holistically when it comes to mental health, financial planning and public health benefits, said Beatriz González, the campus president.

Besides healthcare aspects, the campus has been moving forward with programming like dual enrollment, producing the student literary magazine, kickstart and rapid credential certifications, and hybrid-style courses.

"While the average number of credits students are taking is still down, the headcount is up 3.6% from last spring and up to 2.5% compared to the fall term," Dr. González said of Wolfson Campus attendance.

Overall, Miami Dade College saw a large enrollment drop this past fall, with about 53,500 students compared to almost 61,000 in fall 2019. September saw the largest percentage decline, 17%, which was reduced to about 12% during October's mini-term enrollment push.

Currently, the college stands at an overall 7% decline compared to pre-covid. So far, a little over 53,000 students have enrolled for spring. Starting March 8, another mini-term enrollment campaign is expected to push numbers up.

With the support and initiatives of the Miami Dade College Foundation, the college is committed to offering scholarships for students struggling to pay tuition and expenses for spring and summer semesters, Dr. González said.

"So far, we have given over \$10.4 million of scholarship grants, an incentive up to \$1,800, which translates up to 13 credits," she said. "Students are starting to get accustomed to all of this and are still finding ways to accomplish their goals through this pandemic."

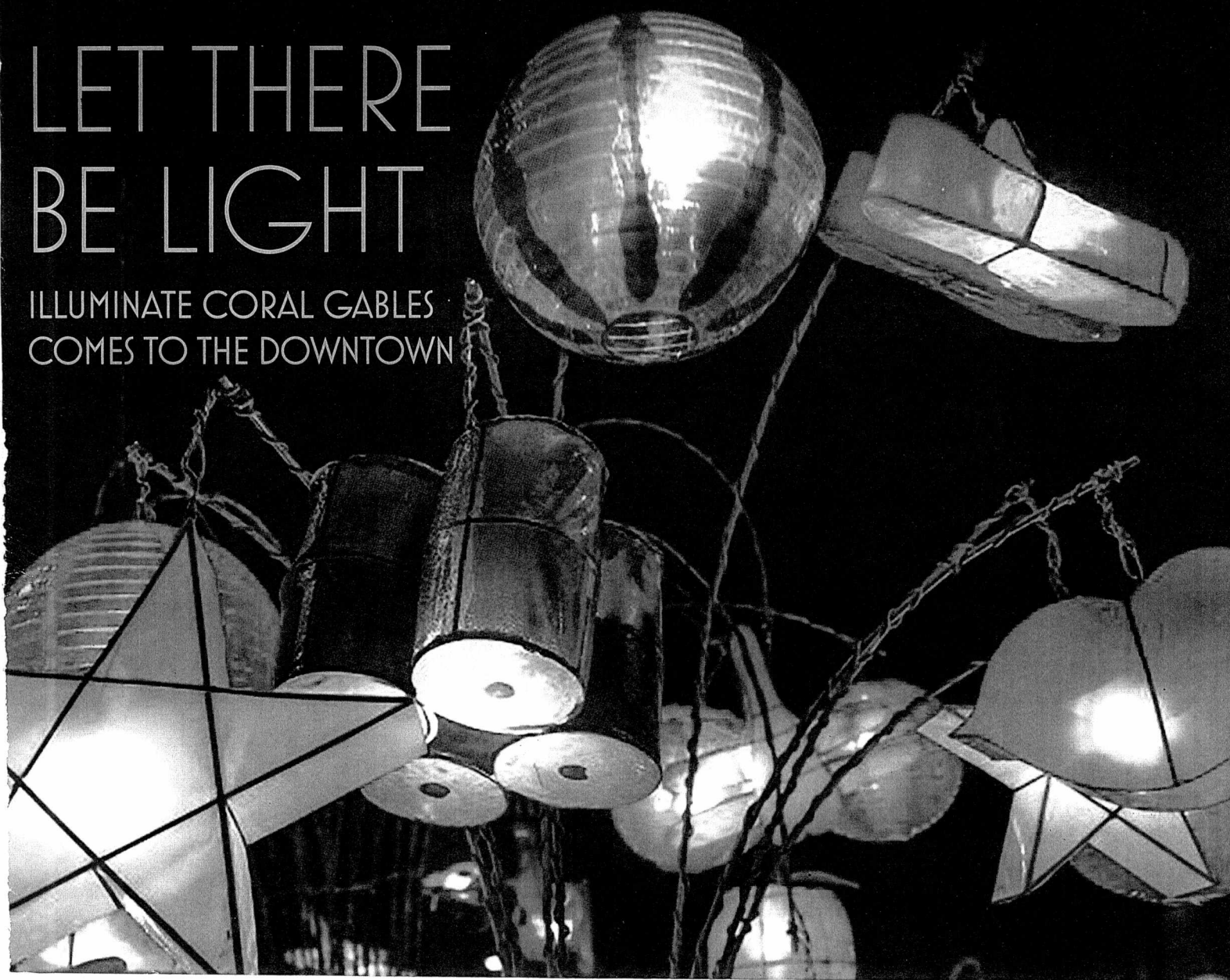
CORAL GABLES

FEBRUARY 2021

MAGAZINE

LET THERE BE LIGHT

ILLUMINATE CORAL GABLES
COMES TO THE DOWNTOWN



It's A Man's World

FOR OVER 25 YEARS, PEPI BERTINI HAS BEEN DRESSING SOME OF THE BEST DRESSED MEN IN CORAL GABLES

BY KIM RODRIGUEZ



Cuban born Pepi Bertini fell in love with the art of making a beautiful suit from his dad, who was in the manufacturing and retail business in Cuba. His father loved pinstripe suits, leather shoes and thin ties. The glamorous '50s nightlife of Cuba, when men wore suits almost everywhere, left an indelible mark on young Bertini.

Upon moving to Miami, Coral Gables was home to the family. Bertini grew up biking all over the city and the Venetian Pool was his favorite destination. He started his career in the Gables working at an Italian clothing store while taking classes at Miami Dade College in Fashion Merchandising and Design, opening his shop in March 1993.

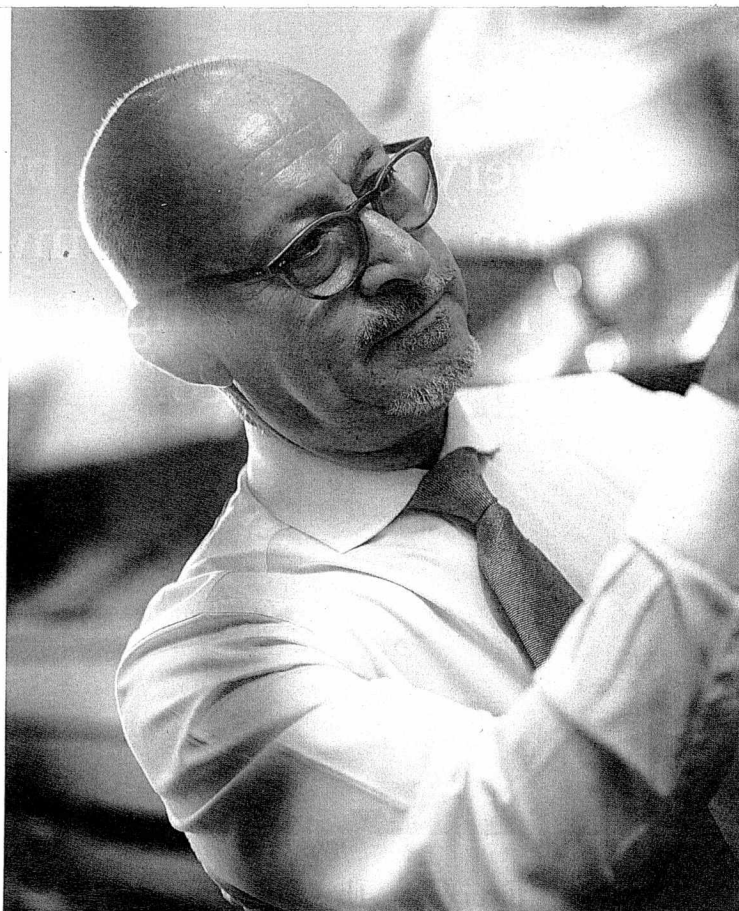
Pepi Bertini is a serious men's boutique. You can certainly pop in and buy off the rack, but most likely you've made an appointment to see the master himself for the fitting of an immaculate suit and custom shirt. You may also be there for your custom wedding tuxedo or groomsman suit, which has become a big part of his business.

