

Miami Dade College

Wednesday, January 27, 2021



The Daily News Clippings

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Miami-Dade Launches Phone Line To Make **COVID-19 Vaccination Appointments**



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MIAMI (CBSMiami) - Miami-Dade has launched another way for people 65 and older to check or and schedule appointments to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

In addition to checking online at miamidade.gov/vaccine, people can now call **305-614-2014**.

"We are taking urgent action to ensure no communities are left behind and all our seniors 65 and older have equal access to this lifesaving vaccine. To distribute the vaccine equitably to vulnerable Miami-Dade County residents, we are proud to introduce a phone option to expand access to the vaccine to protect our county and move forward together," said Miami-Dade Mayor Daniella Levine Cava.

"There are many seniors in our community who are not able to access vaccine appointments through online booking, and I'm pleased that the



GOVERNMENT

COVID-19 vaccinations underway for people 65+ through health department

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Patrick Joseph Toomey Jr. (born November 17, 1961) is an American...

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This week Miami-Dade will also open a new vaccine distribution site at Miami Dade College North Campus and will reopen the vaccination site located at Zoo Miami.

More from CBSMiami.com

All County vaccination sites are by appointment only.

Demand for vaccines is currently much greater than the existing supply. The county is working hard to make vaccines available to the community as soon as new supplies are received.

Covid-19 Vaccine

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Kellyanne Conway

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Benjamin Eric Sasse (SASS; born February 22, 1972) is an American...

Gary Peters

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John Roberts

John Roberts is a renowned journalist who currently serves as the chief Whi...

Susan Rice

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Jimmy Butler

Jimmy Butler III is an American professional basketball player...

Fka Twigs

Tahliah Debrett Barnett (born 16 January 1988), known professionally ...

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6 Things to Know: New Phone Option for Vaccine Appointments, **Local Teachers Concerned After Lawsuit Loss**

It's Wednesday, January 27th - and NBC 6 has the top stories for the day

Published 3 hours ago • Updated 2 hours ago









It's Wednesday, January 27th - and NBC 6 has the top stories for the day.

No. 1 - The effort to get more COVID-19 vaccines in Florida has Gov. Ron DeSantis clashing with President Joe Biden's White House over the number of doses the state is receiving and how they're being administered.

Late Tuesday, the governor announced in a tweet that the state is receiving 307,000 first-dose vaccines from the federal government next week. DeSantis has said the flow of vaccines from the federal government has been stagnant and the state needs more to meet the increasing demand from residents. He said the state has been receiving about 266,000 doses per week but has the capacity to administer more. At a White House briefing Monday, press secretary Jen Psaki pushed back against DeSantis' comments criticizing the federal government, saying Florida has only administered about half of the vaccines it has been given.

Local



4 HOURS AGO

Trump Plaza Residents Move to Change Name of South Florida Condo



10 HOURS AGO

Flooding, Cracks, Noise: Miami Gardens Homeowners Fed Up With Construction Project

No. 2 - Miami-Dade County launched a new phone number for making COVID-19 vaccine appointments Tuesday and released a limited number of appointments.

The phone number - 305-614-2014 - began accepting appointments at 2 p.m. Appointments can also be made at miamidade.gov/vaccine. The new number was set up to make it easier for vaccines to be distributed more efficiently to seniors 65 and older, county officials said. The county is also opening a new vaccine distribution site at Miami Dade College North Campus this week, and will reopen the vaccination site located at Zoo Miami. All county vaccination sites are by appointment only.

No. 3 - A Broward County doctor has been arrested after he was accused of sending explicit messages and nude photos of himself to a 13-year-old child, authorities said.

Stewart Bitman, 64, was arrested Tuesday morning on three counts of transmission of material harmful to a minor and one count of solicitation of a minor, Broward Sheriff's Office officials said. Authorities said Bitman, a resident of Parkland, sent a number of sexual text messages and nude

1/27/2021 6 Things to Know: New Phone Option for Vaccine Appointments, Local Teachers Concerned After Lawsuit Loss - NBC 6 South Florida

photos of himself to the teen in April. Detectives believe Bitman knew he was communicating with a minor, and while attempting to solicit victims, he portrayed himself as a teenage boy, authorities said.

No. 4 - The Broward Teachers Union's fight to secure work-from-home orders for about 1,100 teachers seems to have ended with an arbitrator's decision.

The BTU filed a lawsuit against Broward County Public Schools, demanding those teachers with health concerns be allowed to keep special accommodations which were granted in October. The district said only the most seriously ill teachers, about 600, would be allowed to teach from home as the rest were needed in the classroom. The arbitrator sided with the district. But the arbitrator also ruled that principals are now required to provide documentation justifying their rejections of accommodations for teachers. To hear why the teachers remain concerned, click here for the story from NBC 6 education reporter Ari Odzer.

No. 5 - People who live on the 400 block of Northwest 203rd Street in Miami Gardens say for the third time in four months, they are dealing with flooding on their street.

The homeowners say the Vista Lago construction project is causing a number of problems for them, including structural cracks on their homes and loud noise. The Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department says Tuesday's break was a natural break and the Department repaired it in less than five hours. Residents say they've had enough of the back and forth and simply want solutions to live in peace. To hear why they say they've had enough with this problem, click here for the story from NBC 6 reporter Laura Rodriguez.

No. 6 - Weatherwise, morning fog will give way to the warmest day of the week in South Florida - but a cold front will be dropping those temps in the coming days. Keep your NBC 6 app handy for push alerts on any severe weather as well as First Alert Doppler 6000.

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CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Florida Vaccine Updates: State Getting More Doses for Residents, New Phone Option Launched for Appointments

Here's what we know today about the coronavirus outbreak in Florida, and the effort to stop it

By NBC 6 • Published 4 hours ago • Updated 38 mins ago









NBC 6's Carolina Peguero has more on what this means for... Read more

As a limited supply of the coronavirus vaccine has become available across Florida, residents are understandably anxious to know when they will be able to stand in line for a dose.

A new option was launched in one South Florida county to allow senior citizens to make their appointments - while Florida's Governor is responding to comments made by the White House regarding how the state is handling their dosage distribution.

More Vaccine News



14 HOURS AGO

Democrats Prep Biden's Virus Aid Package With or Without GOP



23 HOURS AGO

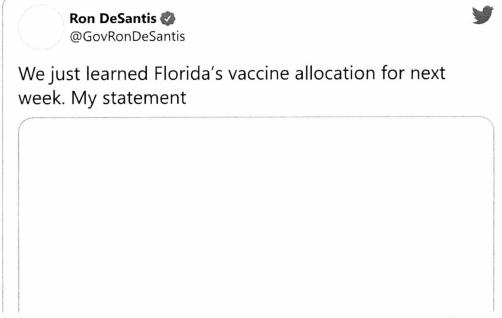
Dr. Fauci Shares Why He 'Started to Cry' on Hearing of a COVID-19 Vaccine Breakthrough in Emotional NBCLX...

Here's what we know today about the coronavirus outbreak in Florida, and the effort to stop it.

Florida to Receive 307,000 First-Dose Vaccines Next Week

Gov. Ron DeSantis announced in a tweet late Tuesday that Florida will be receiving 307,000 first doses from the federal government next week.

DeSantis says the state's priority is work on vaccinating those 65 and older.



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Get the latest news on COVID-19 delivered to you. Click here to sign up for our coronavirus newsletter.

DeSantis Clashes With White House Over Florida's COVID Vaccine Supply

1/27/2021

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At a White House briefing Monday, press secretary Jen Psaki pushed back against DeSantis' comments criticizing the federal government, saying Florida has only administered about half of the vaccines it has been given.

New COVID-19 Vaccine Site Opens at Fort Lauderdale's Snyder Park

Fort Lauderdale's newest COVID-19 vaccination site opened at Snyder Park Tuesday, where officials believe they'll be able to administer more vaccines than the park it's replacing.

The Snyder Park site is replacing Holiday Park, which closed over the weekend.

Mayor Dean Trantalis said about 11,000 vaccinations were given at Holiday Park, but said Snyder Park is a larger site with better traffic flow and can be expanded as supply increases.

'Paramedic of the Year' Arrested for Theft of COVID Vaccines in **Florida**

A former "Paramedic of the Year" in Florida is facing charges after authorities say he helped a supervisor steal doses of the COVID-19 vaccine that were meant for firefighters.

Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd held a news conference Tuesday to announce the arrest of 31-yearold Joshua Colon. Judd said Colon had been given three vials of the Moderna vaccine containing 10 doses each to administer to other first responders.

Colon later falsified paperwork and created fake names and even email addresses of firefighters who he claimed he had given the vaccine, Judd said.

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Miami-Dade County Launches Phone Option for COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments

POSTED ON JANUARY 26, 2021 BY FORT LAUDERDALE

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The county is also opening a new vaccine distribution site at Miami Dade College North Campus this week, and will reopen the vaccination site located at Zoo Miami.

All county vaccination sites are by appointment only.

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NBCUniversal News Group launches program for diversity in journalism

By Sue Arrowsmith - January 26, 2021

NBCUniversal News Group recently launched NBCU Academy, a new, innovative, multiplatform journalism training and development program for four-year university and community college students through education, on-campus training and online programming.

The initiative includes a curated onsite curriculum for hands-on learning experience with world-class NBCU News Group journalists, funding for accredited journalism programs and scholarships.

In keeping with Comcast NBCUniversal and NBCU News Group's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, the multi-year partnership involves 17 academic partners including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions and colleges with significant Latino, Asian American and Pacific Islander, Black, Indigenous and tribal populations — reaching students from underrepresented groups including those from diverse racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, economic, and geographic backgrounds.

Among those are Florida International University and Miami Dade College.

"Creating an inclusive culture for journalism that represents the communities we serve is at the very core of what we do," said NBCU News Group chair Cesar Conde. "Through NBCU Academy, we have the opportunity to widen our extraordinary legacy by building on-ramps for a talented generation of journalists and storytellers who — for so long — may have been overlooked."

