



Miami Dade College

Friday, March 26, 2021



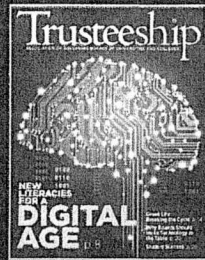
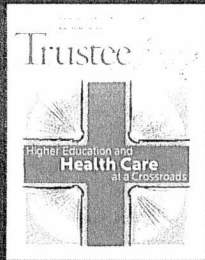
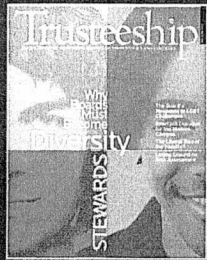
The Daily News Clippings

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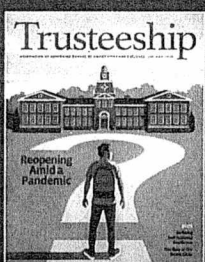
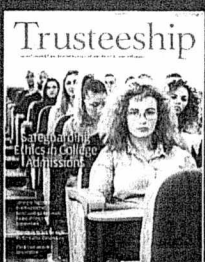
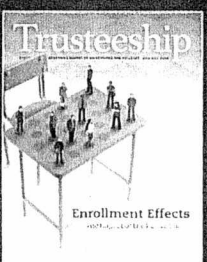
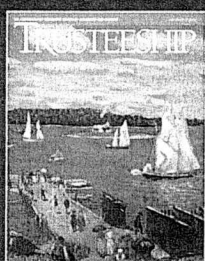
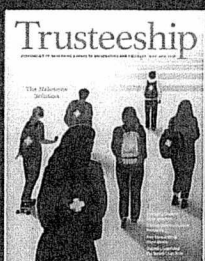
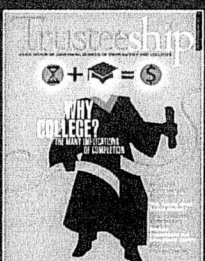
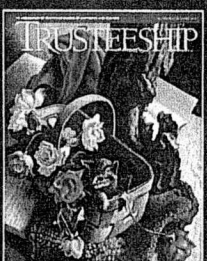
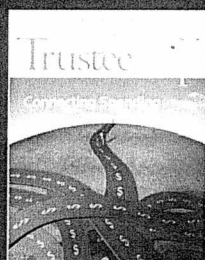
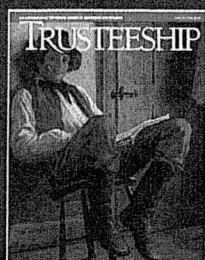
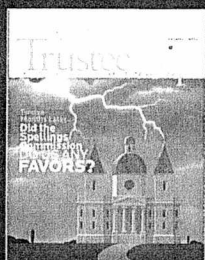
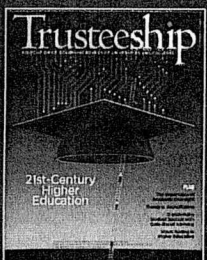
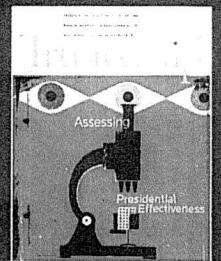
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Leading in Challenging Times, Creating New Opportunities

BY NICOLE WASHINGTON

THE IMPACT of our nation's community colleges has never been more important than now, as our community and nation extricate themselves from the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 100 years ago, community colleges were created as the nation faced a growing need for trained workers in expanding industries. Community colleges, still the workforce engines of communities across the country, were established to train a skilled workforce, be more responsive and adaptable to local needs, and to expand access to higher education to those who had previously been denied that opportunity.

In the 10 years following the Great Recession of 2008, more than 90 percent of the jobs created went to individuals with at least some college. As I think about this economic recovery, those who have been most impacted, and the new technological and digital skills that will be needed to be competitive in this economy, our colleges have been and will continue to be front and center—ensuring equitable access to high-quality education and training opportunities.

Serving as the vice chair of the Miami Dade College (MDC) District Board of Trustees, one of the largest and most diverse institutions in the nation, has been an extraordinary opportunity, especially during one of the most trying times in our history. Miami Dade College serves more than 100,000 students across eight campuses in Miami-Dade County and via MDC Online. Our students represent 167 nationalities and speak 63 languages.

About half of them are first-generation students. As a national policy advisor, advocate, and consultant, there is really no blueprint for leading through a global pandemic.

But during this time the college has embraced change, turned challenges into opportunities, thought outside of the box, and at times, discarded the box altogether to develop a series of programs to provide virtual assistance to our students while maintaining academic continuity.

Providing Engaging Opportunities for Students to Learn Remotely

Traditionally, when unemployment has risen and the economy has suffered, students have flooded our nation's community colleges to gain the skills they need for new and emerging jobs. However, the pandemic tossed tradition out the window, defying history and convention. As the pandemic unfolded and the economy suffered, so, too, did our enrollment, a trend seen at community colleges across the nation.

National data show staggering declines in the number of community college students overall, particularly the number of Black and Latino students enrolling and staying in community colleges. These institutions, like MDC, are the main access points for many disadvantaged students into higher education; the decline in the number of students will reverberate and continue for years as colleges will feel the absence of the freshmen, returning adults, and continuing students who did not return.

Drilling down, during the 2019–20 academic year, first-time associate degree

earners fell to the lowest level since 2012–13, according to the *Undergraduate Degree Earners'* report. Associate degree earners dropped 6.7 percent within just a few months after campuses closed, and certificate earners fell even more, by nearly 20 percent, demonstrating the disproportionate effects of COVID-19 on community college students and suggesting further declines in their degree attainment.

While many say higher education can't change overnight, in March we did just that. Thanks to the dedication of our faculty who underwent hours of professional development on curriculum redesign, the college switched thousands of class sections to remote learning modalities without skipping a beat.