"Custom suit-making and tailoring is a science like any other field," he says. "It's a true

art form to get it right, and when it's right you have a suit that has taken at least 16 hours of handwork to complete and fits you perfectly." If you aren't sold yet, he says the right fit can make you look taller and thinner, and who doesn't want that?

This comes with a price, of course, but the steady clientele certainly dictates that it's worth it. Ties cost \$140 and up, stock shirts go for \$300, and off the rack suits (with renowned Canali and Zanella labels) start at \$1,500. Custom pieces go up from there – \$2,100 to \$8,000 for suits and \$375 to \$800 for shirts. We asked about trends, but it really isn't their thing. The brand is elegant, classic and timeless. Bertini did, however, mention florals will be big for shirting this spring.

Bertini is the consummate professional and gentleman. He says it's an honor to work with all his clients, many he now considers friends, and because of his "you have to work harder than 100 percent all of the time" mantra, he has managed during the pandemic to add another 40 clients to his already long and established list. "I feel I am part of a big family in the City Beautiful," he says. ■



"IT'S A TRUE ART FORM TO GET IT RIGHT, AND WHEN IT'S RIGHT YOU HAVE A SUIT THAT HAS TAKEN AT LEAST 16 HOURS OF HANDWORK TO COMPLETE AND FITS YOU PERFECTLY," SAYS PEPI BERTINI ON MAKING CUSTOM SUITS.

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Meet Melanie Moreno, Miss Teen Florida US Nation 2021

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Melanie De La Caridad Moreno Ochoa is a 16-year-old aspiring model. Melanie is a Cuban native, born in La Habana. Melanie currently resides in Miami, FL and she is studying at Miami Dade College in a program called SAS. Since a very young age, Melanie enjoyed singing and dancing, but it wasn't until middle school; when she was about 13 years old that she began to have a passion for modeling. Her acting teacher at the time suggested for her to participate in a modeling contest hosted at her school

and from there, she embarked on her journey. Melanie later then went on to participate in her first pageant; which she did not win, but realized that modeling was something she saw herself doing for several years, in addition, it helped her to become more confident within herself.

After graduating from John Casablancas modeling school, she began to attend more castings to audition for runway opportunities. Of which she was sent to cast for the Super Chic Miami Art Basel Edition Fashion Week show. She did not fail to impress with her confidence and love for the runway. At that event, she was discovered to participate at the Miss US Nation pageant to further her modeling experiences. She entered the state pageant representing Teen South Miami and won the Miss Teen Florida US Nation 2021 crown. "Five years from now I plan to accomplish many things in the modeling industry. I'd like to do a lot more runway.

Shows for big and small brands, be in commercials and several advertising campaigns. As Miss Teen Florida US Nation 2021, I hope to be a role model for people of all ages, ethnicities, backgrounds, and sex that want to get into the industry. I want to help guide people to find what they truly love and want to do in life, and help accomplish it," says Melanie.

Melanie is seeking brand sponsorships for her reign, you can support Melanie's journey and expose your product, service or business on a global scale at the same time.

Melanie is also available for print work, commercials and campaigns. Follow her on Instagram @itzz_mel

Media Contact

Company Name: Miss US Nation Pageants

Contact Person: Media Relations

Email: [Send Email\(http://www.universalpressrelease.com/?pr=meet-melanie-moreno-miss-teen-florida-us-nation-2021\)](mailto:SendEmail(http://www.universalpressrelease.com/?pr=meet-melanie-moreno-miss-teen-florida-us-nation-2021))

Phone: (954) 274-5600

Country: United States

Website: www.missusnationpageants.com(<http://www.missusnationpageants.com>)

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Miami Film Festival's Jaie Laplante: "We are a gateway for Europe and Latin America"

BY STUART KEMP | 25 FEBRUARY 2021



**SOURCE: MIAMI FILM FESTIVAL
JAIE LAPLANTE**

The 38th edition of Miami Dade College's Miami Film Festival is a hybrid format mixing physical cinema screenings and virtual screenings geo-blocked to the US. Running March 5 to 14, the festival will showcase international films to local audiences at host venue Silverspot Cinema in downtown Miami, with all social distancing

measures in place.

The festival opens and closes with two world premieres from Miami artists: Edson Jean's *Ludi* and Jayme Gershen's *Birthright*. The event sees the return for a third consecutive year of Knight Heroes, a programme created with the support of Knight Foundation, in a new format and a virtual platform. Precious Gem awards will be presented to Pedro Almodóvar, Rita Moreno and Javier Cámara, as well as Art of Light awards to Aldis Hodge, Andra Day and cinematographer Joshua James Richards. Riz Ahmed will receive the Impact award.

Festival executive director Jaie Laplante talks to *Screen* about the pull of cinema screenings, the draw of international filmmaking to Miami audiences and why a smaller lineup doesn't mean a

reduced workload.

How do the changes to this year's Miami Film Festival manifest themselves?

We're keeping to one venue only. Traditionally we've used up to six venues. Our motto this year is to keep everything simple and safe and still be festive. We're not encouraging really large gatherings but the theatre experience is something we really believe we need continuity with at this time. It is really important that we don't lose sight of how important that theatrical experience is. Most of our films will have the opportunity to be premiered that way first and then they will be available starting the next day in our virtual cinema for 48 hours.

Can you explain a little more about redefining the Miami Film Festival for the new era of film?

The idea is this hybrid. The important part of the hybrid is the theatrical component. Films are made to be screened in a cinema and that's where they should go first. For people that are not able to go to the theatre or can't fit it into their lifestyle, the virtual option is there for them.

How hard was it putting together your line up for this year?

It was a challenge. There's a lot of films that are still holding back, that don't want to premiere right now. We had some films that we were tracking we were interested in that simply weren't ready to debut yet. I am a great believer in the path of least resistance. There were other films that want to launch now, such as *Nudo Mixteco*, directed by Mexico's Ángeles Cruz, and *1991*, directed by Sergio Ramirez, from Guatemala which is produced by Jayro Bustamante. These are films that feel they are ready to launch into the world and we are able to give them a theatrical launch.

The lineup is only about 50% of our usual size of the festival. Since we're doing a virtual festival and a theatrical festival simultaneously so even although it is half the amount of films it is double the amount of work so it all equals out.

How does the Miami Film Festival act as a gateway to the US for international films?

Miami is a very international city. For more than two thirds of the residents here, English is not their first language. It is definitely a connector gateway for people from Europe and Latin America.

How important is it to foster Miami's creative and technical talent?