NBCU Academy will invest a total of \$6.5 million to the initiative, including scholarships worth \$3.5 million over the next two years. In addition to providing equipment and collaborating with professors to develop seminar courses, NBCU News Group journalists, executives and management from editorial and production teams across NBC News, MSNBC, CNBC and Telemundo News will participate as guest lecturers to provide real-world insight and mentorship.

In addition, NBCU Academy will create and offer educational content to help inform, inspire and develop early career professionals and seasoned journalists who want to remain up-to-date on changes in this fast-moving industry.

NBCU Academy builds on the foundation of NBC University, which NBC News launched nearly a decade ago as a training program for young journalism professionals at diversity journalism conferences and conventions, including at the Asian American Journalists Association, The National Association of Black Journalists, The National Association of Hispanic Journalists, The National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association, Native American Journalists Association, the Online News Association and many more.

NBCU Academy is an expansion of that initiative, offering new institutional partnerships.

In June 2020, Comcast NBCUniversal announced a multi-year \$100 million commitment to help address systemic racism and inequality. NBCU Academy is part of that pledge and focuses on providing tools, resources, and platforms for young, underrepresented voices.



NBCUniversal News Group launches program for diversity in journalism Miami's Community News
In July 2020, NBCU News Group announced the Fifty Percent Challenge Initiative, an aggressive action plan to turn the NBCU News Group employee base to be 50 percent women and 50 percent people of color.
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Sue Arrowsmith

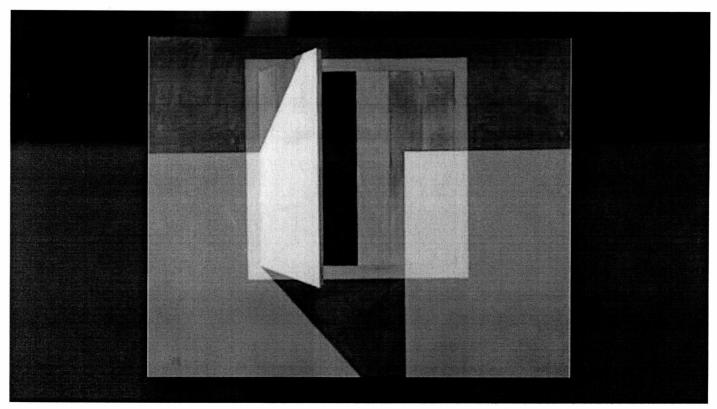




Sundial

Immigration Under The Biden Administration, Cuban-American Artist Honored With USPS Forever Stamp

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Lowe Art Museum, University Of Miami. Gift Of The Emilio Sanchez Foundation.

Untitled "Ventanita entreabierta" or "Window Ajar" is one of Emilio Sanchez's paintings of windows and doors, produced from

WLRN

The Takeaway

How will immigration look under the Biden administration? And the U.S. Postal Service pays tribute to an iconic Cuban-American artist — we'll learn about Emilio Sanchez.

On this Tuesday, Jan. 26 episode of Sundial:

Immigration Under The Biden Administration

With a new presidential administration, comes a new approach to immigration.

President Biden has already issued an executive order calling for the Secretary of Homeland Security to "preserve and fortify" Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA). He's gone further and urged Congress to allow other immigrants living illegally in the U.S. to become candidates for residency in five years and for citizenship in eight.

How much immigration reform will be possible? Sundial spoke with Tim Padgett, WLRN Americas Correspondent and Vilma Petrash, a professor of American government at Miami Dade College.

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"I think he can accomplish perhaps more than [President] Obama did on the immigration front, but it's going to still be tough. He's only got 50 senators there, plus Kamala Harris. And on a lot of these measures, it's going to take 60 senators to get things passed. We haven't seen a comprehensive immigration reform proposal since 1986, when President Reagan offered his amnesty to that cohort of undocumented people," Padgett said.

President Biden certainly has his work cut out for him — from DACA to Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and U.S. relations with Latin American countries.

"I would want a more coherent policy on immigration because the truth is, in the Obama administration, immigration wasn't a priority — although they had the resources to do that. And then we have the Trump administration, that actually was so much anti-immigrant that caused a lot of damage," Petrash said.

WIRN

The Takeaway

Immigration Under The Biden Administration

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Cuban-American Artist Honored With USPS Forever Stamp

The U.S Postal Service is featuring a Cuban American visual artist for the first time, in a new series of forever stamps.

Emilio Sanchez is best known for his architectural paintings — numerous works that highlight both his Cuban heritage and his life in New York City.

"I often say he found me. I was doing research at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. I said, 'Well, let's see what they have on Cuba.' The first thing that came up was this pencil drawing of a rural shack on the island. It struck me," said Dr. Victor Deupi, a lecturer at the University of Miami school of architecture. "And I asked myself, 'Who is this?' and it's Emilio Sanchez and I never heard of him, but what really struck me was that it was 1959 and Castro was already in power. Here was an artist in 1959 touring the rural countryside of Cuba and producing drawings of the rustic buildings."

Deupi searched deeper than that and found that Emilio had given The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York 250 works in the 1960s of Cuba and the Caribbean. None of it had ever been cataloged.

"The project was just perfect. It just fell into my lap, it was just a blessing," Deupi said.

He's studied Sanchez's life and work-and recently published a book about him, titled "Emilio Sanchez in New York and Latin America."

"I think that the USPS is really doing a great service to our country by bringing to light these immigrant artists that deserve much greater attention than they've been given.

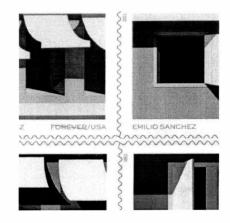
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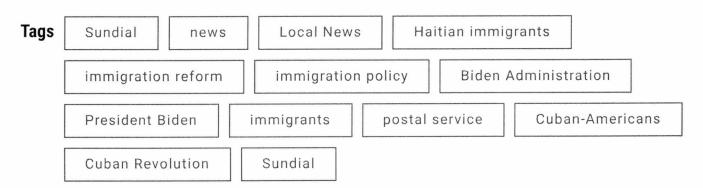
The Takeaway

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Cuban-American Artist Honored With USPS Forever Stamp

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Suria Rimer

Suria is Sundial's fall 2020 high school intern and a production assistant.

See stories by Suria Rimer



Leslie Ovalle

Leslie Ovalle produces WLRN's daily magazine program, Sundial. She previously produced Morning Edition newscasts at WLRN and anchored the midday news. As a multimedia producer, she also works on visual and digital storytelling.

See stories by Leslie Ovalle



"Amigo Skate, Cuba", Revolution on Four Wheels - The Documentary Film is Playing at the Drive In

Will be showing at the Arena Cinelounge Drive- in Theater starting on February 20, 2021 - Don't miss it!

LOS ANGELES, CA, UNITED STATES, January 26, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Skateboards are contraband in Cuba, but for 40 years an underground skate culture survived on splintered decks and worn-out wheels.

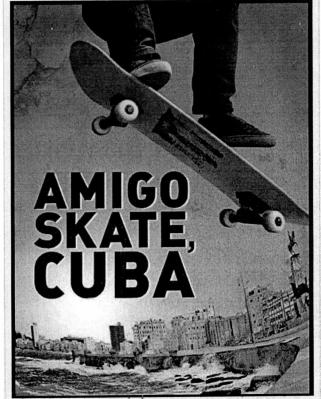
Now, Cuba's renegade skaters are teaming up with a charity group out of Miami called Amigo Skate Cuba that smuggles skateboards into the blockaded country. Their mission - to overcome old prejudices and build a skate park in Havana to inspire Cuba's at-risk youth.

Huffpost: "Feels Good"
Yahoo News: "Overcome old prejudices and build a skate park..."
truesk8boardmag: "Inspiring"

This award winning documentary will be playing at the <u>Arena Cinelounge</u> beginning Feb 20, 2021.

Arena CineLounge 1625 N. Las Palmas Avenue. Los Angeles, CA 90028

buy your tickets online today! https://arenascreen.com/calendar



"Amigo Skate, Cuba", Revolution on Four Wheels - A Documentary Film

"Amigo Skate, Cuba" won for Best Documentary Film at the Miami Film Festival in 2018.

As of October 2020 the film has been released and available for purchase online and on

Demand.

Vanesa Wilkey-Escobar, the director, began exploring her Cuban roots for a film project and travelled to Miami in early 2015 to visit family and hear old stories and memories of Cuba. While there, she met Rene Lecour, founder of Amigo Skate Cuba, and was immediately drawn to the story around his charity and smuggling skateboards into Cuba. She called Chris Wedding, a fellow producer, and told him point blank – "We are going to Cuba!"

The rest is history. They managed to quickly raise the funds through generous Kickstarter donations and a private investor. In less than three months they were on a plane with a crew of six with huge duffel bags stuffed with skateboards and film equipment headed for Havana, Cuba.

What began that day was a three-year journey that culminated in a feature film documentary filled with images of an beautiful and dilapidated island that holds the hopes and dreams of young Cuban skateboarders and the ambitions of a few aging American and Cuban skateboarders to gets those kids a little slice freedom by way of a government approved skate park.



Revolution on Four Wheels, Rene Lecour and Amigo Skate Cuba rally the Cuban skate youth to join the international skate community on the annual "Go Skate Day", June 21, where they peacefully skate in unison on the streets of Havana!