Many of our students have indicated that an important element of college success is interacting in person with other students and faculty. MDC safely brought back a percentage of face-to-face classes, especially those in workforce areas that provided for small classes with the appropriate physical distancing. In addition, we launched a series of blended courses that allowed for both face-to-face and remote learning. As we saw an uptick in the COVID-19 cases in our community, we launched MDC LIVE (Learning Interactively in a Virtual Environment), which offers set class times but on flexible remote platforms vs. asynchronous online learning, which is challenging for many of our students and requires lots of discipline. This format is yielding positive enrollment numbers for the spring miniterm.



Increasing Support for Short-term Credentials in In-demand Fields

We also knew that while traditional degree offerings were important, rapid microcredentials, certifications, and badges that students could earn quickly could get them back into the workforce more quickly. My colleagues on the board come from business and industry and utilized their experience to help inform programs such as Kick-Start and Upskill that offer short-term coursework in cybersecurity, digital marketing, help desk support, graphic design, business, and data analytics, among others. These initiatives target individuals who are under- or unemployed due to the pandemic, helping them retool and retrain in high-demand fields. And most of these programs were free thanks to funding from the state and federal governments.

Adopting a Culture of Care by Connecting Students to Support Services

MDC transforms the lives of students who arrive at our doorstep with many challenges and who often are the first in their

family to attend college. We promoted the availability of mental-health counseling and opened in-person advisement and other student support services over the summer to help support student success.

The college also has been fortunate to join forces with community and industry partners to meet student needs. Drive-through food distribution events are being held at various campuses, the food pantry is well-stocked, and Florida Power & Light—the state’s largest electric utility—donated laptops that were distributed to students working remotely.

We also launched a special initiative for students of color following the social unrest during the summer of 2020 to provide more intentional support, mentoring, technology, and educational resources to these students. It also showed positive results and aligns to MDC’s priority of closing the equity gap.

Amid Uncertainty, a College Can Embrace the Role of Economic Recovery Catalyst

Innovation often is borne out of crisis, and Miami Dade College has certainly stepped

up to the plate. The board, college leadership, faculty, and staff have remained focused on delivering high-quality education programs and fostering student success. In fact, everything has accelerated. In addition to these new and enhanced programs and services, we also conducted a presidential search that I am happy to say concluded last fall with the selection of the College’s first female president, an alumna and dynamic leader, Madeline Pumariega.

It is critically important as board members to prioritize the fiscal vitality of college while thinking ahead as we prepare for future uncertainties. We must reimagine our postpandemic institutions as economic recovery catalysts by supporting our communities, being adaptable and sustainable, and positioning our human capital for the jobs of today and tomorrow in ways that ensure upward economic mobility. As we say at MDC, “opportunity changes everything.” ■



Nicole Washington is the vice chair of the Miami Dade College Board of Trustees. Email: nicole@wesgroup.co

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From the South Florida Business Journal:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/news/2021/03/25/education-enrollment-declines-state-colleges.html>

Education

Enrollment declines trouble South Florida's largest state colleges

Mar 25, 2021, 5:04pm EDT

An economic downturn usually means more students enroll in state colleges as people who lost their jobs learn new skills. But the downturn spurred by the Covid-19 pandemic has had the opposite effect. South Florida's state colleges have all suffered double-digit enrollment declines, resulting in a hit to their budgets.

Miami Dade College, Broward College and Palm Beach State College are three of the region's four largest universities. Their combined enrollment in fall 2019 was nearly 140,000, and they play a crucial role in preparing students for in-demand jobs and welcoming first-generation college students.

All three colleges have lost students during the pandemic, mirroring a national trend. About half of their funding comes from tuition and fees, so that has put a financial strain on them. In addition, state officials asked state colleges to reduce their budgets by 8.5% in the current academic year in response to the pandemic.

Funding from the CARES Act has helped the colleges make ends meet this year. The question is whether they can bring students back quickly enough to bounce back financially and help employers fill skilled jobs.



LILIANA MORA

Miami Dade College President
Madeline Pumariega

Miami Dade College sees steady recovery

Enrollment at Miami Dade College was down 12% at the start of the fall 2020 term, and it's now down about 6.5%, said President Madeline Pumariega, who started at MDC in January.

She introduced more online courses that are taught live, with interaction between students and teachers. Prior to that, very few of the online courses were live. Now, MDC has live online courses and classes that mix online instruction with in-person learning. That's a big reason enrollment has improved for the spring, Pumariega said.

About 40% of the courses at MDC have an in-person component, while the others are online-only, she added.

"While some students love online, most of our students are first-generation college students and many are low-income students – and they love in-person or live instruction," Pumariega said. "A lot of students missed live interaction with their peers and faculty."

Concerns about safety are a big reason many students didn't enroll at MDC, she said. Its average student is age 26, and many of them are caregivers for seniors or children. Many have jobs, and the pandemic caused their work hours to change; unpredictable schedules made it hard to find time for classes, she said.

MDC, along with many other state colleges, partnered with the Florida Department of Education for a rapid credentialing program to help students pivot to new careers. There was an uptick in enrollment in digital marketing, cloud computing and health care. Miami-Dade County has nearly 300,000 residents between ages 24 and 65 with some college, but no credential, so that's a growth market, she said.

Pumariega expects more students to return to campus as Covid-19 vaccines become more widely available, but MDC will continue to offer online courses for those who want them. Recent high-school graduates, in particular, have grown used to them.

The drop in enrollment caused MDC to cut costs until things bounce back, she said. It froze open positions, and later eliminated

some of them. Travel was curtailed. All departments were asked to reduce their budgets.

Fortunately, MDC received a \$100.3 million boost from the federal CARES Act, with about half for the college and half for student aid. How much additional financial help is needed depends on how quickly students return, so Pumariega is keeping a close watch on budget talks in Tallahassee.