It's hugely important because a large part of our audience is the creative community. We encourage that in a great number of ways. We have a large cash competition for films that are shot and set in South Florida – not necessarily just South Florida creatives – open to anyone who wants to come here and set and tell their stories here. [This year's \$40,000 Knight Made in MIA Feature Film Award, supported by Knight Foundation, will go to a jury-selected feature film that has a substantial portion of its content (story, setting and actual filming location) in South Florida and that best utilises its story and theme for universal resonance.]

One of the programmes I am most proud of is called Knight Heroes, named after our sponsor, Knight Foundation. It is a real talk with creatives who have made a breakthrough in their careers, talking about how they did it, what they went through to find their own voice and find their own confidence. It is a really personal look at their journey to becoming a filmmaking artist.



**SOURCE: COURTESY OF THE MIAMI FILM FESTIVAL
1991**

This year we have Radha Blank (*The Forty-Year Old Version*) and Amy Seimetz (*She Dies Tomorrow*). Both of them are going to be having a conversation with their heroes, people they have learned from. Radha has chosen Gina Price-Bythewood (*Beyond the Lights, The Old Guard*) and Amy has chosen Barry Jenkins' producer partner Adele Romanski (*Moonlight, Never Really Sometimes Always*). That is something that people go away from that imbued with the feeling 'hey I can do that, I can do it too'. That's the greatest gift we can give to Miami creatives.

Spanish auteur Pedro Almodóvar will pick up this year's Precious Gem Master award virtually before the Miami premiere of his first English-language film, the live-action short *The Human Voice*, starring Tilda Swinton?

The very first edition of the festival showed his third film *Dark Habits (Entre Tinieblas)*. He's had many of his films in our selection over the years and he is hugely popular in the city. As the first festival in North America to ever show his work, Almodóvar credits Miami as being important to the development of his international career.

What are you most looking forward to from this year's festival?

Being in the theatre. I love that theatre experience. Fingers crossed. We know that things can change at any minute and we're ready for that.

- **Berlinale co-heads on planning this year's edition: "I had to play the bad cop to my colleagues"**

MIAMI New Times®

Local Filmmakers Jayme Gershen and Edson Jean Debut Features at Miami Film Festival

APRIL DOBBINS | FEBRUARY 25, 2021 | 8:00AM



Edson Jean (left) and Jayme Gershen

Photo courtesy of the artist/Photo by Tato Gomez

Miami artist Jayme Gershen is having her moment. After five years of hard work, she completed her first feature documentary, *Birthright*, just in time for its premiere as the closing film at Miami Dade College's 38th-annual Miami Film Festival (MFF) next month. The film follows local electro-pop act Afrobeta as the duo embarks on a journey to perform in Cuba, the homeland of members Cuci Amador's and Tony Smurphio's parents.

Gershen met the pair while hosting a concert series. When the musicians mentioned their plans to play in Cuba, Gershen asked to film the process. The result is a thoughtful documentary that explores the complexities of Cuban-American perceptions of home.

"When relationships opened between Cuba and the U.S. in 2016, I saw my Cuban-American peers going through what can only be described as an identity crisis," Gershen tells *New Times*. "They had never questioned who they were, and suddenly American pop culture was in the very place that they felt was theirs. Suddenly, people were more interested in Cuba than the Cuban-Americans who'd built a Little Cuba in Miami, and I wanted to make a film about that shift."

Gershen's path to filmmaking was unconventional. For years, she was a competitive snowboarder with an appreciation for photography. Though she loved competing, Gershen quit the sport after her sixth knee surgery and traveled for a bit. During her travels, she leaned more into photography. Eventually, she met and married a man in Colombia, but the couple spent the bulk of their marriage separated by borders and immigration policies.

"We fought nearly ten years for his visa, which was ultimately denied," Gershen says. "I became a filmmaker because I decided to make a film about our experience."

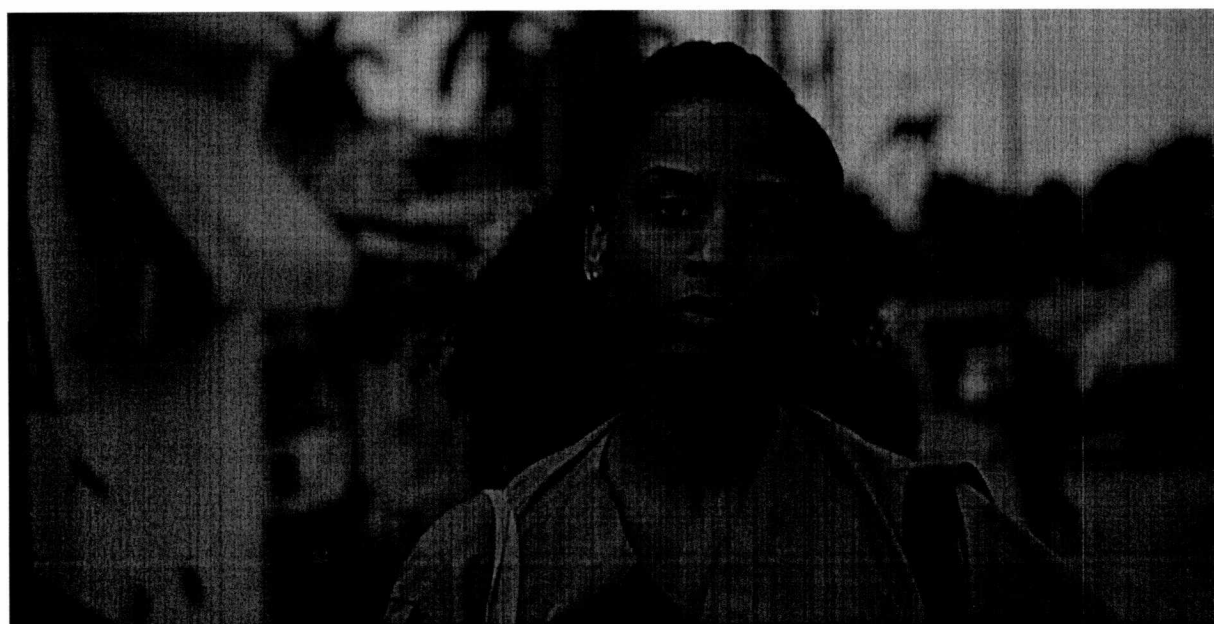
The resulting short documentary, *Six Degrees of Immigration*, won the Knight Made in MIA Short Film Award at MFF in 2019. The film was featured on *New York Times* Op-Docs and PBS and eventually scored an Emmy.

Gershen is now receiving much-needed creative support through Oolite Arts Home + Away travel residency program, which offers Miami-Dade artists opportunities to

participate in some of the nation's most important artist residencies. Gershen is spending five weeks at Anderson Ranch in Colorado, where she put the finishing touches on *Birthright*.

“Documentary filmmaking is tough because there are no answers,” Gershen says. “You have to figure out what you are trying to explore and how to process that information. Then, you have to figure out how to reach your audience.”

Also premiering at MFF is Edson Jean’s film, *Ludi*. (It will also screen at SXSW Film Festival later in the month.) The film is the first project to come out of the Cinematic Arts Residency at Oolite Arts. Now in its third year, the residency program awards a Miami filmmaker \$50,000 to create a narrative microbudget feature film and provides access to a producer and studio space.



Shein Mompremier stars in Edson Jean's Ludi.

Photo courtesy of Edson Jean

Like much of Jean’s work, *Ludi* is rooted in Haitian-American experiences. The film follows a young health-care worker struggling to support herself in Miami while sending money to family in Haiti.

“So much inspired *Ludi*,” Jean tells *New Times*. “But the core of that inspiration came from my mother’s earlier years as a recent immigrant and private caretaker making her way in Miami.”