Chris Wedding (Cinematographer/ producer), Vanesa Wilkey-Escobar (Director/ Producer) and Rene Lecour (Founder - Amigo Skate Cuba Charity)

You can watch the film at home available on <u>Amazon</u> Prime, <u>iTunes</u> or on Demand. Please see the links below:

Amazon Prime:

https://www.amazon.com/gp/video/detail/B08JHGKW7W/ref=atv_dp_share_cu_r iTunes:

https://itunes.apple.com/us/movie/amigo-skate-cuba/id1526778011

For a list of all the places you can watch:

www.BrandishEntertainment.com/AmigoLinks

Directed by: Vanesa Wilkey-Escobar Cinematography by: Chris Wedding Executive Producer: Brian Leaghty

Produced by: Vanesa Wilkey-Escobar and Chris Wedding

Vanesa Wilkey-Escobar Boha Creative Inc. +1 614-679-6036 wilkeyescobar@gmail.com

This press release can be viewed online at: https://www.einpresswire.com/article/534700290

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"Amigo Skate, Cuba", Revolution on Four Wheels - The Documentary Film is Playing at the Drive In

Tuesday, January 26th 2021, 12:01 PM EST Sponsored: Advertising Content



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You can watch the film at home available on $\underline{\text{Amazon (https://www.amazon.com/gp/video/detail/B08JHGKW7W/ref=atv_dp_share_cu_r)}$ Prime, $\underline{\text{iTunes (https://itunes.apple.com/us/movie/amigo-skate-cuba/id1526778011)}}$ or on Demand. Please see the links below:

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For a list of all the places you can watch:

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Directed by: Vanesa Wilkey-Escobar Cinematography by: Chris Wedding Executive Producer: Brian Leaghty

Produced by: Vanesa Wilkey-Escobar and Chris Wedding

Vanesa Wilkey-Escobar
Boha Creative Inc.
+1614-679-6036
wilkeyescobar@gmail.com (mailto:wilkeyescobar@gmail.com)

AMIGO SKATE, CUBA Trailer



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Delaware CROWN Act to be heard in Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday

11 hrs 9 mins ago



(https://www.wboc.com/story/43237433/republican-snyder-joins-crowded-virginia-governor-contest) Republican Snyder Joins Crowded Virginia Governor Contest

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Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Podcast with Erika Benson, co-owner, Gokce Capital LLC, on how to invest in vacant land in 2021

Posted by Elena del Valle on January 25, 2021



Erika Benson, co-owner, Gokce Capital LLC

Photo: Gokce Capital LLC

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A podcast interview with Erika Benson, co-owner, Gokce Capital LLC, is available in the Podcast Section of Hispanic Marketing and Public Relations, HispanicMPR.com. During the podcast, she discusses how to invest in vacant land in 2021 with Elena del Valle, host of the HispanicMPR.com podcast.

Erika is a former affordable housing director for the City of New York turned fulltime Land Investor. She used to help New Yorkers find affordable housing, now she helps people around the United States find affordable land.

She keeps an active blog on the company website where she gives out advice on buying and selling land. She has a YouTube channel with over 250 videos that provide tips for land buyers and information on the company properties.

To listen to the interview, scroll down and **click on the play button below**. You can also listen by looking for "Podcast" then select "HMPR Erika Benson" and or download the MP3 file to your iPod or MP3 player to listen on the go, in your car or at home. You can also find it on the RSS feed. To download it, click on the arrow of the recording you wish to copy and save it to disk. The podcast will remain listed in the January 2021 section of the podcast archive.

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With video – Finland newspaper releases FOC climate change font

Posted by Elena del Valle on January 19, 2021



The Climate Crisis Font English language landing page - click to enlarge

Video, photos: Helsingin Sanomat Photo Tuomas Jääskeläinen: Juha Törmälä

Helsingin Sanomatic, "the biggest subscription-based newspaper in the Nordics," dedicated several weeks of work spread over months to the development of The Climate Crisis Font designed to visualize the urgency for climate action. The new font is available for download free of charge at TypeToAct.com. Scroll down to watch an English language video.

"The font has been licensed with SIL Open Font licensing making it available for editorial, commercial, and private use," said Tuomas Jääskeläinen, art director, Helsingin Sanomat, in response to questions through a communications intermediary via email." The full terms of use are available at drive.google.com/file/d/19M8ebCT0JOLWIn6LDkWQzj5gy-qmj9Ww/view.



The Climate Crisis Font designed to visualize the urgency for climate action – click to enlarge

"The main limitation is that it needs to be kept freely available and free of charge," he said. "The font is intended for anyone who wishes to make a point about the impact of climate change, be it the media, designers, artists, activists or anyone else." He explained that "the font has been designed to work in all latin-based alphabets when it comes to e.g. diacritics.

When asked other than drawing attention to climate action what makes the font special or distinctive he replied: " think it's the fact that it's based on actual data. We haven't done a massive search, but I suspect it's among the first databased fonts in the world, if not the first. That, and the way the scalable OpenType technology lets the font align with the yearly data, is what makes it special for me."





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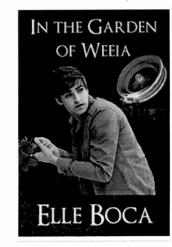
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Tuomas Jääskeläinen, art director, Helsingin Sanomat

Regarding the budget or budget range for the creation of the font he said: "FILL SEED IN THE SECOND Unfortunately I cannot disclose the budget, but it is a reasonable investment considering the scope of work needed."

Helsingin Sanomat, a private for profit entity, is published by Sanoma Media Finland, a leading Finnish multi-channel media company. The paper's primary language is Finnish.

00:00

00:00

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Filed Under: Media, Video

Tags: Newsletter

Linguist believes informal writing allows enhanced expression

Posted by Elena del Valle on January 6, 2021

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Because Internet

Photo: Riverhead Books

Ending a text with a period may make the writer seem old while an emoticon at the end of a sentence can add surprising nuance to the statement, according to a book about language published last year. The subtleties of informal written communication are many, says Gretchen McCulloch, a self described internet linguist. She believes modern digital communications are changing language and the way we and society overall communicate for the better. In *Because Internet: Understanding the New Rules of Language* (Riverhead Books, \$26) she explains her views and theories.

Salutations like language in general evolve over time, according to the book. McCulloch explains that for many addressing someone with dear has become dated. At the same time hey, which for older generations is objectionable, has become a common written email greeting. Hi follows in popularity with hello being last and used to address strangers.

The author goes on to say that a generational gap exists; and some users embrace the "expressive capacity" of informal writing while others reject it. The author explains the difference between emoticons, emojis and gifs, pointing out that although there is no universal agreement on their appearance emojis are the best fit for many people communicating electronically. They make it possible for users to better express their mental states in written form, the author says. It's useful to think of emojis as gestures; already courts have had to address the meaning of emojis such a raised hand, a possible gang sign or a comma, she says.

The 326-page hardcover book published in 2019 is divided into eight chapters: Informal Writing, Language and Society, Internet People, Typographical Tone of Voice, Emoji and Other Internet Gestures, How Conversations Change, Memes and Internet Culture and A New Metaphor. The emojis in the book are from Twemoji, an open source font released under a Creative Commons Attribution.

McCulloch, is based in Montreal, Canada and hosts the podcast Lingthusiasm, according to her bio.

Comments: Be the First to Comment

Filed Under: <u>Books</u> Tags: <u>Newsletter</u>

Los Angeles company offers indie film streaming worldwide

Posted by Elena del Valle on December 16, 2020

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The Velocipastor poster

Photos: Filmocracy

Established in 2018 Filmocracy offers 2,800 independent films in a variety of genres in shorts, documentaries, feature length and series, except music videos, for an audience mainly between 25 and 40 years of age. The selection includes foreign language films with subtitles. One film, Road To Your Heart, was in Afrikaans without subtitles.

"Filmocracy is the only site that offers virtual film festivals and also rewards users for watching and rating movies," said Paul Jun, chief executive officer, Filmocracy, by email when asked what makes the streaming platform stand out. "Users earn virtual popcorn which they can spend in our shop on things like gift cards, movie tickets, and festival passes. Most of our subscribers come through the virtual film festivals we host."

Paul Jun, chief executive officer, Filmocracy

According to the website subscriptions range from free with ads to Festival Premium for \$29.99 a month. Most of the 17,000 users are in the United States, mainly Los Angeles and New York, with large user groups in Spain, India, and Brazil, according to Jun.

Eight categories of rating options (Plot, Characters, Cinematography, Performances, Dialogue, Sound/Music and Overall) appeared whenever I paused the videos. A rating number appeared at the top of videos that had been rated. As of this writing a drop down menu at the top of the homepage listed eleven categories. There were also featured films and upcoming virtual film festivals, including the Blastoff Film Festival, DC Chinese Film Festival,

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Making a case for relationship building to capture existing and emerging markets in today's business environment Diorama Film Festival, Around Films International Film Festival Barcelona for the remainder of 2020.

The three most watched films in 2020? The Velocipastor, Temp to Perm (disturbing short), and Extra Innings. Top genres in number of films: Drama, Documentary. The company markets mostly on FaceBook, Twitter and YouTube. In addition to Jun the Los Angeles based company is owned by Kasia Jun Kaczmarczyk, Phillip Jun, Pawel Drzewiecki, and Jasper Grey.

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Filed Under: Entertainment

Tags: Newsletter

New thriller from Argentina, Spain

Posted by Elena del Valle on November 18, 2020

Graciela Borges is Mara in The Weasel's Tale (El Cuento de las Comadrejas)

Photo: Outsider Pictures

The Weasel's Tale (El cuento de las comadrejas), a new suspense film with touches of dark humor and romance, will open in United States theaters December 11, 2020. The unrated film is in Spanish with English subtitles. No video clip file was made available.

Four long-time friends sharing a stately home in Argentina find themselves the victims of an unscrupulous greedy couple seeking to con them out of their home permanently. A Spanish Argentina collaboration copyrighted 2019 the 129-minute film was directed and written by Juan José Campanella (The Secret in Their Eyes). It appears to be a remake of Los muchachos de antes no usaban arsénico, a 1976 film from Argentina by José A. Martínez Suárez.