"I do think there's an understanding at the state level of the role our community and state colleges play," she said. "We are one of the most important catalysts for economic recovery."

Broward College trims budget

Broward College made some painful decisions to reduce its budget in 2020 as fewer students enrolled.

BC eliminated its JUCO (junior college) athletics program, among other staff reductions. Receiving \$27 million from the CARES Act – with about half going to the university and the rest to student aid – helped, but BC will continue to have holes in its budget until enrollment rebounds.

Enrollment was down 9% in fall 2020 and down 12% in the spring, said Janice Stubbs, vice provost of student services. The decline in first-time college students was about 29%.

"Students are interested in returning to in-person learning, but hesitant to enroll because of fear of contracting Covid," Stubbs said. "It appears many are delaying college, taking a gap year and waiting to see how it goes."

Many first-generation students work in retail and hospitality jobs, and lost income during the pandemic, so they are more focused on making ends meet than education at the moment, she added.

Students who need to learn college-level English or math, as well as Black and Hispanic students, have also enrolled at much lower numbers.

The drop in enrollment caused an \$11 million impact on BC's budget, said Isabel Gonzalez, the school's chief of staff and VP of communication and community relations.

“We are working with our community partners about how we can push for more enrollment, but it’s such a gap for us,” she said. “We certainly have a crisis in South Florida, with a significant number of students not continuing their education.”

About 65% to 70% of BC students are now learning online, said Jeffrey Nasse, provost and senior VP of academic affairs at the college. The number of on-campus students has been increasing, but pandemic-related restrictions have left BC well short of full capacity. For instance, a classroom that typically holds 40 students is reduced to about 16 students, he said.

To reverse the decline in enrollment, BC has focused on Broward Unlimited Potential, a program it launched shortly before the pandemic, Nasse said. The college is engaging with community leaders in neighborhoods that have low levels of college education and employment, often areas with large minority populations, to inspire them to enroll at BC.

“Our goal is to ensure a high percentage of [high-school] graduates pursue a post-secondary education,” Stubbs said.

Palm Beach State College a mostly virtual affair

Enrollment has remained down at Palm Beach State College as most students learn virtually.

President Ava L. Parker said enrollment declined 15% in fall 2020 and is down 14% this spring. The summer 2020 period actually had higher enrollment, but then applications fell off. There was a big drop in first-generation students, especially from the most economically disadvantaged families, she said.

“With everybody responding to these unusual circumstances and not going through a pandemic before, it impacted our ability to go into high schools in the spring and reach students,” Parker said.

Another issue was some students didn’t have access to reliable bandwidth, so they couldn’t take online classes, she said.

In the spring, only 6% of PBSC students were in face-to-face classes, with 65% in live remote classes and 29% in non-live online

classes. Parker said the college increased in-person class offerings this semester, but those sections didn't fill up.

"I do believe some students are waiting for more in-person learning," she said. "One of the positives from the pandemic is it encourages choices in several different modalities."

For instance, now students in Belle Glade can virtually attend classes that are offered only on its Boca Raton campus.

PBSC made several reductions in its budget, including eliminating positions that were not needed during the pandemic and halting travel. It received \$18.7 million from the CARES Act, with half of that for the university. Now, Parker is preparing a budget for fall 2021, but it's hard to predict what enrollment will be.

"We have to be very careful with our spending and hold back on doing some things," she said.

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Brian Bandell

Senior Reporter
South Florida Business Journal



Florida Trend



FLORIDA'S BUSINESS AUTHORITY

APRIL 2021

HEALTH CARE REPORT

Masked by COVID

Amid the pandemic, the state's opioid crisis has intensified. p 40

PLUS ...

- ▶ Hospitals Face Headwinds
- ▶ How COVID Has Changed Care
- ▶ No CON, But No Building Boom

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*Florida Education
Guide* p82

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Tomorrow's Jobs Today



Florida's Public Technical Colleges

Florida must become workforce ready. Career and technical education is the way to get there.

Florida's 48 technical colleges offer 200-plus programs and train thousands of highly skilled workers each year. "Career in a Year" programs offer training in targeted industries such as manufacturing; health care; public safety; automotive, marine, and aircraft mechanics; and computer programming, IT, and digital disciplines. Hands-on real life experiences provided in classrooms, labs, simulations and registered apprenticeship programs — all delivering tomorrow's critical workforce today.

Errin Gill graduated from Lake Technical College's Automotive Collision Technology Technician program in December of 2020. The auto collision program merged her love of two things, art and cars. As a woman in a non-traditional field, she was pleasantly surprised to feel completely encouraged by her instructors and peers. About midway through the program, she was awarded the Women in Industry scholarship. Errin was ultimately hired by Lockheed Martin to fabricate windows for the F35 fighter jet and the Apache helicopter.

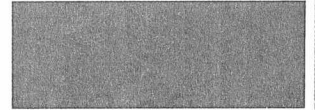
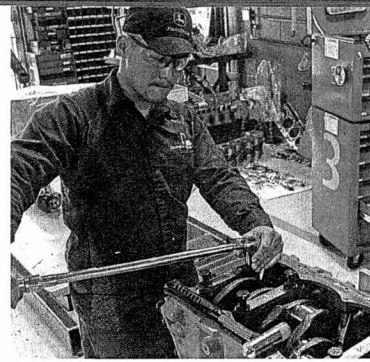
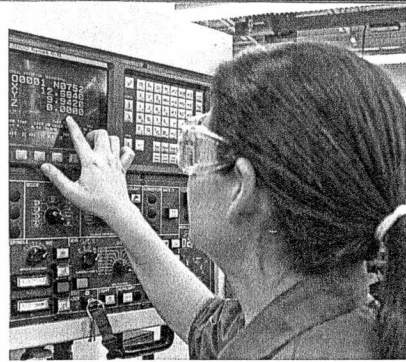


"My job at Lockheed Martin job is the coolest job ever and I would never have had this opportunity without Lake Tech's training."