While this is Jean's first feature film, he is no stranger to the industry. He received a bachelor's degree in acting from the New World School of the Arts. His thesis project inspired his first short film, *The Adventures of Edson Jean*, which screened at the American Black Film Festival and later aired on HBO.

Jean's identity is integral to his filmmaking.

"As Black people in this country, our traumas have been normalized," he says. "My work is therapy for me. Through film, I seek to fully explore and understand myself and to avoid being complicit in vicious cycles of oppression and hate."

For his next project, Jean partnered with Joshua John-Baptiste to create *#Josh*, a series based on their experiences as fatherless men in Miami grappling to figure out manhood. The duo won Project Greenlight's web series competition, which Matt Damon and Ben Affleck sponsored.

Jean and Jean-Baptiste later adapted the web series into *Grown*, a full-length digital series on Complex. After the show ended, Jean pondered his next move.

"I had a shift in perspective and was tired of being at the mercy of Hollywood," Jean says. "So, Josh and I started writing a script that would cost very little so that we could make it on our own."

At the behest of Miami producer Andrew Hevia, Jean applied for Oolite's Cinematic Arts Residency. Winning the residency put *Ludi* on the fast track, but the pandemic complicated production. In the end, Jean shot the film in 14 days. Dennis Scholl, president and CEO of Oolite Arts, hopes that *Ludi* will inspire more Miami filmmakers to take the leap into feature filmmaking.

"Miami has an incredible community of indie filmmakers who have won many awards for their short films," Scholl says. "We want to help them take that next step in their career and make a feature film. Micro-budget features are a great start. *Ludi* proves you don't need a ton of resources to tell a great story."

Ludi. Starring Shein Mompremier. Directed by Edson Jean. Written by Edson Jean and Joshua Jean-Baptiste. 81 minutes. Not Rated. Screens at 7 p.m. Friday, March 5, at Silverspot Cinema; 300 SE Third St., Miami; 305-536-

5000; silverspot.net; streams virtually at noon Saturday, March 6. Tickets cost \$25 via miamifilmfestival.com.

Birthright. Starring Cristy “Cuci” Garcia and Tony “Smurfio” Laurencio.

Directed by Jayme Gershen. 54 minutes. Not Rated. Screens at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 14, at Silverspot Cinema, 300 SE Third St., Miami; 305-536-

5000; silverspot.net; streams virtually at noon Sunday, March 15. Tickets cost \$25 via miamifilmfestival.com.

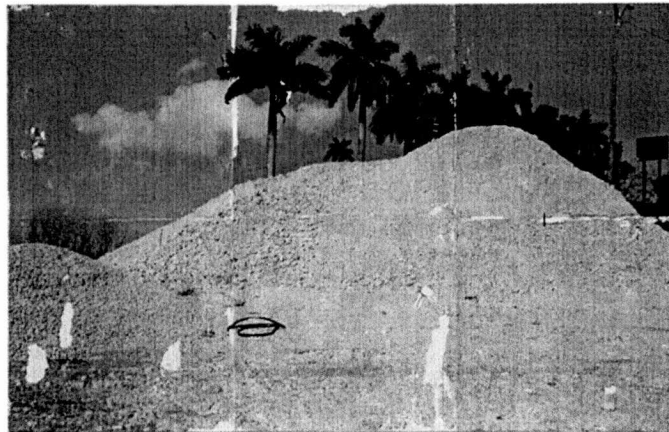
<https://www.miaminewtimes.com/arts/jayme-gershen-and-edson-jean-new-features-at-miami-film-festival-2021-11873949>

Art Base opens Oolite artist exhibition

Sue Montoya's 'clouds dissipate' starts Friday

News [FOLLOW NEWS](#) | 10h ago

Staff report



Sue Montoya's "Here Today." Her solo exhibition will open Friday at the Art Base in Basalt.

Miami-based artist Sue Montoya will open the solo exhibition "clouds dissipate" on Friday at the Art Base in Basalt.

The multidisciplinary show features photographic imagery of landscapes with drywall, wood and barro de Oaxaca to create unique constructions that highlight the connection between place, materials and memory.

Montoya is currently in residence at Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass Village, where she is one of 14 Miami artists participating in Oolite Arts' annual Home + Away program.

In lieu of an opening reception, an artist talk will be posted on the Art Base website Friday. The exhibition runs through March 12.

In the exhibition, Montoya seeks "to reveal the economic, political and historical factors that contribute to the exploitation, allocation and perception of people and land," according to an Art Base announcement.

Also among the Oolite artists in residence is Jayme Gershen, an Emmy-winning filmmaker whose latest project, "Birthright," will be the closing night selection for the virtual Miami Film Festival. Gershen finished the film at the Ranch. It will screen online March 13.

And Oolite resident artist Gonzalo Fuenmayor will publish the monograph, "Tropical Burn," collecting his drawings and other works examining colonialism in the Americas through a lens of theatrical tropical symbolism. It is available for pre-order online through Delmonico Books.

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Now more than ever, your support is critical to help us keep our community informed about the evolving coronavirus pandemic and the impact it is having locally. Every contribution, however large or small, will make a difference.

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THE VIRUS CRISIS | SOUTH FLORIDA

High schools exploring in-person graduations for Class of 2021

BY COLLEEN WRIGHT
cawright@miamiherald.com

South Florida's Class of 2021 may be able to have a semblance of a normal send-off, after all.

The school superintendents of Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Broward County Public Schools both announced this week that they are working toward holding modified, in-person high school graduations.

Miami-Dade Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho announced Thursday that his staff has begun conversations regarding physical, in-person graduations for the Class of 2021. The announcement came at the end of a School Board budget workshop.

"Seniors for the class of 2021 are getting pretty edgy," he said, referring to their inquiries on social media.

In-person graduations, with safety measures, could happen, he stressed:

"Obviously, under special circumstances and careful protocols that take into account conditions at the time, more limited

attendance, but still afford the graduate an opportunity to walk the stage, to listen to pomp and circumstance and have the appropriate picture taken with the principal of the school."

Carvalho told the Miami Herald that full details will be released next month.

EXPLORING COVID-SNIFFING DOGS AT GRADUATIONS

Pointing to declining COVID-19 positivity rates in Miami Dade County — the county's 14-day average positivity rate was 6.30 percent as of Wednesday, down from double digits in early January — Carvalho said the district is consulting with its chief medical officer and medical experts.

They're evaluating options, such as using larger indoor spaces as venues and COVID-sniffing dogs, like the Miami Heat and Florida International University have employed.

The district is still soliciting services for virtual graduations as a backup. And like past years, the ceremonies will be live streamed.

BROWARD WILL HOLD MODIFIED GRAD CEREMONIES

In Broward County, Superintendent Robert Runcie said the district will hold modified graduations that depend on venues with enough capacity. He said schools will still have drive-by graduations, which were a big hit last year.

"We don't want to have our seniors going through the challenges last year," Runcie said. "They deserve a traditional graduation experience."

The fourth- and sixth-largest school districts in the country — and first- and second-largest in the state — are following the lead of the state's largest universities.

The University of Florida and Florida State University have also announced holding in-person graduations for spring-semester graduates. Face masks will be required and the ceremonies will be condensed, according to the News Service of Florida.

PROM IS A MAYBE

Prom, however, is tricky.



DANIEL A. VARELA dvarela@miamiherald.com

Christopher Columbus High School seniors exit their cars and prepare to throw their caps in the air after receiving their diplomas at Homestead-Miami Speedway on June 20, 2020.

Carvalho said the district is still exploring the feasibility of proms, which are less regimented and more complex to plan safely.

"We're trying to normalize as much as possible their experience ... within the necessary guardrails," he said.