The film was distributed by Latido in Spain and Outsider Pictures and Strand Releasing in the United States. The cast features Graciela Borges as Mara, Oscar Martínez as Norberto, Luis Brandoni as Pedro, Marcos Mundstock as Martin, Clara Lago Grau as Bárbara, and Nicolas Francella as Francisco.

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Filed Under: Entertainment

Tags: Newsletter

With video – Brazilian film explores cult, religion in near future

Posted by Elena del Valle on November 10, 2020

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U.S. Hispanics open to front door marketing

Divine Love poster

Photo, video: Outsider Pictures

Divine Love (Divino Amor), a 95-minute unrated futuristic drama from Globo Films and Vitrine Films in Portuguese with English subtitles, will premier in United States theaters November 13, 2020. A joint release of Outsider Pictures and Strand Releasing it stars Dira Paes and Julio Machado as a couple experiencing marital malaise and difficulty conceiving while living in Brazil of 2027. Directed by Gabriel Mascaro (Neon Bull) promotional materials recommend it for adult viewing only (nudity, explicit sexual scenes). Scroll down to watch a trailer in Portuguese with English subtitles.

Set in what appears to be an oppressive regime the film tells the story of Joana, a woman desperate to have a child. She visits a drive-through religious counselor regularly. She uses her position in a government office to convince divorcing couples to stay together, often directing them to Divine Love, an evangelical cult she belongs to that mixes group therapy, swinging, traditional prayers and bible study. A male child's voice narrates part of the dark story.

"The film takes place in a time when the majority of Brazil's population are now Evangelical, but the state still claims to be secular," said Mascaro in a press release. "It is a film that speculates the near future through an extraordinary allegory. Divine Love is a commentary on the conservative, fanatical and nationalist agenda that is spreading throughout the world and the way those that don't espouse it, engage with it. Brazil has traditionally been referred to as a liberal and united country, where the annual Carnaval celebrations espouse the country's diversity and cordiality. But the fact is that during the past few years, a cultural, social and political transformation led by powerful, ultraconservative forces, has taken hold in the country. Instead of telling the story of a character fighting against against this conservative shift, I wanted to tell the story of a woman consumed by a desire to advance the conservative religious agenda in a very personal way. If a societal chasm has emerged as a result of hatred and misunderstanding, cinema is a space where I can fantasize improbable encounters."

Divine Love received government funding and funding from Sor Fond Norwegian South Film Fund, Programa Ibermedia Mascaro, World Cinema Fund Europe, and Creative Europe Media. Mascaro is a Brazilian film director, scriptwriter and artist who lives and works in Recife, in the Northeast of Brazil. Initially known for his documentary work, his first fiction film premiered in the international competition of Locarno Film Festival in 2014. In 2015, he released

Unleashing the Financial Purchasing Power of the Growing U.S. Hispanic Population

Unleashing the Financial Purchasing Power of the Growing U.S. Hispanic Population Part Two

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his Neon Bull, which won the Orrizzonti Special Jury Prize at the Venice Film Festival and was Brazil's entry to the Goya Awards in 2016. Divine Love, his third narrative feature, was an award winner at the Guadalajara International Film Festival and an official selection the Sundance Film Festival, Berlin International Film Festival and Miami Film Festival.

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Handout

Azucar ice cream opened a second location across from the Dadeland Mall to help pay for a flagging store on Calle Ocho, where tourists have stopped coming because of the coronavirus.

KENDALL

'Calle Ocho is mostly dead.' Why this Cuban ice cream shop opened in Kendall

BY CARLOS FRÍAS cfrias@miamiherald.com

Great ice cream alone wasn't enough to keep the lights on at Little Havana's famous ice cream shop

The sales at Azucar, the Calle Ocho ice cream store with Latin flavors in its gelato and a towering ice cream cone sculpture outside, were 25 percent of what they were a year ago in August. Coronavirus had kept away the tourists that brought life to the heart of Miami's old Cuban neighborhood.

So Azucar owner Suzy Batlle got an idea: Open a second store to subsidize the first.

At the height of the coronavirus spread, with restaurants closing indoor dining, Batlle, who opened the original Azucar on a sleepy Southwest Eighth Street in 2011, opened a second location across from the Dadeland Mall, posi-

tioned between Kendall, Pinecrest and South Miami.

It worked.

"I opened in Downtown Dadeland to pay the rent in Calle Ocho," Batlle said.

Batlle said she saw what was happening in her stretch of Little Havana when the Big Red Bus tour buses stopped coming. That stretch of business experienced pointedly what is happening in restaurant and entertainment districts around Miami and the country.

"The second COVID hit, the tourists left — the buses, all that stuff, from one day to the next," she said.

On that one-block stretch alone, where tourists once clamored, several businesses closed temporarily or permanently. The Tower Theater remained closed until Oct. 9, when it brought back it's full schedule. Ball & Chain bar and restaurant, whose owners

have been locked in a federal legal fight with commissioner Joe Carollo and a dispute over code violations with the city, remains closed after an extensive renovation. The popular Ella's Oyster Bar closed. And El Exquisito Cuban restaurant, a mainstay on this block since 1974, has been closed the last three months and its future is uncertain.

"Unfortunately Calle Ocho is mostly dead," she said. "It's nuts what's happening to us I said, 'I've got to do something."

So Batlle thought of another revenue stream.

She had long been thinking of a way to bring her ice cream to the suburbs when she found a location in the Downtown Dadeland complex. The area has been trying to lure restaurants for years and now has a new feature, a closed down main street where outside seating can be set up.

Batlle signed a one-year lease



Handout

Azucar Ice Cream brought its Latin-flavored gelato to Kendall .

based on a percentage of her sales in the same block as the award-winning Ghee Indian Kitchen, Abi Maria bar and Pubbelly Sushi, at 8845 SW 72 Pl. And the burbs have shown up, she said, with south Miami-Dade diners glad to cut out the long trek east. She had already seen how people responded to other locations, after opening a one-off in Dallas.

Meanwhile, Batlle started selling her ice cream nationally. First she teamed with Goldbelly and GoPuff.com, national delivery companies, and has now signed a national distribution deal with TheBite.Life, a company owned by financier and business reality TV show host Marcus Lemonis, her new neighbor who recently bought a stake of next-door Ball & Chain to help reopen the venue.

"He asked me, 'Don't you like making money?' And it just clicked," she recalled. "I had to start thinking outside the box."

Just in the last few weeks, Battle said she has started seeing Little Havana "finally doing better," thanks, she said, to Florida's warm weather and laxer dining restrictions drawing northern tourists. But, as a cancer survivor, she is hoping for the day the coronavirus vaccine will be widely available to people like her, who are especially at risk.

"If we can get this vaccine out, that's the key," she said. "We'll all wear our masks and we'll dance."

AZUCAR DOWNTOWN DADELAND

8845 SW 72 Pl., Miami www.azucaricecream.com

Carlos Frías: 305-376-4624, @Carlos Frías Miami Herald

Miami







FOOD

'Calle Ocho is mostly dead.' Why this Cuban ice cream shop opened in Kendall

BY CARLOS FRÍAS

JANUARY 25, 2021 01:12 PM, UPDATED 4 HOURS 24 MINUTES AGO





Azucar ice cream opened a second location across from the Dadeland Mall to help pay for a flagging store on Calle Ocho, where tourists have stopped coming because of coronavirus. *HANDOUT*



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Great ice cream alone wasn't enough to keep the lights on at Little Havana's famous ice cream shop.

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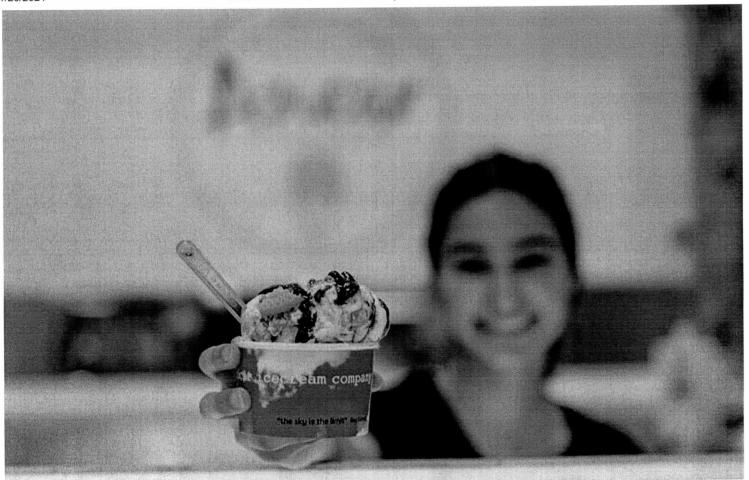
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Azucar Ice Cream brought its Latin-flavored gelato to Kendall as it sought another location to help its flagging Little Havana business. *HANDOUT*

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Azucar in Little Havana features ice cream with flavors inspired by the owner's Cuban-American roots.

BY MATIAS OCNER

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AZUCAR DOWNTOWN DADELAND

8845 SW 72 Pl., Miami

www.azucaricecream.com

CARLOS FRÍAS



Miami Herald food editor Carlos Frías won the 2018 James Beard award for excellence in covering the food industry. A Miami native, he's also the author of the memoir "Take Me With You: A Secret Search for Family in a Forbidden Cuba."

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Larry King, whose legendary broadcasting career began on Miami radio, dies at 87

Howard Cohen - Miami Herald (TNS) JAN 23, 2021

MIAMI —A few years ago, TV and radio host Larry King celebrated the 60th anniversary of his broadcasting career by visiting his old workplaces where his career began: Miami Beach and Miami.

As he tooled south on Miami's Biscayne Boulevard in the back seat of a limo after a visit to North Bay Village, where, in 1960, he started broadcasting his celebrity interviews from the WIOD-610 AM studios, his mind turned to obituaries.

His own.

Larry Harvey Zeiger died Saturday morning at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, his TV production company, Ora Media, announced on his Twitter page.