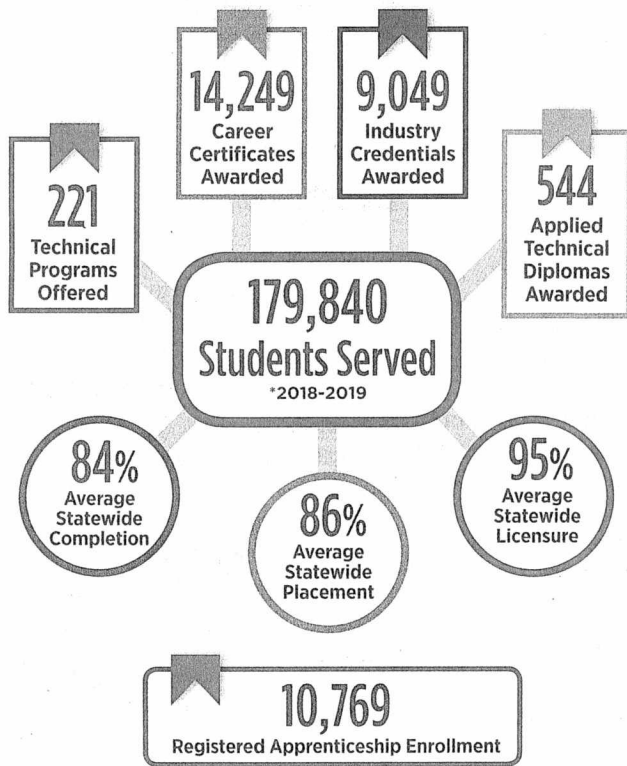
Leah Marley has always been fiercely independent and up for a challenge. She earned her high school equivalency at age 16. Leah completed the Welding Technology Program at Haney Technical Center and was one of the top three welders in her 2020 class. She is now excelling in her new career as a welder with Eastern Shipbuilding.



"Being a welder has provided me with a great income and career opportunities!"



Florida's Technical Colleges Make an Impact



Practical Nursing Graduate **Amoy McPherson**, while in high school, was part of a Health Science program which visited Atlantic Technical College's PN classrooms and labs. During these visits Amoy realized he wanted to enroll at a Technical College because it was so practical. He wanted to become a part of the solution to help others achieve a healthy life.



"Here's a school offering a career in a year. After a year you can become a nurse. That's something unheard of!"

A Message from Florida Association for Career and Technical Education Post-Secondary Chair



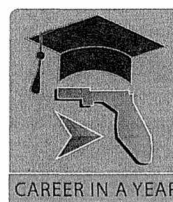
Diane Culpepper
Executive Director
Lake Technical College

"Florida's public technical colleges are laser focused on preparing students to be part of the skilled, 21st century workforce. By partnering with business and industry, we

meet needs unique to each local community. With flexible scheduling, competency based instruction, microcredentialing, and affordable tuition, our institutions offer students and employers alike the critical components needed to improve and expand Florida's economy."

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Florida's Workforce Education Initiative

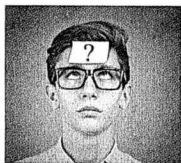
Be Pointy!

It's the unique combination of your strengths and interests that makes you, you. When an admissions office can see how they work together—how you're "pointy"—they can more clearly see how you'll fit in on their campus.

Gone are the days where being "well-rounded" gives a student the best chance at being admitted to their choice of schools. These days, says Tiffany E. Blessing, director of College Counseling at Shorecrest Preparatory School, colleges are looking for students with passion and drive—students who find what they love and pursue it, whether it's soccer or math or sewing or acting. College hopefuls should be sending that message in their choices of electives, extracurriculars, and volunteer hours.

ENTRANCE ESSAY

The trends in application essays have split in two directions: some schools have transitioned away from essays, while others have turned toward them in lieu of impersonal data like test scores. Applicants who are facing a required essay should aim for authenticity—tell the story you have, not the story you think they want to hear.



And research is an often-missed opportunity here: while students should plan to re-use at least parts of their essays for multiple schools, they should make sure to include their specific reasons for applying to their top tier schools. This is where campus visits come in. Name-checking the professors, students, and tour guides introduced on those visits can go a long way toward convincing an admissions committee that your student is the right fit for their school.

FIRST-GENERATION APPLICANTS

More than half of all students enrolled in Florida colleges and universities are the first in their families to attend—but those students are statistically less likely to complete a degree until much later in life. In part, this is due to the challenges of navigating the admissions and financial aid processes. These first-gen students can get guidance and valuable practice through programs like AVID and local career coaching.



"It's a very challenging and emotional process. You're navigating the process alone. Just do your best and make it to the finish line; it's a marathon, not a sprint."

Winzie Wilson, freshman at Tuskegee University

"EARLY" BIRDS

As the college admissions process grows increasingly complex, many schools are offering different programs and procedures for students wanting to get a head start. Below are some terms you should know.

EARLY DECISION: apply early (by Nov. 1) and receive a decision by Dec. 15; viewed as a "binding" option – students are expected to accept the offer and may only apply Early Decision to one school; admissions rates can be 10% higher.

EARLY ACTION: apply and hear back early; non-binding; students have until Spring to accept or decline the offer; may apply Early Action to multiple schools; slightly higher admissions rates.

SINGLE-CHOICE EARLY ACTION: like Early Decision, except non-binding; students have until Spring to accept the offer; slightly higher admissions rates.

EARLY ADMISSION: enroll full-time in college during senior year of high school; courses count for both high school and college credit; all expenses covered, including materials (for public school students); very competitive admissions—required GPA of 3.8 and SAT scores of 1300+.