Carvalho has received input from seniors like Maria Martinez, the student adviser to the School Board and student government president at School for Advanced Studies North. She's been working with 400 to 500 student leaders who want to make graduations a live, in-person event this year.

She said students are willing to not graduate at a traditional venue, to wear a

mask and exclude their families from graduation.

"If there's anything we can do to help out or advocate for people being safe for graduation," Martinez said. "Even if no family members are invited. We don't mind going to that extent just to have an in-person graduation. Just to see our friends one last time."

She said prom is less talked about among the seniors at SAS North, as more students are fixated on walking across the stage.

"When it comes to prom they understand the circumstances are different," Martinez said. "We're a little more understanding that with prom, the chances are not as high as

graduation. But the one final event we really wanted throughout our whole life is high school graduation."

And as for the Class of 2020 who missed out on the pageantry of their senior year, Carvalho said the district is still working out how to symbolically celebrate them.

He said the district could not safely hold an event at the end of last year for that class due to rising number of COVID cases in Miami-Dade County in December and January.

Miami Herald staff reporter David Goodhue contributed to this report.

Colleen Wright:
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Celebration marks 125 years of Miami that began downtown

BY MARILYN BOWDEN

At a press conference on the steps of Miami Senior High School, the City of Miami announced this month the beginning of a countdown leading up to the 125th anniversary of its incorporation on July 28, 1896. The six-month celebration is co-chaired by Mayor Francis Suarez and Larry Gautier, senior vice president at NAI Miami, who is a direct descendent of one of the city's founding families.

"Miami is a young city in the big scheme of things," Mayor Suarez said in a prepared statement, "but we have made so much history here in our nearly 125 years, and we aim to celebrate our rich past in the coming months... This is an opportunity for Miamians of all ages to learn about our history – and to envision what our city will look like in the years and decades to come."

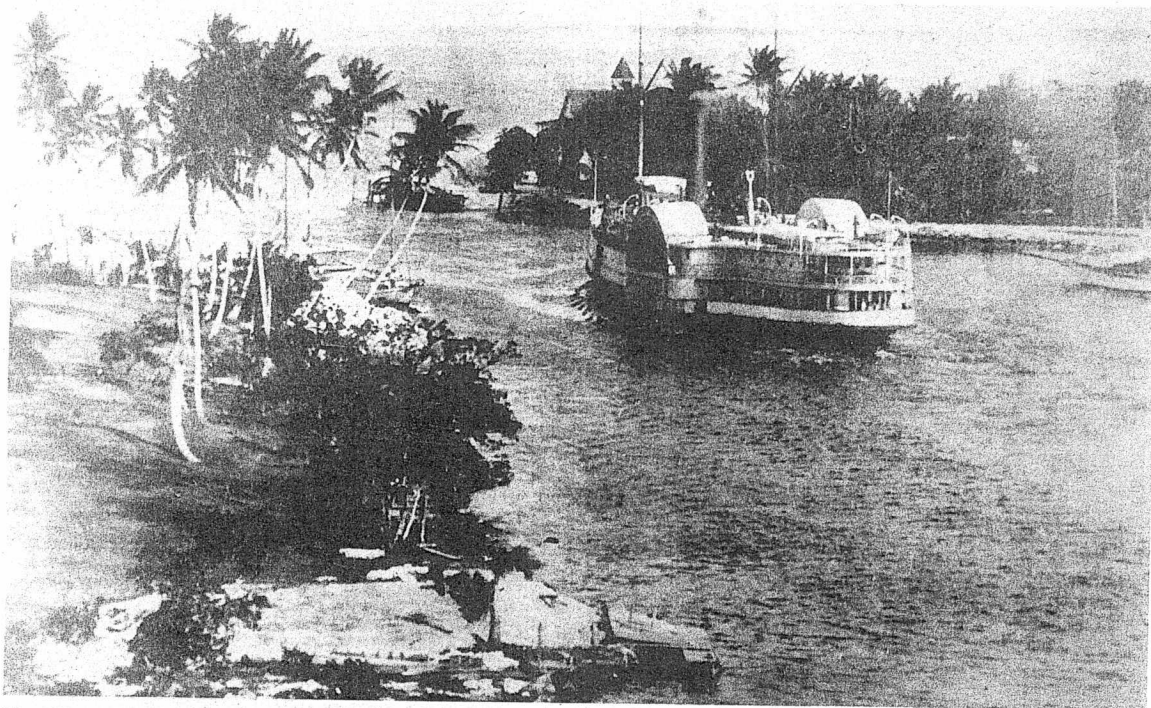
Details of specific events are still on the drawing board due to pandemic-related uncertainties, but coordinators say they will be designed to honor the past and embrace the future.

Mr. Gautier said the city will host monthly educational events via Zoom in neighborhoods throughout Miami where markers are being installed to commemorate significant historical sites.

"We plan a large education piece," he said. "We will partner with local schools where students will learn about their hometown's past and be asked to share their thoughts and aspirations for what Miami's future will look like."

"My hope is that this celebration will give our youngest residents a sense of Miami's past and a real sense of place to activate future community involvement here."

A student competition to

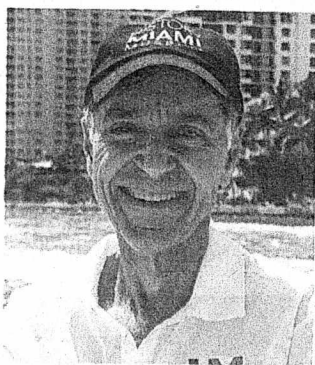


Key West tour boat enters the mouth of the Miami River in the 1890s, about the time the city was formed.



'When my great-grandparents arrived at the mouth of the Miami River on a flatboat in 1895, they couldn't have imagined what that place would become.'

Larry Gautier



'The city has long been a place for starting over again. That's what I find really fascinating about Greater Miami.'

Paul George

design the 125th Anniversary commemorative logo is also under consideration, as is a community gala at Bayfront Park in late July, contingent on Covid-19 conditions.

In an interview in 1896 cited by Arva Moore Parks in "Miami the Magic City," Miami pioneer Julia Tuttle predicted that "it will not be many years hence before Miami will be the most important port on the Atlantic coast in the South ... Vessels from all parts of the world

will call at Miami, making Miami the greatest commercial center in all the southland."

It's unlikely that many of the new city's citizens shared her optimism.

"When my great-grandparents arrived at the mouth of the Miami River on a flatboat in 1895," Mr. Gautier said, "they couldn't have imagined what that place would become."

"They were one of 10 families Flagler sent down from West

Palm Beach to get things organized, and my great-grandfather, T.N. Gautier, jumped at the opportunity. He opened one of the first general stores, at Flagler Street and Miami Avenue, and was part of group that signed to incorporate the City of Miami on July 28, 1896."

Paul George, resident historian at HistoryMiami Museum, said during the past 125 years "Miami has seen astronomical changes — not only its population explosion but also cultural and ethnical."

The population at incorporation, he said, was about 700 people, based around a Deep South demographic and a lot of Bahamians who came here to work.

"It was basically a frontier town," Dr. George said. "But it grew up quickly. By the end of the 1910s the population was close to 40,000, and it had the fastest growth rate in the nation."

Today the population of the city

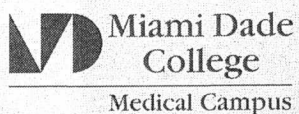
is about 470,000 he said; 2.73 million people call Miami-Dade County home.

Dr. George attributes the city's resilience, in the wake of several real estate booms, the Great Depression and other disasters both manmade and natural, to its ability to reinvent itself.

Even now, he said, the city is ever-changing.