For his own obituary, King suggested a fanciful headline and specific introduction. With a mischievous smile, he leaned in and, in that familiar voice steeped in the timbre of his New York City birthplace, he offered:

"Headline: Oldest man who ever lived died today. He was found in bed with a 30-year-old woman, shot by the husband in the head. He died instantly and it took three days to wipe the smile off his face. You probably knew him as Larry King. He was 127, had all of his faculties. He was still broadcasting and had his 120th anniversary show, and he did the broadcast from the old Miami Herald building."

King leaned back, content, and added his job description.

I'd like it to say, 'He provided information."

Consider it done, ol' pal.

King was 87 and provided information for millions of viewers and listeners who have followed his career from the late 1950s on South Florida radio.

He had a nationwide call-in radio program, "The Larry King Show," which started in 1978. You also know him for "Larry King Live" on CNN that ran for 25 years after its 1985 debut. And, up until his final curtain, he hosted "Larry King Now" and "Politicking with Larry King" as a seemingly indefatigable octogenarian on the Hulu and RT America platforms for Ora Media, a production company he formed.

Earlier in January, King was diagnosed with COVID-19, according to Roger Friedman's Hollywood 411 website.

CNN reported that King was hospitalized at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles and was in ICU for more than a week.

Ora TV did not state the cause of death.

Over the years, King, who had quit smoking, had also faced Type 2 diabetes, he had several heart attacks, lung cancer, angina and had quintuple bypass surgery.

Zeiger was born Nov. 19, 1933 in Brooklyn to a garment worker and her husband, a restaurant owner and defense-plant employee. But "Larry King" was born May 1, 1957, in a small booth in a Miami Beach radio station.

HOW LARRY ZEIGER BECAME LARRY KING

Moments before an eager 23-year-old Zeiger, a studio gofer, was to deliver his first radio broadcast for Miami Beach's WAHR (now gospel station WMBM 1490 AM), the station's general manager told him his name was too ethnic. Zeiger, who was born to Orthodox Jewish parents, had a surname that would be difficult to remember, the manager opined.

So Zeiger, who had dreamed of a career in radio and who came to Miami Beach with \$13 in his pocket, eyed a copy of the Miami Herald. He saw an ad for King's Wholesale Liquor.

King. Larry King?

Liquor. Larry Liquor?

King sounded more appropriate. The name stuck.

'A RESERVOIR OF FACTS'

From that fortuitous glance at a newspaper that he'd join 10 years later when then-Miami Herald publisher John S. Knight hired King to write a six-times-a-week local column in 1967, King spent the next 63 or so years as a media fixture.

"As a personality himself, Larry knows the people he writes about," said John McMullan, the paper's executive editor at the time, in a Nov. 3, 1967 story. King was hired away from the old Miami Beach Sun paper where he'd written a column for years.

"His column is both entertaining and informative," McMullan continued. "Larry is a reservoir of facts and he doesn't hesitate to give you his opinions, some of which I agree with, some of which I don't."

"I'd write my column at home then drop it off at the Herald every night — it was a special place," King said nearly 50 years later as he was driven by the old neighborhood. "I don't text. I believe in the human voice. I like the back and forth and communicating verbally. I love the whole idea of touching people and it all started down there in Miami."

King, for various media outlets, conducted more than 50,000 radio and television interviews. He has talked to every U.S. president from Richard Nixon to Joe Biden. He has interviewed world leaders including Yasser Arafat and King Hussein, and such celebrities as Marlon Brando, Barbra Streisand, Dionne Warwick and LeBron James.

Sixty years into that career he, along with his film crew, flew from his Los Angeles base for a fourday return to Miami Beach where King rose to national prominence and where personal demons almost destroyed him.

"I have a special place in my heart for Miami, and I'm still a Dolphins fan," he told the Herald that April 2017.

During the visit, he taped segments for "Larry King Now," including one with now retired Miami Heat power forward Chris Bosh.

King also revisited his old South Florida hangouts. Some, like the old WTVJ Channel 4 studios that were near Miami Dade College's Wolfson Campus in downtown Miami or the WIOD studios in North Bay Village, have since moved elsewhere.

He reflected on so many moments.

KING'S QUICK MIND

There's the time King realized how fast he could think on his feet — a skill would be put to the test two weeks after he went on the air at WAHR. Earning \$55 a week to act as DJ and read news and sports reports, King told the Herald he was seduced off the airwaves by a lustful listener who cajoled him to her house 12 blocks from the station.

He figured since he worked alone in the studio, he could plop a Harry Belafonte concert LP on the air and make it back to the mic before the music stopped in about 33 minutes. He didn't count on the needle getting stuck in the record's groove on "Jamaica Farewell" just as the two fell into an embrace at her pad.

King chuckled at the memory years later. He remembered how he had to sweet talk a barrage of angry listeners and management who were puzzled when Belafonte's "Day O" went silencio.

Three years later, in 1960 at at WIOD, King had his first celebrity interview with singer Bobby Darin. The chat was the foundation to turn the King name to gold. Darin was performing at a Miami Beach hotel and had strolled across the street for a bite. King, ever resourceful, conducted the spontaneous interview from a booth at Pumpernik's, a now defunct delicatessen famed for its knishes, chicken croquettes and baked goods on Miami Beach's Collins Avenue across the street from the Deauville Hotel.

That restaurant chat led King to an 18-year, off-and-on, talk show gig with WIOD until he left Miami for a job in Washington, D.C. in 1978.

Some of his broadcasts were aboard the "Surfside 6" houseboat that was once moored across the street from the Fontainebleau. King held conversations with President Nixon, Jimmy Hoffa, Don Rickles, Jackie Gleason, Frank Sinatra and so many more worldwide figures from South Florida.

"They pay me to get an education," King told the Herald in 2017. "Every day I'm learning. That's a model of mine; ask short questions, listen to the answer, follow up. It started at Pumpernik's when I was a DJ. One day Bobby Darin walked in. That's the way I started. Bobby Darin. Jimmy Hoffa. We didn't book them. I couldn't prepare for them. I didn't know they were coming. It was from the seat of my pants, and I love the whole idea of asking questions and getting answers."

His practice hadn't changed from then to his most recent shows for his Ora Media company.

"I'm always, 'Why?' I don't have an agenda. I don't assume the answer. I don't know the answer. I have a motto that's been with me all my life. I never learned anything when I was talking. Listening is as important."

A three-letter word was King's favorite: Why?

"You can track it to my youth," King said in his 60th anniversary interview. "When I was 9, I was the kid who asked the bus driver, 'Why do you want to drive the bus?' It's insatiable. Affects my whole life. 'What did you play?' 'What was the score?' Every day is learning. I'm 83 now, and it keeps me young. I've had a 60-year education. I never went to college. I was poor."

Sitting at a table opposite King and his "Why?" queries blew away even the most well-known of public figures — like Bosh.

The former Heat star said after their chat, "It's memorable for me. I always watched TV as a kid. I've been able to do all these cool things in my life, so this is definitely up there."

Miami delivered King the setting for his great highs and troubling lows.

"Those were great days," King recalled. "I was on WTVJ, the No. 1 TV station. WIOD, the No .1 radio station, and the Miami Herald was the No. 1 newspaper. I was on all three and making speeches and running around Miami. I paid more attention to my work than home. Work became home."

In December 1971, King was arrested for grand larceny. Financier Louis Wolfson, who had been convicted in 1967 of conspiracy and illegal stock sales, accused his former friend of ripping off \$5,000 in a deal involving Jim Garrison, the New Orleans prosecutor who was conducting a conspiracy investigation on President John F. Kennedy's assassination, the Herald reported.

King regretted that incident. "The whole Lou Wolfson episode. Garrison. Getting involved in all that thing. I wish I had not been involved in that," he said in 2017.

Although the larceny charges against King were dropped due to statute of limitations, he was fired from WIOD and WTVJ. He had already lost his Herald column in 1970 when then-managing editor Larry Jinks became uncomfortable with some of the people King plugged in his columns.

King was later charged with passing bad checks, put on probation and struggled to find work. By the mid-1970s, he rebounded. WIOD took him back. WPLG, the local ABC affiliate, hired him. The Miami News gave him a column.

By 1978, King was hot again — in the public eye, anyway. Privately, he was still in debt to the tune of \$332,186 when he left Miami for Washington. He said he resisted declaring bankruptcy in Miami but did so in Virginia in 1979.

As all of the legalese was going on, the Mutual Broadcasting System had given King a national nightly interview and talk show that aired locally on WIOD and later on WGBS, along with 240 other stations to an audience of four million listeners.

In 1981, the Herald's former Tropic Sunday magazine called King "the hottest radio property in the country" and the cover story touched on his troubles.

"I had to be a big man to prove to myself I was a big man. I was on a colossal ego trip," King told Tropic at the time.

FAME AGAIN THROUGH CNN

By 1985, with his bow on CNN, he was arguably the hottest TV property in the country. He became one of the most sought-after interviewers in the business. For instance, President Bill Clinton once partly credited his appearance on King's CNN show for helping him achieve the goodwill to pass the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1993 — even though a Los Angeles Times critic pilloried King for being too soft on his guests, Vice President Al Gore and one-time presidential candidate Ross Perot, who were debating the topic.

"King is undoubtedly TV's Switzerland of talk-show hosts, an interviewer who can always be trusted to be neutral with his topical guests regardless of his own beliefs. ... He's just too passive," the critic opined.

"The part I never lost is I keep my ego at the door. I rarely use the word 'I' in an interview. The guest counts," King told the Herald in 2017.

But he wasn't entirely correct. King counted, too.

King's survivors include his children Larry Jr., Chance and Cannon. He was predeceased by two children, Andy and Chaia, in 2020. King was married seven times and was in the midst of a divorce from his wife, Shawn King, with whom he had Chance and Cannon.