COMMON APP

31 colleges and universities in Florida use the Common App, a universal admissions application designed to make your student's life much simpler. Go online to CommonApp.org to see which schools accept the Common App. Students can keep all of their materials in one place: essays, transcripts, deadlines, test scores, scholarship info, and recommendations. They can then send completed applications out to multiple schools with just a few clicks.

Growth Industries



Health Care
▲ 10%



Construction
▲ 57%



Tourism
▲ 6%
(expected)

HOT CAREERS

High on every parent's list of wishes for their children is gainful employment—not a given in this economy. If your student is looking for an in-demand career choice before they decide on their next steps after high school, consider these growth industries in Florida.

■ **HEALTH CARE:** Florida's large aging population means a built-in need for nurses and in-home careworkers, but other fields in the health care industry are booming, too, with a projected overall growth rate of about 10% in the next decade—almost 70% of which require a post-secondary degree or certification. It seems student interest in public health professions is up as well.

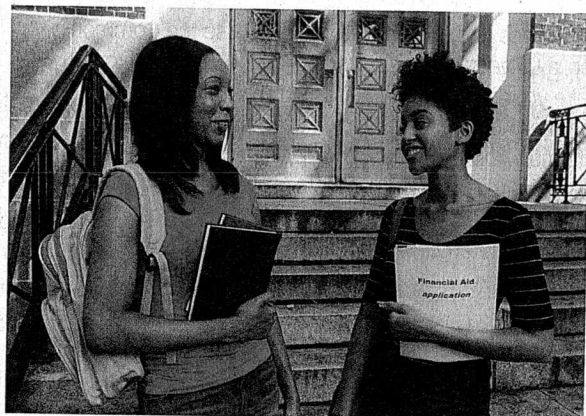
■ **CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE:** Some estimates show up to 1,000 new Florida residents each day—and all of them need places to live. The real estate market continues to thrive, as does the construction industry that supports it. Degrees in marketing, communications, business, accounting, and finance can all get a career in these fields started.

■ **TOURISM:** Tourism jobs grew by 6% in 2018 and are expected to do so again after the pandemic. With almost 150 million visitors per year (spending \$94 billion), plus the large number of state residents who vacation in-state, a college major in marketing, communications, hospitality, or arts and education is a solid choice. A professional program or internship in food service, hospitality, or performance would also be smart.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Many Florida families are familiar with learning accommodations and modifications to which students are entitled through 504 plans and IEPs. Unfortunately, many students do not seek the same accommodations once they enter college—in part because they may not know how to get them. If your student is 18 or older, they should contact student services as soon as possible upon enrolling in classes, and they should be prepared to provide current diagnostic tests and a copy of recent IEPs or 504s. Students will have to be more proactive than they were in high school about informing their professors and advisors of their accommodations, and they may need to re-apply each semester. It's worth the effort: studies also show that students who use their accommodations are more likely to graduate on time!





BRIGHT FUTURES

The Florida Bright Futures scholarship program provides tuition assistance for high-achieving Florida high school graduates who want to attend an in-state college or university. To qualify, students also need to complete community service—100 hours for the FL Academic Scholars program and 75 hours for the FL Medallion Scholars program. All students seeking Bright Futures assistance need to submit the Florida Financial Aid Application by the end of August in the year they graduate from high school. Students are expected to maintain a 3.0 GPA while in college.

PELL GRANT

Federal Pell Grants offer up to \$6495 / year for students demonstrating significant financial need. These funds are grants, so unlike loans they don't need to be repaid. Students receiving Pell Grants must be enrolled full-time at an accredited institution, and they must complete a FAFSA every year.

FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid needs to be completed for each year that a student requests grant money, scholarships, or loans from any federal program. Many colleges and universities use the FAFSA as a basis for their internal aid programs as well. Students fill out the application just once per year, regardless of how many different programs they are applying for. To complete the form, a student will need their most recent tax returns and bank statements.

FEDERAL STUDENT LOANS

All students can apply for Direct Unsubsidized Student Loans, for which interest will accrue while the student is still enrolled. Students who demonstrate financial need may also qualify for Direct Subsidized Loans, for which the federal government pays the interest until six months after the student withdraws or graduates from school.

STUDENTAID.GOV – the central website for federal financial aid of all types; includes link to FAFSA

Bright Futures by the Numbers

1997

year the FL legislature approved using funds from the FL Lottery to fund a scholarship program

2.8 million

number of Bright Futures scholarships given since 1997

\$6.8 billion

total dollars disbursed since 1997

81%

of BF scholarships given to students enrolled at state universities

23%

of high school graduates qualify for Bright Futures

100%

tuition paid for FLAS (FL Academic Scholars)

75%

tuition paid for FLMS (FL Medallion Scholars)

3.5 / 3.0

minimum GPA for students to qualify as FLAS / FLMS

1330 / 1210

minimum SAT score to qualify for FLAS / FLMS

29 / 25

minimum ACT score to qualify for FLAS / FLMS



U.S. News & World Report has ranked Florida No. 3 in the nation for higher education.



U.S. News & World Report ranked three Florida institutions among the top 100 public universities nationwide.