"Old neighborhoods have been resuscitated," Dr. George said. "Art deco has gone crazy. Brickell came out of nowhere to become a very exciting place to be. Recently there are reports of a trend of famous people moving to Miami, which is not as constrained as Los Angeles or New York."

"The city has long been a place for starting over again. That's what I find really fascinating about Greater Miami."



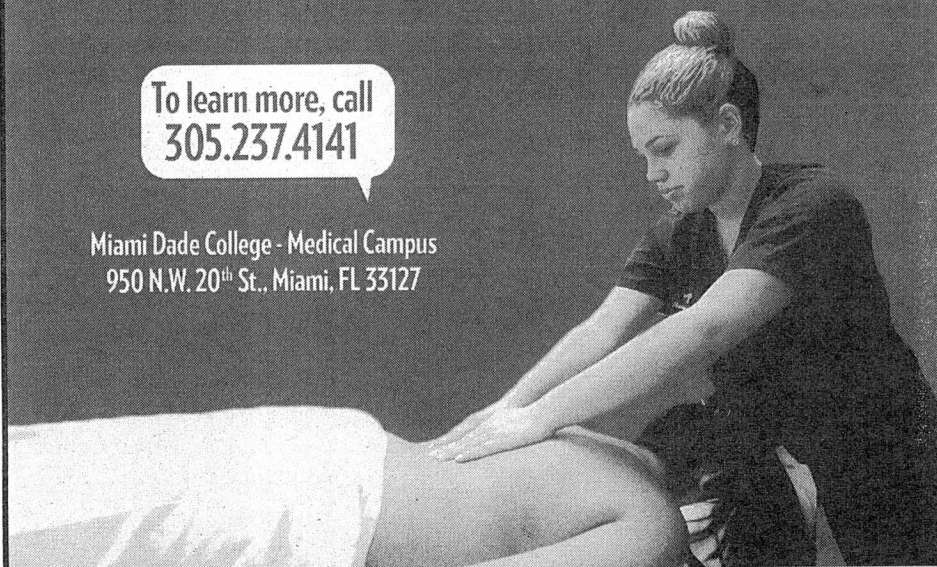
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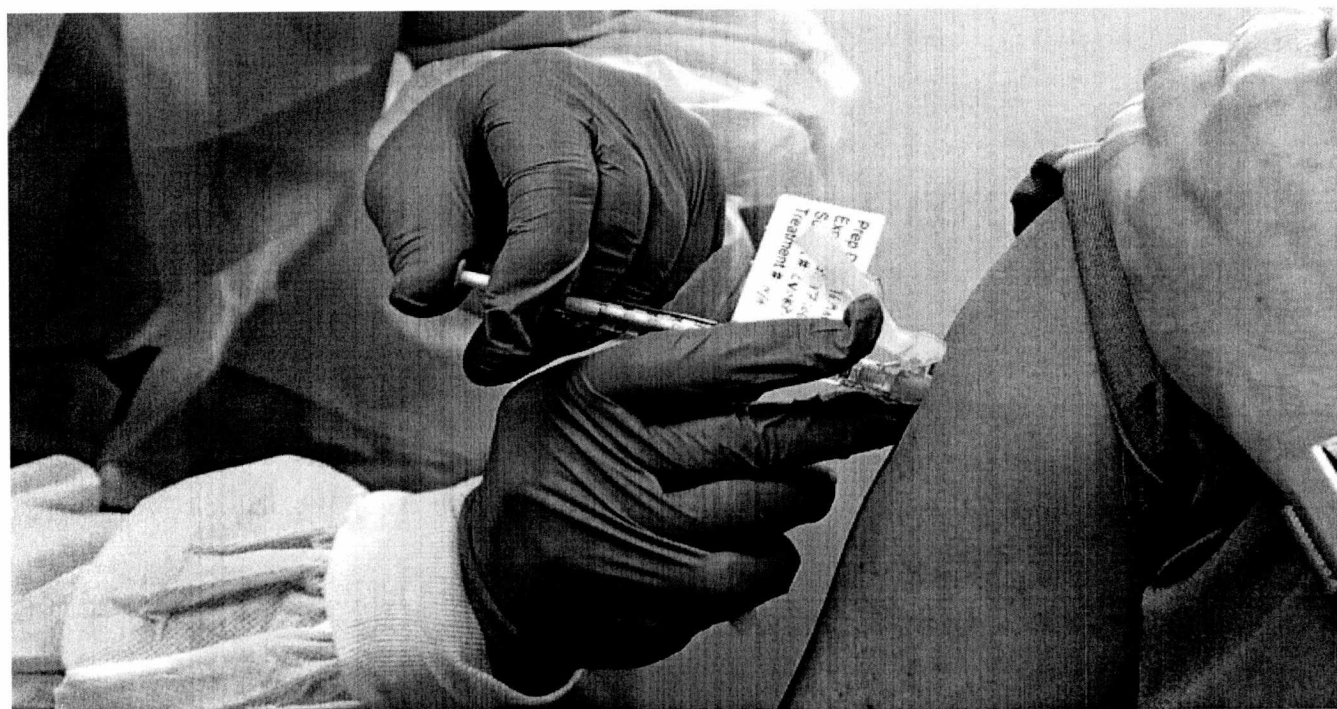
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Nueva vacuna agilizaría proceso de inmunización en Florida

25 de febrero de 2021 - 09:02 - Por JESÚS HERNÁNDEZ



Miles de vacunas son aplicadas en Florida a diario.

AP

MIAMI.- La llegada al mercado de la vacuna contra el COVID de Johnson & Johnson podría agilizar el proceso de vacunación en Florida, que cuenta ahora además con la participación de la agencia federal de emergencias FEMA y el apoyo de otras entidades gubernamentales.

"La vacuna de Johnson & Johnson comenzará a llegar a Florida este fin de semana o la próxima", aseguró el gobernador Ron DeSantis durante una comparecencia ante la prensa en Brooksville, al norte de Tampa.

"No sé cuántas dosis vamos a recibir, pero si todo va según lo planeado", agregó, "deberíamos tenerlas en algún momento de la próxima semana", subrayó.

La nueva vacuna, que anticipan sería aprobada por la autoridad estadounidense de medicamentos esta semana, reforzaría el proceso de vacunación que comenzó los fármacos elaborados por Pfizer y Moderna.

Hasta el momento, las cantidades limitadas de producción y distribución han sido reservadas mayormente para la tercera edad, personal sanitario y otros esenciales.

Los datos publicados muestran que la vacuna J&J es efectiva contra variantes y, si se autoriza, la compañía dice que tendría cuatro millones de dosis disponibles para enviar de inmediato.

"Vamos a trabajar para ver exactamente cómo lo usamos", dijo DeSantis. "Quizás en farmacias, quizás en consultorios médicos" señaló. O quizás en los cuatro centros de vacunación masiva que atenderá FEMA a partir del 3 de marzo, uno de ellos en el North Campus del Miami Dade College.

DeSantis también anunció que se enviarán al estado al menos 200.000 vacunas Pfizer más.

"Ahora estamos en una situación en la que potencialmente hay cientos de miles más que estarán disponibles en Florida semanalmente, por lo que podremos avanzar", dijo.

De hecho, el Gobierno federal hace uso de la ley de la producción de Defensa para aumentar la producción de vacunas y ampliar su papel para combatir la pandemia, y para ello convoca a FEMA para movilizar "personal clínico y contratistas que trabajarán mano a mano con la Guardia Nacional para acelerar la aplicación de vacunas", según el comunicado oficial.

Hace apenas 20 días Florida fue asignado 245 millones de dólares para agilizar su programa inmunización.