Funeral services and a memorial will be announced at a later date, Ora Media said.

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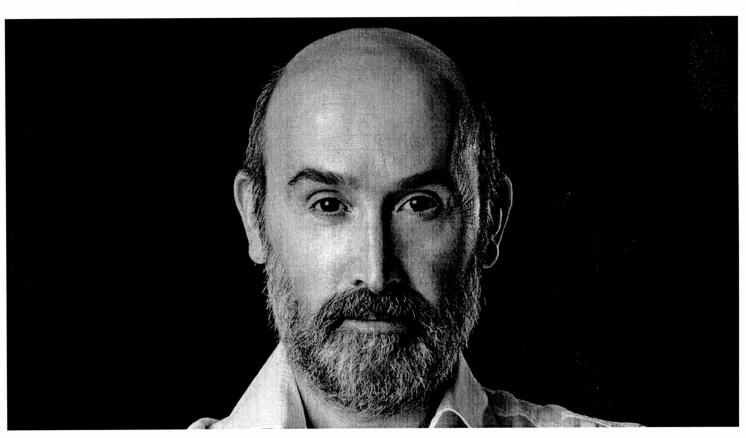
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HOME > FILM > NEWS

Jan 27, 2021 7:00am PT

2021 Miami Film Festival Announces Int'l Feature Films on Slate

By Natalie Oganesyan 🗸



Jau Fornes

Miami Dade College's Miami Film Festival announced its shortlist of international feature film submissions that will screen during its 10-day hybrid event, with virtual and in-theater presentations, March 5-14. This year's festival will present films from Academy Award-winning director Fernando Trueba and Oscar-nominated filmmakers Agnieszka Holland and Majid Majidi, among others.

For his performance in bringing a national hero to life, the festival will present a precious gem award to the star of "El Olvido Que Seremos," Javier Cámara, prior to the film's U.S. premiere. The festival's signature award, the precious gem award honors the top stars of films whose one-of-a-kind performances are unforgettable. Cámara's career accomplishments include a Goya award for "Living"

Is Easy With Eyes Closed" and acclaimed performances in HBO's "The Young Pope" and Netflix's "Narcos," as well as starring roles in Pedro Almodóvar's films "Talk to Her," "Bad Education" and "I'm So Excited!"

Variety will continue its multi-year partnership with the Miami Film Festival through its 93rd Academy Awards Intl. Feature Shortlist Roundtable. The virtual panel, which will feature the director, writer or producer of the Oscars shortlisted international feature films, will be moderated by film awards editor Clayton Davis and debut March 5.

"El Olvido Que Seremos," Colombia's submission, spotlights the real-life story of Dr. Héctor Abad Gómez, a medical doctor and human-rights activist who worked to revolutionize health care access in the country before his death in 1987. The film is directed by Trueba, who won the festival's audience award in 2001.

In addition to Colombia's entry, the 2021 Miami Film Festival will present six additional international feature film Oscar contenders from Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Germany, Greece and Iran.

Bosnia and Herzegovina's "Quo Vadis, Aida?" presents a moving account of one of the most infamous genocides in modern history, as seen through the eyes of a U.N. translator, Aida (Jasna Đuričić), who shelters her family and community in a U.N. camp when Bosnian Serbian forces take over their small town of Srebrenica in 1995. Written and directed by Jasmila Žbanić, the film has already garnered top awards at ceremonies such as the Jerusalem Film Festival and Les Arcs European Film Festival.

Czech Republic's entry, "Charlatan," directed by Holland, is a historical drama about the real life of Jan Mikolášek, a skilled natural healthcare practitioner whose unorthodox methods are unwelcome to the 1950s totalitarian regime. Directed from a screenplay by Marek Epstein, the film played at Berlin and Camerimage festivals and garnered a European Film Award nomination.

The Dominican Republic's "Mis 500 Locos," set during Rafael Trujillo's dictatorship, follows a new mental hospital's director bid to calm the negative press following the escape of a group of patients. Directed by Leticia Tonos based on a novel by Antonio Zaglul, the film stars Jane Santos, Luis José Germán, and Pavel Marcano.

Germany's entry "And Tomorrow the Entire World" centers on Luisa (Mala Emde), a law student from an upper-class family, who joins an anti-fascist movement to oppose the modern rise of the political right in Germany. The semi-autobiographical political drama, written, produced and directed by Julia von Heinz, won the Silver Hugo for ensemble at the Chicago Intl. Film Festival and competed at the Venice Film Festival.

"Apples," the Greek entry, is a sci-fi tale about a pandemic that causes sudden and irreversible amnesia. Middle-aged Aris finds himself enrolled in a recovery program designed to help unclaimed patients build new identities. Written, produced and directed by Christos Nikou, the film has won international prizes such as the New Waves Award for film at the Seville European Film Festival.

Iran's "Sun Children" tells the story of 12-year-old Ali (Roohollah Zamani) and his three friends who work diligently to survive before a miraculous turn of events finds Ali entrusted to seek out hidden treasure underground. Written, produced and directed by Majidi, the drama has already nabbed six wins including best film at the Fajr Film Festival and the Marcello Mastrioanno Award at the Venice Film Festival.

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Hiami Herald

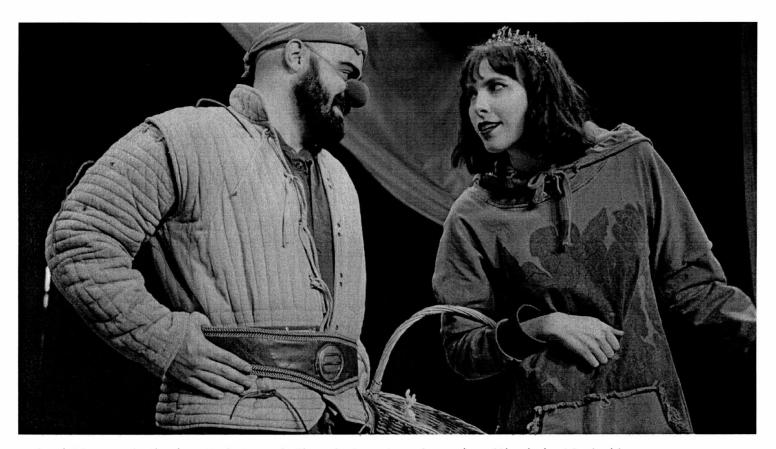


ENTERTAINMENT

Now playing in South Miami: 'Shrek' under the stars

BY CHRISTINE DOLEN *ARTBURSTMIAMI.COM*JANUARY 26, 2021 12:00 PM, UPDATED JANUARY 26, 2021 01:45 PM





Frank Montoto is Shrek to Katie Duerr's Fiona in Area Stage's outdoor 'Shrek the Musical.' GIANCARLO RODAZ



For nearly a year now, live theater has been a necessary rarity in an enduring pandemic.

But in South Florida, where winter weather is so often glorious, the option of taking art outside has allowed a limited, in-person reconnection of artists and audiences, an especially safety-conscious path back from virtual theater to live experiences. (A few companies, it should be noted, *are* producing theater inside their venues.)

Miami New Drama presented its ambitious, twice-extended production, "Seven Deadly Sins," featuring original short plays performed in storefronts along Miami Beach's Lincoln Road. Now, Area Stage is using the outdoor theater option for a limited run of its 2018 hit, "Shrek the Musical."

This version of the 2008 Broadway musical by composer Jeanine Tesori and book writer-lyricist David Lindsay-Abaire has been devised by director-designer Giancarlo Rodaz. Son of Area Stage founders John Rodaz and Maria Banda-Rodaz, the young director again proves himself adept at imaginatively reinterpreting large-scale musicals so that they work in fresh ways.

"Shrek the Musical," based on the 2001 DreamWorks animation film that launched a franchise, marks the first time Area Stage has created an outdoor production in its new home, South Miami's Shops at Sunset Place.

The set, which has a deliberate Renaissance Fair/let's-put-on-a-show vibe, and all the other creative elements (lighting, costumes, puppets) were designed by Rodaz with an assist from his Area Stage colleagues. Sound design is by Abraham Oleksnianski, with musical direction by Katie Duerr, who plays Princess Fiona and other roles.

Though the original Broadway version of the show, which was produced locally by Fort Lauderdale's Slow Burn Theatre in 2019, features more than two dozen actors, Rodaz figured out how to do the show with just seven performers and a small band. The actors, even those playing the lead roles of Shrek, Fiona and Donkey, do double, triple, quadruple duty. Puppets and shadow puppets stand in for some characters. Somehow, thanks to Rodaz's imagination and the actors' robustly chameleonic voices, it all works.

The stage version of "Shrek" runs a half-hour longer (plus intermission) than the animated original, so at times the show feels overstuffed with tangents and madefor-the-stage musical numbers. But the socially distanced audience of about 80 people, including a few family groups picnicking on the grassy area closest to the stage, remained engaged throughout.

Like the movie, "Shrek the Musical" traces the journey of the oversized green ogre Shrek (Frank Montoto) from outcast loner to his own kind of hero. With help from the beyond-garrulous Donkey (Aaron Hagos), he rescues the cursed Fiona (Duerr) from her long imprisonment in a tower. Then, he falls for her as they make their way back to the kingdom of Duloc, where she is to become the bride of the dastardly, height-challenged Lord Farquaad (John Mazuelos).

Mixing fairy-tale whimsy, punchy musical theater numbers, inside-theater references, a happily-ever-after story with a twist, and enough adult humor to keep the grownups interested, "Shrek the Musical" is performed by a cast of young professionals, a few still in college and several with ties to Miami's New World School of the Arts.

When he's playing Shrek, Montoto transforms himself with little more than a fuzzy green clown nose and a Scottish accent, sometimes strumming his guitar as he delivers strong renditions of "Big Bright Beautiful World," the playful "I Think I Got You Beat," "When Words Fail" and more. Duerr, a senior at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music, is funny, charming and clarion-voiced as Fiona. Hagos takes a bit to find his rhythm as Donkey, but once he does, he's off to the comedic races.