45 public technical colleges offer more than 200 programs.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS & PROGRAMS

Barry University	92
Everglades University	94
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University	96
Florida Atlantic University	98
Florida Institute of Technology	100
Florida Polytechnic University	102
Florida Southern College	104
Florida State University	106
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Miami Dade College

8 campuses, outreach centers and MDC Online • mdc.edu



INSTITUTION TYPE:
Public

CAMPUS TYPE:
Urban

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 80,437 college credit students

RETENTION RATE: 65%

GRADUATION RATE: 44%

YEAR ESTABLISHED: 1960

PRESIDENT:
Madeline Pumariega

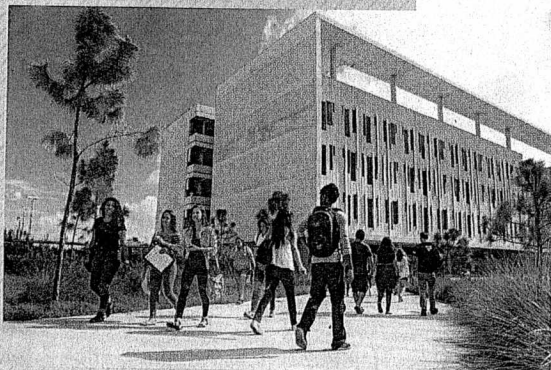
MISSION: As the recognized leader in student learning, achievement and success while enriching our community, Miami Dade College is known as Democracy's College. MDC changes lives through accessible, high-quality teaching and learning experiences and embraces its responsibility to serve as an economic, cultural and civic leader for the advancement of our diverse global community.

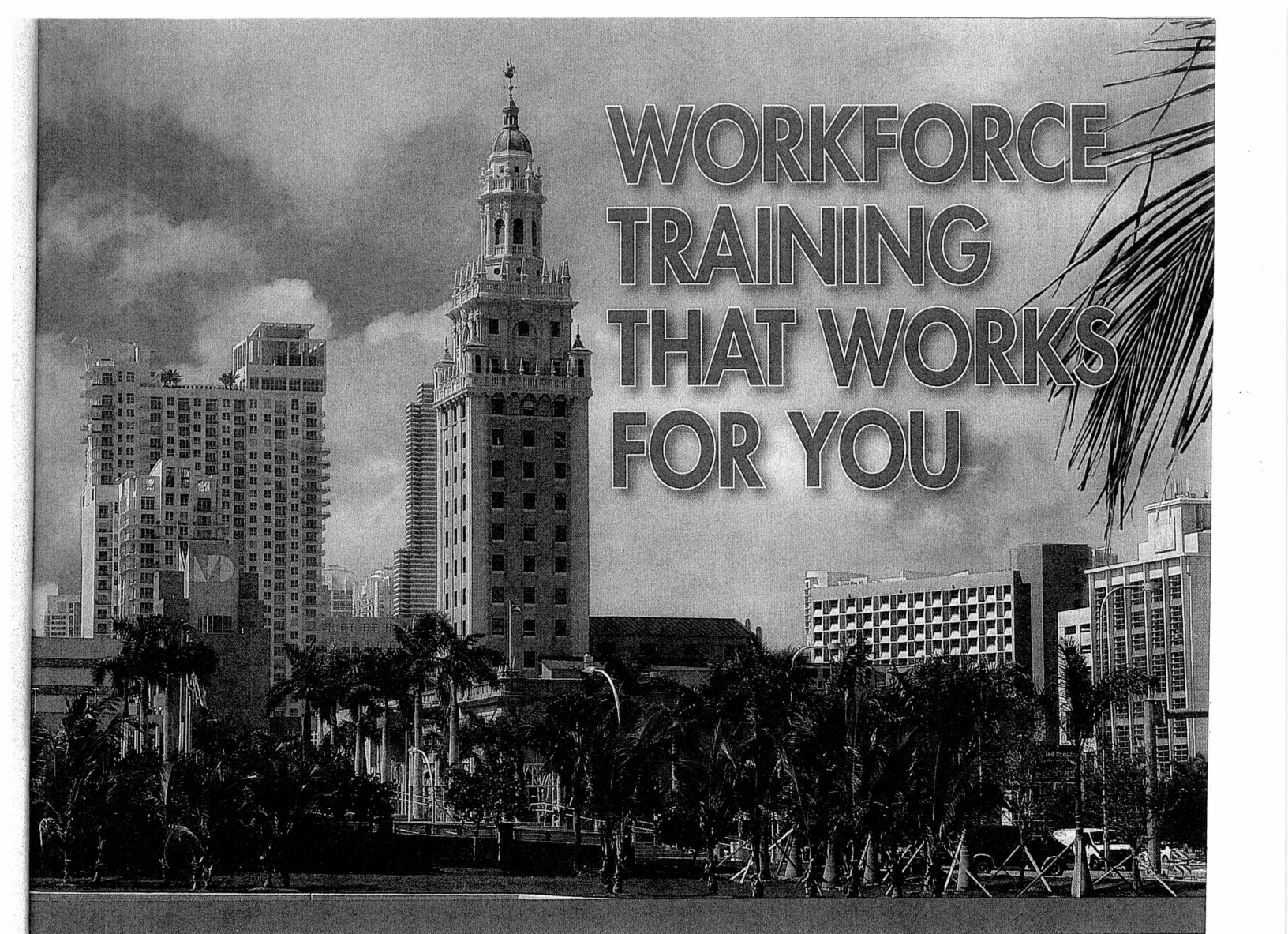
UNIQUE PROGRAMS: MDC learners have a wide array of offerings from which to choose, including more than 300 programs of study. MDC is home to the Miami Fashion Institute, Miami Culinary Institute, Miami Animation & Gaming International Complex (MAGIC), Eig-Watson School of Aviation, The Idea Center, The Honors College and School for Advanced Studies, among its most innovative programs. MAGIC offered the first AR/VR academic program in the state of Florida. And the College's partnership with Tesla enabled it to offer the first Tesla START program in the state, which trains students to be Tesla electric vehicle service technicians. MDC's Cybersecurity Center of the Americas features a state-of-the-art Cyber Range, the first of its kind in the region.

COST: MDC offers unparalleled educational value. In-state, annual tuition for an associate degree is \$3,547, and \$3,897 for a bachelor's degree. Nearly 85% of MDC's full-time, first-time students receive financial aid (average amount: \$6,027), requiring few of them to take on educational debt. In fact, only 3% of MDC students take on federal student loans.