Según un estudio de Kaiser Family Foundation, Florida es el único estado de la Unión Americana que no posee un plan oficial de vacunación, que marque la pauta a seguir en los próximos meses.

Pero la llegada de las nuevas dosis y el plan del Gobierno federal, el estado podría mejorar las restricciones de edad.

"Una vez que lleguemos al punto deseado en la tercera edad, cuando veamos que la demanda baja, obviamente vamos a bajar la edad y lograr que la gente de 60 y luego de 55 puedan vacunarse", dijo el gobernador.

Entretanto, maestros, oficiales del orden y bomberos de 50 años o más esperan ser atendidos tan pronto como la semana que viene.

Hasta el momento, unos 1.5 millones de personas en Florida han recibido las dosis necesarias de Pfizer y Moderna, mientras unos 2.7 millones aguardan por la segunda dosis.

Florida cuenta con unos 21.5 millones de habitantes, de los que cinco millones son personas mayores de 65 años.

<https://www.diariolasamericas.com/florida/nueva-vacuna-agilizaria-proceso-inmunizacion-florida-n4217375>

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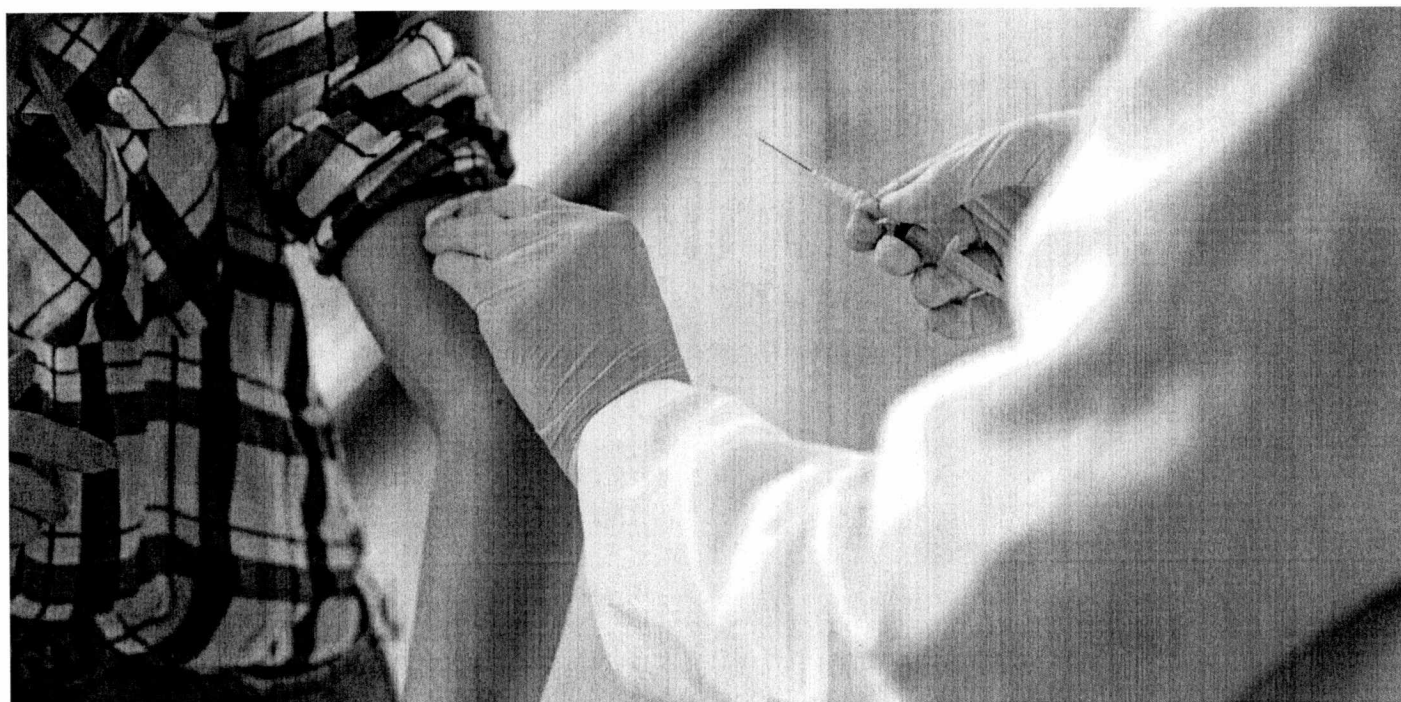
Nueva vacuna agilizaría proceso de inmunización en Florida



por Redacción

— febrero 25, 2021 en Miami

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(25 de febrero del 2021. El Venezolano).- **La llegada al mercado de la vacuna contra el COVID de Johnson & Johnson podría agilizar el proceso de vacunación en Florida**, que cuenta ahora además con la participación de la agencia federal de emergencias FEMA y el apoyo de otras entidades gubernamentales.

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POR ISABEL OLMOS
Especial/el Nuevo Herald

Ya está aquí la 38ava edición del Festival de Cine de Miami 2021, que debido a la pandemia se presenta como un festival híbrido con proyecciones virtuales y presenciales en el espacioso Silverspot Cinemas en el centro de Miami, de 5 al 15 de marzo. En este prestigioso festival se proyectan más de 100 películas realizadas por profesionales del sur de Florida, cineastas primerizos y cineastas internacionales de renombre de 40 países diferentes.

INAUGURACIÓN Y CLAUSURA DEL FESTIVAL

Dos estrenos mundiales abren y cierran el festival: 'Ludi' del actor, escritor/director haitiano-estadounidense Edson Jean, que se proyecta el viernes 5 de marzo, y 'Birthright' de Jayme Gershen, que se proyecta el sábado 13 de marzo, a las 7 p.m. 'Ludi', que compite al Premio Knight Made in MIA de Largometraje de \$40,000, narra la historia de una joven trabajadora de la salud en Miami a la que nada detiene en su lucha desesperada por enviar dinero a su familia en Haití, presionada por una situación financiera de verdades a medias.

A continuación de la película se llevará a cabo una charla con el director Jean. La cita en persona es a las 7 p.m. en downtown Miami y el sábado 6 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., de forma virtual. Y 'Birthright' sigue a los músicos de electro-pop criados en Miami, Afrobeta, que son invitados a actuar en La Habana, Cuba. Este documental abarca el deseo del dúo de visitar la tierra natal de sus padres, un viaje surrealista hacia quiénes son, de dónde vienen y lo que realmente significa ser cubano. Jayme Kaye Gershen, cineasta ganadora de un premio Emmy que vive en Miami, usa el humor para arrojar luz a temas que a primera vista pueden parecer desconocidos. La cita virtual es el domingo 14 de marzo a las 12 p.m. Más: https://youtu.be/RaMqunos_fc

ESPAÑA: PEDRO ALMODÓVAR, FERNANDO TRUEBA Y JAVIER CÁMARA

Basado en las aclamadas memorias de su hijo, 'El olvido que seremos (Recuerdos de mi padre)' dramatiza la vida de Héctor Abad Gómez, un destacado médico y activista de derechos humanos durante la polarizada y violenta Medellín de la década de 1970. Esta película del prestigioso director español Fernando Trueba se proyecta el 6 de marzo, a las 7 p.m. en el cine y el 7 de marzo, a las 12 p.m. virtualmente. Y el actor Javier Cámara recibirá el Premio Precious Gem del Festival por su trayectoria y su papel en 'El olvido que seremos' de Trueba. 'My Heart Goes Boom' (Explota mi corazón) es un viaje de alegría contagiosa a través de los grandes éxitos de la incomparable Raffaella Carrà, del cineasta hispano-uruguayo Nacho Álvarez. Es el 7 y el 8 de marzo, a las 3:30 y 12 p.m., en el cine y virtual, respectivamente. La película 'Nora', de la cineasta española Lara Izagirre Garizurieta, se proyecta en cine y virtual, el 9 y 10 de marzo, 7:30 y 12 p.m., respectivamente. La película 'El Inconveniente', de Bernabé Rico es 8, a las 7 p.m. en el cine y 9, a las 12 p.m. online. Y el cortometraje 'The Human Voice', una presentación especial en el cine que incluye una conversación pregrabada con el legendario cineasta español Pedro Almodóvar, quien recibe virtualmente su premio Precious Gem Master Award. Es el 5 de marzo, a las 9:45 p.m. en el cine.