Mazuelos sometimes takes to his knees to play the diminutive Farquaad but at other times doesn't bother. Even so, he's effective as a tiny bully with a towering ego. Gabi Gonzalez digs into the diva Dragon role; Imran Hylton leads the fairy-tale creatures in "Story of My Life" as a gangly and wry Pinocchio; and Jeana Montgomery pushes back against Farquaad as the Gingerbread Man, also known as Gingy.

With the band playing behind a glass storefront near stage left, the performers use microphones, so hearing them is never an issue. If anything, they can be a touch

too loud, pushing the broad material harder than they need to.

In terms of safety protocols, Area Stage's staff takes your temperature and gives you a wristband in lieu of a ticket. There's up-close seating available on the ground (bring a blanket), and folding chairs are spaced in seating groups behind the grassy area. There's a single bathroom for men and women, so plan accordingly.

The show, Rodaz has said, is an experiment to see how viable outdoor theater might be for Area Stage. The remaining shows are set for 7:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, so you still have time to decide for yourself.

<u>ArtburstMiami.com</u> is a nonprofit source of theater, dance, visual arts, music and performing arts news. <u>Sign up for our newsletter</u> and never miss a story.

IF YOU GO

WHAT: "Shrek the Musical" by Jeanine Tesori and David Lindsay-Abaire.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. Jan. 29-31

WHERE: Area Stage Co.'s outdoor theater at Shops at Sunset Place, 5701 Sunset

Drive, South Miami

COST: Starting at \$35

INFORMATION: 305-666-2078; areastage.org



el Nuevo Herald



CUIDADO MÉDICO

Hay un teléfono que puede llamar para vacunarse contra el COVID-19 en Miami-Dade. Le contamos

POR ANA CLAUDIA CHACIN

26 DE ENERO DE 2021 01:50 PM, ACTUALIZADO 26 DE ENERO DE 2021 06:49 PM





Un primer grupo de trabajadores sanitarios recibió dosis de la vacuna contra el coronavirus en el Jackson Memorial Hospital el 15 de diciembre de 2020. BY POOL VIDEO



Escuchar este artículo ahora

2:51 Powered by **Trinity Audio**

El Condado Miami-Dade cuenta ahora con una línea telefónica que podrá llamar para solicitar una cita y recibir la vacuna contra el COVID-19, según anunciaron el martes.

Antes del martes, solo existía la <u>opción en línea</u> que limitaba a algunas personas mayores.

Las personas de 65 años o mayores y residentes del estado pueden visitar <u>miamidade.gov/vaccine</u> o llamar al 305-614-2014 cuando el condado tenga cupos disponibles.

"Estamos tomando medidas urgentes para garantizar que ninguna comunidad se quede atrás y que todas nuestras personas mayores de 65 años tengan el mismo acceso a esta vacuna que salva vidas. Para distribuir la vacuna de manera equitativa a los residentes vulnerables del condado de Miami-Dade, estamos orgullosos de presentar una opción de teléfono para ampliar el acceso a la vacuna para proteger nuestro condado y avanzar juntos ", dijo la alcaldesa de Miami-Dade, Daniella Levine Cava.

José "Pepe" Díaz, el presidente de la Junta de Comisionados del Condado dijo <u>en el comunicado</u> que le complacía la decisión del condado de lanzar una línea telefónica para ampliar el acceso.

"Junto con la alcaldesa, sigo presionando para traer más vacunas a Miami-Dade, porque necesitamos urgentemente más suministros para proteger a nuestra comunidad ", dijo Díaz.

El martes el condado informó que habían 'cupos limitados' de citas para vacunarse desde las 2 p.m. Solo 16 minutos después, el portal ya estaba cerrado, indicando que se habían agotado los cupos.





Today starting at 2 pm, we are opening a very limited number of vaccine appointments for seniors 65+. We are working hard to expand access to vaccines, and today, appointments

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Rachel Johnson, la directora de comunicaciones de la oficina de la alcaldesa dijo en un correo electrónico a el Nuevo Herald que 1,4000 personas lograron hacer sita por la página web y otras 1,000 llamaron a la línea telefónica. Las que llamaron por teléfono dejaron su información y empleados están trabajando en llamarlos de regreso para confirmar sus citas.

Las citas en línea se llenaron en 20 minutos y la línea de teléfono cerró unos minutos después de eso, dijo Johnson.

Esta semana, el condado de Miami-Dade también abrirá un nuevo sitio de distribución de vacunas en el Miami Dade College North Campus para personas mayores de 65 años, y reabrirá el sitio de vacunación ubicado en el zoológico de Miami, según el comunicado. Todos los sitios de vacunación del condado son solo con cita previa.

La oficina de la alcaldía dijo que actualmente la demanda para recibir vacunas es mucho mayor que el suministro que tienen.

"Continúe visitando <u>miamidade.gov/vaccine</u> para obtener información sobre dónde están disponibles actualmente las vacunas", indica el comunicado.

Según el <u>informe estatal más reciente</u>, en Miami-Dade 159,317 personas han recibido la vacuna, 25,578 de ellas — o el 16% — han recibido la segunda dosis.

Siga a Ana Claudia Chacin en Twitter: @AnaChacinc



El médico Greg Dubrovich recibe una vacuna contra el COVID-19 en el Broward Health Imperial Point en Fort Lauderdale, Florida. MATIAS J. OCNER *MOCNER@MIAMIHERALD.COM*

ANA CLAUDIA CHACIN



Ana Claudia Chacin es una periodista venezolana que cubre noticias en el sur de Florida. Fue criada en Miami, estudió en la Universidad de Miami y obtuvo una maestría en periodismo investigativo de American University en Washington. Fue interna del equipo investigativo en el Washington Post. Ana Claudia is a Venezuelan journalist covering South Florida news who grew up in Miami and obtained her bachelor's degree from the University of Miami and her master's in investigative journalism at American University in Washington D.C. She was previously a fellow with The Washington Post's investigative unit through American.

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CUIDADO MÉDICO

LEER MÁS

EE.UU. suma más de 4,200 muertes en 24



Enlace de Prensa:

Luisana Perez Fernandez Iuisana.perez@miamidade.gov

El Condado de Miami-Dade lanza línea telefónica para citas de vacunación contra el COVID-19

MIAMI (26 de Enero de 2021) — Hoy, el Condado de Miami-Dade emitirá un número limitado de citas para vacunación contra el COVID-19, disponibles para los adultos mayores de 65 años y más que vivan en la Florida, según las normas estatales. Las citas estarán disponibles mediante una herramienta de programación en la página web miamidade.gov/vacuna, así como en una nueva opción de línea telefónica. Las citas, tanto en internet como en la línea telefónica, estarán disponibles a partir de las 2:00 p. m.

Como parte de las medidas continuas del Condado de Miami-Dade para distribuir de forma continua e igualitaria el limitado suministro de vacunas a la comunidad, el Condado ha creado una nueva opción para hacer citas, que es más accesible para los adultos mayores de 65 años y más.

Si desea más información sobre cómo programar una cita en internet y por teléfono, visite la página web miamidade.gov/vacuna.

"Estamos tomando medidas urgentes para garantizar la inclusión de todas las comunidades y que todos nuestros adultos mayores de 65 años y más tengan el mismo acceso a esta vital vacuna. Con el objetivo de distribuir la vacuna de manera equitativa a los residentes vulnerables del Condado de Miami-Dade, nos enorgullece presentar la opción telefónica a fin de ampliar el acceso a la vacuna para proteger a nuestro condado y seguir avanzando juntos", comentó la alcaldesa del Condado de Miami-Dade Daniella Levine Cava.

"En nuestra comunidad hay adultos mayores que no pueden programar en internet una cita para vacunación, y me complace que el Condado haya creado una nueva línea telefónica para facilitar a todos la programación de una cita. Junto con la alcaldesa, sigo presionando para que Miami-Dade reciba más vacunas, porque necesitamos urgentemente un mayor suministro para proteger a nuestra comunidad", dijo el presidente y comisionado de la Junta de Comisionados del Condado de Miami-Dade Jose "Pepe" Diaz.

El Condado de Miami-Dade también abrirá esta semana un nuevo centro de distribución de vacunas en el campus North del Miami Dade College para los adultos de 65 años y más que vivan en la Florida, y reabrirá el centro de vacunación de ZooMiami. Los centros de vacunación del Condado solo aceptan a personas con citas previas.

En estos momentos, la demanda de las vacunas es mucho mayor que el suministro existente y el Condado de Miami-Dade se está esforzando por poner las vacunas a disposición de la comunidad tan pronto como se reciben los nuevos suministros. Por favor, revise el sitio web <u>miamidade.gov/vacuna</u> para información sobre los centros que tienen la vacuna disponible actualmente.