CAMPUSES AND FACILITIES: MDC boasts eight campuses, an outreach center and online courses available across Miami-Dade County. With so many locations, chances are that everyone has an MDC campus nearby. They range in size and atmosphere from the bustling Wolfson Campus in the heart of Downtown Miami and the Padrón Campus in lively Little Havana to the vast, beautifully landscaped Kendall and North campuses and the advanced Medical Campus in the city's medical/civic center complex. Homestead Campus is home to the College's renowned aviation program, and smaller campuses including Hialeah and West have helped MDC fulfill its mission to provide access to education in fast-growing neighborhoods.

VALUE PROPOSITION: Bottom line: it pays to go to MDC. The College's graduates earn on average nearly \$49,000 a year with an associate in science degree and \$56,300 with a bachelor's degree. Furthermore, MDC boasts the fourth highest student economic mobility rate of all four-year public colleges in Florida. Alumni employment numbers make the best case for return-on-investment: 96% of MDC associate in science degree graduates, and 97% of newly minted baccalaureate degree holders, find employment.



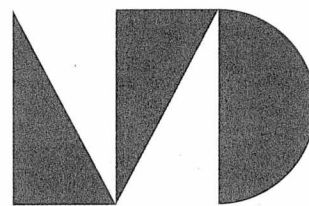


WORKFORCE TRAINING THAT WORKS FOR YOU

Making Miami and the world stronger by cultivating future leaders, **Miami Dade College** teaches the skills needed to thrive in today's economy. MDC is one of the largest and most diverse colleges in the country. It offers more than 300 academic pathways and essential training to help people advance in their existing careers or in emerging industries. Via online and in-person classes, choose from career solutions and degree options in high-demand fields such as:

- animation and gaming
- architecture
- arts and humanities
- aviation
- banking/financial services
- business
- cloud computing
- culinary arts
- cybersecurity
- economics
- electric vehicle repair
- engineering
- fashion
- hospitality management
- nursing
- physician assistant
- social sciences
- and more

Take your skills, business or career to the next level with MDC.



Miami Dade
College

Fast-tracking tomorrow's
leaders today.

mdc.edu | 305-237-8888

2 million+ students admitted | More than
300 academic pathways | associate
and bachelor's degrees, and career
certificates | 8 campuses, outreach centers
and MDC Online

DIRECTORY OF SCHOOLS

Florida's public and private colleges offer a wide range of degrees, certificates and experiences; many also offer online degree programs. Whichever path you choose, you can find the right place to pursue your goals in the Sunshine State.

STATE UNIVERSITIES

Florida A&M University
Tallahassee
(850) 599-3796
famu.edu

Florida Atlantic University
Boca Raton
(561) 297-3040
fau.edu

Florida Gulf Coast University
Fort Myers
(800) 590-3428
fgcu.edu

Florida International University
Miami
(305) 348-7000
fiu.edu

Florida Polytechnic University
Lakeland
(863) 583-9050
floridapoly.edu

Florida State University
Tallahassee
(850) 644-6200
fsu.edu

New College of Florida
Sarasota
(941) 487-5000
ncf.edu

Lake Sumter State College
Leesburg, Clermont, Sumterville
(352) 787-3747
lssc.edu

University of Central Florida
Orlando
(407) 823-2000
ucf.edu

University of Florida
Gainesville
(352) 392-1365
admissions.ufl.edu

University of North Florida
Jacksonville
(904) 620-1000
unf.edu

University of South Florida
Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee
(813) 974-3350
usf.edu

University of West Florida
Pensacola
(800) 263-1074
uwf.edu

STATE COLLEGES

Broward College
Fort Lauderdale, Coconut Creek, Davie, Miramar, Pembroke Pines, Weston
(954) 201-7350
broward.edu

Chipola College
Marianna
(850) 526-2761
chipola.edu

College of Central Florida
Ocala, Chiefland, Lecanto
(352) 873-5800
cf.edu

Daytona State College
Daytona Beach, DeLand, Deltona, New Smyrna Beach, Palm Coast
(386) 506-3059
daytonastate.edu

Eastern Florida State College
Cocoa, Melbourne, Palm Bay, Titusville
(321) 632-1111
easternflorida.edu

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Lake City, Bell, Cross City, Olustee
(386) 752-1822
fgc.edu

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Key West, Marathon, Tavernier
(305) 296-9081
fkcc.edu

Florida SouthWestern State College
Fort Myers, LaBelle, Naples, Punta Gorda
(800) 749-2322
fsw.edu

Florida State College at Jacksonville
Jacksonville, Yulee
(904) 646-2300
fscj.edu

Gulf Coast State College
Panama City, Port St. Joe, Southport, Tyndall Air Force Base
(850) 769-1551
gulfcoast.edu

Hillsborough Community College
Tampa, Brandon, MacDill Air Force Base, Plant City, Riverview, Ruskin
(813) 253-7000
hccfl.edu

Indian River State College
Fort Pierce, Indiantown, Okeechobee, Port St. Lucie, Sebastian, Stuart, Vero Beach
(772) 462-4722
irsc.edu

Lake-Sumter State College
Leesburg, Clermont, Sumterville
(352) 787-3747
lssc.edu

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Miami, Doral, Hialeah, Homestead
(305) 237-8888
mdc.edu

North Florida Community College
Madison
(850) 973-2288
nfcc.edu

Northwest Florida State College
Niceville, Crestview, DeFuniak Springs, Fort Walton Beach, Hurlburt Field, Santa Rosa Beach
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Lake Worth, Belle Glade, Boca Raton, Loxahatchee Groves, Palm Beach Gardens
(561) 967-7222
palmbeachstate.edu

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(850) 484-1000
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Winter Haven, Bartow, Lake Wales, Lakeland
(863) 297-1000
polk.edu

Santa Fe College
Gainesville, Alachua, Archer, Keystone Heights, Starke
(352) 395-7322
sfcollege.edu