CUBA: PELÍCULAS Y DOCUMENTALES

'Cuban Dancer' (2020), que se proyecta el 11 y 12 de marzo, a las 7 p.m. en el cine y a las 12 p.m. virtual, respectivamente, trata sobre la historia de Alexis, un talentoso alumno de la Escuela Nacional de Ballet de Cuba, que se muda con su familia a Miami y debe encontrar su camino en el mundo del ballet estadounidense sin dejar de ser fiel a sus raíces. 'Latin Noir' (2021), que se proyecta el 10 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., virtualmente, viaja a cinco ciudades latinoamericanas para encontrarse con los famosos novelistas policiales Leonardo Padura (La Habana), Luis Sepúlveda (Santiago), Paco Ignacio Taibo II (Ciudad de México), Santiago Roncagliolo (Lima) y Claudia Piñeiro (Buenos Aires). 'Los Hermanos' (2020), de los codirec-

Los mejores eventos del
Miami Film Festival 2021





CORTESÍA/MIAMI FILM FESTIVAL

'LAS MEJORES familias', una comedia de dos hermanas que trabajan como empleadas domésticas de dos damas aristocráticas del Perú. El 9 de marzo, 8 p.m. en el cine, y el 10, a las 12 p.m. virtual.

tores y productores Ken Schneider, editor nominado al Oscar, y Marcia Jarmel, que han estado trabajando en películas en Cuba durante 9 años, rastrean las vidas paralelas de dos virtuosos hermanos, un violinista y un pianista, de origen afrocubano en Nueva York y La Habana, su conmovedor reencuentro y sus trascendentales primeras actuaciones juntos. Se proyecta virtualmente el sábado 6 de marzo, a las 12 p.m. 'A New Dawn' (2020) es un documental dirigido por Manny Soto que describe la vida de los cubanos que llegaron a los Estados Unidos mientras escapaban de la Cuba de Fidel Castro en los años sesenta y setenta. Es el 14 de marzo, a las 7 p.m. 'Revolution Rent' (2020), que se proyecta en cine el 6 de marzo, a las 2 p.m., de Andy Señor Jr., nacido y criado en Miami en una familia de inmigrantes cubanos, muestra los desafíos y las recompensas de construir puentes culturales.

'Plantados' (2020), del cineasta cubano Lilo Vilaplana, es una película sobre un ex preso político que ahora está en Miami, quien se encuentra con su guardián de prisión, uno de los más crueles. Se proyecta el 12 y 13 de marzo, a las 6:30 p.m. en el cine y a las 12 p.m. virtualmente, respectivamente. Y la película 'Sin La Habana', del director Kaveh Nabatian, va sobre Leonardo, un bailarín de ballet, y Sara, una abogada ambiciosa, dos jóvenes cubanos negros desesperados por salir de su país. Es el 7 de marzo, a las 2:30 p.m. en el cine y el 8 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., de forma virtual.

CINE LATINOAMERICANO

La película '1991', del director de cine guatemalteco Sergio Ramírez, habla de un grupo de jóvenes de Guatemala anti-Breaks que vagan por la ciudad buscando Breaks, jóvenes pobres



CORTESÍA/MIAMI FILM FESTIVAL

LA PELÍCULA '1991', sobre un grupo de jóvenes de Guatemala anti-Breaks que vagan por la ciudad buscando Break. El 11 de marzo, 8:30 p.m. en el cine y el 12 de marzo, a las 12 p.m. en línea.

con rasgos indígenas. Se proyecta el 11 de marzo, a las 8:30 p.m. en el cine y el 12 de marzo, a las 12 p.m. en línea. La cinta 'Las mejores familias', del cineasta peruano Javier Fuentes-León, es una comedia de dos hermanas que provienen de un ambiente modesto y trabajan como empleadas domésticas de dos damas aristocráticas del Perú. Todo cambia tras revelarse repentinamente un secreto. Se proyecta el 9 de marzo, a las 8 p.m. en el cine, y el 10, a las 12 p.m. virtual. 'La ciudad de las fieras' (Colombia-Ecuador), del guionista y director Henry Rincón, se proyecta el 10 de marzo, a las 8:30 p.m. en el cine y el 11 de marzo en línea, a las 12 p.m. 'Bridges', dirigida por la directora venezolana-estadounidense María Corina Ramírez, es la historia de una estudiante de secundaria originaria de Venezuela pero que creció en Miami, quien lidia con su destino y su identidad a medida que se acerca el día de la graduación. Ramírez se enfoca en amplificar y humanizar la experiencia Latinx. Es el 7 de marzo, a las 7 p.m. en el cine, y el 8 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., virtual. 'El perro que no calla' (2021), de la directora, actriz y guionista argentina Ana Katz, es el 8 de marzo, a las 8:30 p.m., en el cine y el 9, a las 12 p.m., virtual. 'Hotel Coppe-
lia' (2020), del director de República Dominicana José María Cabral, transcurre en 1965 cuando los revolucionarios constitucionales organizan un golpe de Estado en Santo Domingo y toman un cabaret como base de operaciones. Está programada para el 9 de marzo, a las 7 p.m. en el cine y el 10, a las 12 p.m., online. 'Nudo Mixteco', de la directora mexicana de origen mixteco Ángeles Cruz, cuenta tres historias que se entrelazan durante la celebración de la patrona en San Mateo, un pueblo de la Oaxaca mixteca. Es el 9 de marzo, a las 8 p.m., en el cine, y el 10 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., virtual. 'El cuento del tío', del cineasta Ignacio Guggiari, es la historia de una familia argentina que en la cena de Navidad se entera de que ha muerto su tío millonario, y ante la presencia de una posible heredera simulan el secuestro tío para cobrar la herencia en forma de rescate. Es el 5 de marzo, a las 12 p.m. virtual. 'Las Siamesas', de la cineasta argentina Paula Hernández, se proyecta el 6 de marzo, a las 4 p.m., y el 7 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., virtual. Y 'Mis 500 Locos', de la directora de República Dominicana, Leticia Tonos, es el 5 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., virtual.

DOCUMENTALES

'The Boy from Medellín', del director Matthew Heineman, un retrato íntimo de J Balvin, una de las superestrellas internacionales de la música más importantes de nuestro tiempo. Es el 12 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., virtual. 'A la Calle', del cineasta colombo-estadounidense Maxx Caicedo, es un relato de primera mano de los extraordinarios esfuerzos de los venezolanos comunes y corrientes para recuperar su democracia de la dictadura de Nicolás Maduro. Es el 9 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., virtual. Y 'Rita Moreno: Just a Girl Who Decided to Go For It', de la puertorriqueña Mariem Pérez Riera, es el 10 de marzo, a las 7 p.m., en el cine, y el 11 de marzo, a las 12 p.m., en línea.

Más: www.miamifilmfestival.com y
<https://youtu.be/WhZ3Rskbpqs>

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Viernes

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