###

Para solicitar material en formato especial, los servicios de un intérprete del lenguaje de señas u otras adecuaciones para participar en un programa o reunión auspiciada por el Condado, comuníquese con el coordinador de la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA) por el 305-375-1545 o envíe un correo electrónico a comminfo@miamidade.gov, al menos con cinco días de antelación para hacer su



75°

TENDENCIAS Biden: toma de posesión Coronavirus Ofrecen Empleos Podcasts

VACUNA CONTRA EL COVID-19

Sur de Florida reabre centros de vacunación contra el COVID-19 este miércoles

Gobernador Ron DeSantis informó un incremento en las vacunas que envía el gobierno federal

Por **TELEMUNDO 51** y **EFE** • Hace 2 horas • Actualizado hace 2 horas







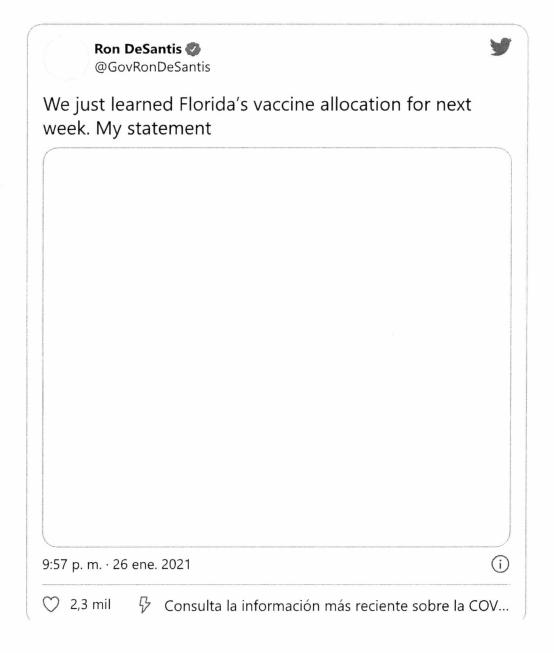


0:01 / 2:26

Gobernador Ron DeSantis informó que el estado recibirá más dosis para distribuir la vacuna

El gobernador de Florida Ron DeSantis aunció que el estado recibirá un incremento en las dosis semanales de la vacuna contra el coronavirus que envía el gobierno federal, al tiempo que en el sur de Florida reabren centros para poner las inmunizaciones en el zoológico de Miami y el Miami Dade College en el North Campus.

Tras el anuncio del presidente Joe Biden en el que anunciaba un incremento en la distribución de vacunas a nivel nacional, el gobernador dijo que recibirán unas 307,000 vacunas del gobierno federal para poner la primera dosis a mayores de 65 años.



DeSantis, rebatió este martes a la Casa Blanca al señalar que han aplicado más de 1,2 millones de dosis de la vacuna contra el coronavirus, más del 50 % de las que disponen, en momentos en que el estado sobrepasó las 26.000 muertes.

En una rueda de prensa, DeSantis señaló que hasta la fecha han administrado 1,25 millones de dosis de vacunas y que la cifra incluso podría ser mayor dado que hay un retraso en el volcado de cifras oficiales que hacen las autoridades.

Local



HACE 1 HORA

Las 5 del 51 - Las principales noticias del día



HACE 40 MIN

Médico de Broward arrestado por presuntamente enviar contenido sexual a un menor

La cifra supone más del 50 % de las 1,7 millones de dosis que Florida, según el gobernador, ha recibido desde diciembre de la Administración federal.

DeSantis respondió a la portavoz de la Casa Blanca, Jen Psaki, quien el lunes señaló que este estado sólo ha usado la mitad de las vacunas suministradas.

El gobernador agregó que las autoridades sanitarias estatales están guardando un número de lo entregado por el Gobierno para aplicar a personas mayores de 65 años la segunda dosis que requieren las vacunas de Pfizer y Moderna para que sean plenamente efectivas.

0:20

Hospital Mercy de Miami reprograma citas para vacunas contra el COVID-19

"Aquí (en la Casa Blanca) los datos son primero, aquí los hechos son primero. Sólo han distribuido alrededor del 50 % de las vacunas que les han administrado en Florida", aseguró Psaki en una rueda de prensa este lunes.

Pese a ese intercambio, en la niche del martes, el gobernador anunción que recibirán un aumento en las dosis semanales de vacunas enviadas por el gobierno federal.

A pesar de las limitaciones, centros médicos como el Jackson Memorial abrirán la vacunación a partir de este miércoles a sus pacientes de 65 años o mayores, residentes en Miami-Dade, con enfermedades crónicas.

De igual manera, sitios como el zoológico de Miami en Kendall reabrirá sus puertas el miércoles y aceptará nuevas citas de vacunas, lo mismo ocurrirpa con el centro de vacunación ubicado en el Miami Dade College en el North Campus.

Por su parte, el hospital Mercy confirmó que está reprogramando citas para colocar las primeras dosis de la vacuna, porque quieren priorizar a quienes ya le toca colocarse la segunda dosis. La institución señala que se están comunicando con los pacientes para informar sobre los cambios.

Las citas podrán hacerse en línea, a través de su computador o por teléfono a partir de las 2 de la tarde, en la pag web del condado: miamidade.gov/vacuna/

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Pronóstico de El Tiempo

MIAMI, FL

75°

ESTA NOCHE

67°

Locales

FRENTE AL CENTRO COMERCIAL DADELAND MALI

Heladería Azucar abre nuevo local en Kendall

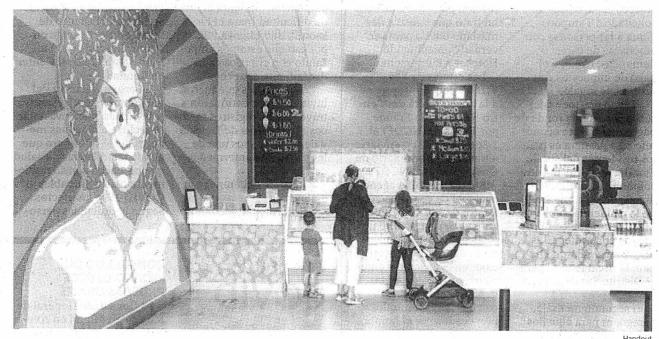
POR CARLOS FRÍAS cfrias@miamiherald.com

os buenos helados no eran suficiente para mantener las luces encendidas en la famosa heladería de La Pequeña Habana.

Las ventas en Azucar, la heladería de la Calle Ocho con sabores latinos hispanos y una imponente escultura de cono de helado en el exterior, bajaron 25% en comparación con agosto de 2019. El coronavirus había mantenido alejados a los turistas que dieron vida al corazón del antiguo barrio cubano de Miami.

Así que a la propietaria de Azucar, Suzy Batlle, se le ocurrió una idea: abrir una segunda tienda para subvencionar a la primera.

En el apogeo del coronavirus, con el cierre de restaurantes, Batlle, quien abrió el Azucar original en una zona tranquila de la la Calle Ocho en 2011, abrió un segundo local frente al centro comercial Dadeland Mall, entre Kendall, Pinecrest y South Miami.



LA HELADERÍA Azucar abrió un segundo local frente al Dadeland Mall para ayudar a pagar el alquiler del local original en la Calle Ocho, adónde los turistas dejaron de ir por la pandemia.

Y funcionó.

"Abrí en el centro de Dadeland para pagar el alquiler en Calle Ocho", dijo Batlle.

Batlle dijo que vio lo que estaba sucediendo en su tramo de la Calle Ocho

cuando los autobuses turísticos de Big Red Bus dejaron de llegar. Ese tramo de negocios experimentó con firmeza lo que está sucediendo en los distritos de restaurantes y entretenimiento alrededor de Miami cuadra, donde los turistas

y el país.

"Cuando golpeó la segunda ola de COVID, los turistas se fueron, los autobuses, todas esas cosas, de un día para otro", dijo.

En ese tramo de una

andaban por todas partes, varios negocios cerraron temporal o permanentemente. El Tower Theater permanece cerrado. El bar y restaurante Ball & Chain, cuyos propietarios han estado enfrascados en una

batalla legal federal con el comisionado Joe Carollo y una disputa por violaciones de código con la ciudad, permanece cerrado después de una extensa renovación. El pe pular Ella's Oyster Bar es á cerrado. Y el restaurante cubano El Exquisito, un pilar en esta cuadra desde 1974, ha estado cerrado indefinidamente los últimos tres meses y su futuro es incier-

"Desafortunadamente La calle Ocho está casi muerta", dijo. "Es una locura lo que nos está pasando... Le dije: 'Tengo que hacer algo".

Así que Batlle pensó en otra fuente de ingresos.

La mujer había estado pensando durante mucho tiempo en una manera de llevar su helado a los suburbios cuando encontró un local en el complejo Downtown Dadeland, El área ha estado tratando de atraer restaurantes durante años y ahora tiene una nueva característica, una calle principal cerrada

VEA AZUCAR, 4A

AZUCAR

donde se pueden configurar asientos al aire libre.

Batlle firmó un contrato de arrendamiento de un año basado en un porcentaje de sus ventas en la misma cuadra del galardonado Ghee Indian Kitchen, Abi Maria bar y Pubbelly Sushi, en 8845 SW 72 Pl.

Y la gente de los suburbios ha aparecido, dijo, con los comensales del sur de Miami-Dade contentos de cortar la larga caminata hacia el este. Ella ya había visto cómo la gente respondía a otros lugares, después de abrir un local en Dallas. Mientras tanto, Batlle comenzó a vender su helado a nivel nacional. Primero se asoció con Goldbelly y GoPuff.com,compañías nacionales de entrega, y ahora ha firmado un acuerdo de distribución nacional con TheBite.Life, una compañía propiedad del financiero y presentador de reality show de negocios Marcus Lemonis, su nuevo vecino, quien recientemen-



Handout

LA HELADERÍA Azucar llevó su gelato con sabores hispanos a Kendall como alternativa a las bajas ventas en su local original en la Calle Ocho.

te compró una participación en Ball & Chain para ayudar a reabrir el lugar.

"Me preguntó: '¿No te gusta ganar dinero?' Y simplemente entendí", recordó. "Tuve que empezar a pensar libremente".

Solo en las últimas semanas, Battle dijo que ha comenzado a entender La Pequeña Habana "finalmente mejor", dijo, al clima cálido de Florida y las restricciones gastronómicas más laxas que atraen a los turistas del norte. Pero, como sobreviviente de cáncer, espera que el día en que la vacuna contra el coronavirus esté ampliamente disponible para personas como ella, que están especialmente en riesgo.

"Si podemos sacar esta vacuna, esa es la clave", dijo, "Todos usaremos nuestras máscaras y bailaremos."

Azucar Downtown Dadeland

8845 SW 72 Pl., Miami azucaricecream.com