Seminole State College of Florida
Sanford, Altamonte Springs, Heathrow, Oviedo
(407) 708-4722
seminolestate.edu

South Florida State College
Avon Park, Arcadia, Bowling Green, Lake Placid
(863) 453-6661
southflorida.edu

St. Johns River State College
Palatka, Orange Park, St. Augustine
(386) 312-4030
sjrstate.edu

St. Petersburg College
St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo, Pinellas Park, Seminole, Tarpon Springs
(727) 341-4772
spcollege.edu

State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota
Bradenton, Lakewood Ranch, Venice
(941) 752-5000
scf.edu

Tallahassee Community College
Tallahassee, Havana
(850) 201-8555
tcc.fl.edu

Valencia College
Orlando, Kissimmee, Winter Park
(407) 582-1807
valenciacollege.edu



NEWS

All Floridians 18 and older to be eligible for COVID-19 vaccine on April 5



March 25, 2021 at 9:35 AM EDT - Updated March 25 at 11:21 PM

In less than two weeks, all Florida residents ages 18 and older will be able to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

Gov. Ron DeSantis announced Thursday morning that starting on Monday, April 5, he'll open the vaccine up to "all individuals age 18 and older."

In addition, starting on Monday, March 29, all Florida residents 40 and older will be eligible to receive the vaccine.

"We're ready to take this step," DeSantis said in a short video released on social media. "We want to keep up that momentum as we expand eligibility to other age groups throughout the state of Florida."

WATCH GOVERNOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT:

Gov. Ron DeSantis says all adults will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccine beginning April 5

According to the latest numbers from the Florida Department of Health, 5,205,239 people have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in the Sunshine State, including more than 3.2 million senior citizens ages 65 and older.

COVID-19 doses for vaccinated persons in Florida	
Doses	7,872,070
<small>People receiving one dose of a 1-dose series (Johnson & Johnson) or receiving only one dose of a 2-dose series (Moderna, Pfizer) count once. Persons receiving both doses of a 2-dose series count twice.</small>	

Current status of persons vaccinated for COVID-19 in Florida	
Total people vaccinated	5,205,239
First dose	2,351,572
Series completed	2,853,667
Completed 1-dose series	186,836
Completed 2-dose series	2,666,831
<small>First dose: current number of people who have only received their first dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine. Series complete: current number of people who have received both Moderna or Pfizer vaccine doses or one Johnson & Johnson dose and are considered fully immunized.</small>	

Demographic summary	First dose	Series complete	Total people vaccinated
Age group	2,351,572	2,853,667	5,205,239
16-24 years	61,234	33,809	95,043
25-34 years	126,442	108,069	234,511
35-44 years	176,276	140,283	316,559
45-54 years	265,813	183,758	449,571
55-64 years	603,950	288,811	892,761
65-74 years	617,308	1,179,593	1,796,901
75-84 years	370,565	684,761	1,055,326
85+ years	129,984	234,583	364,567
Race	2,351,572	2,853,667	5,205,239
American Indian/Alaskan	9,090	10,169	19,259
Black	152,305	176,671	328,976
Other	207,470	317,545	525,015
Unknown	422,631	383,157	805,788
White	1,560,076	1,966,125	3,526,201
<small>Other race includes Asian, native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, or other.</small>			
Ethnicity	2,351,572	2,853,667	5,205,239
Hispanic	307,076	332,138	639,214
Non-Hispanic	1,127,973	1,548,091	2,676,064
Unknown	916,523	973,438	1,889,961
Gender	2,351,572	2,853,667	5,205,239
Female	1,344,619	1,646,344	2,990,963
Male	994,361	1,204,255	2,198,616
Unknown	12,592	3,068	15,660

"Florida's 'Seniors First' vaccine strategy is paying off," DeSantis said. "We've now vaccinated over 70% of the roughly 4.4 million seniors living in the state."

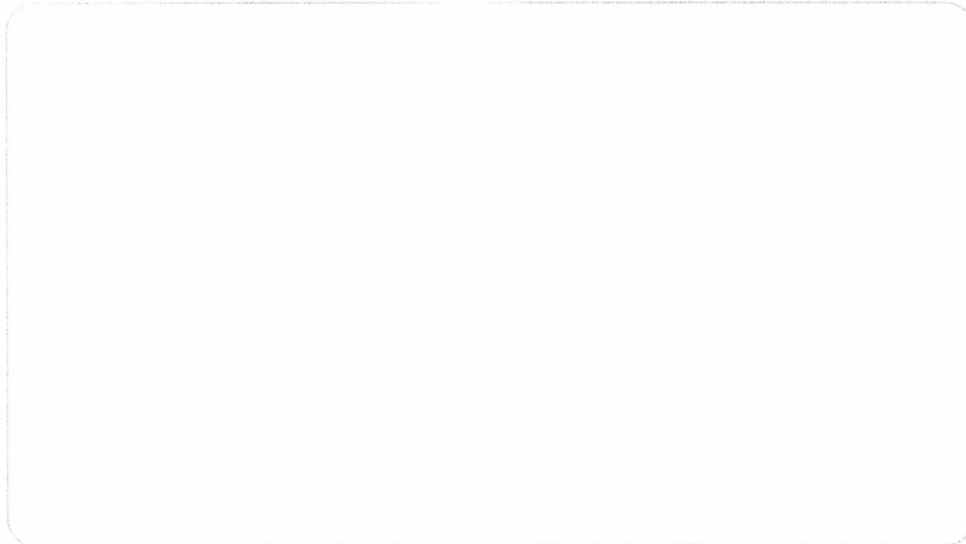
Floridians are encouraged to pre-register for the vaccine on a state-operated website by [clicking here](#). You'll then be contacted when a vaccine appointment is available in your area.

You can currently receive the COVID-19 vaccine in Florida at Publix, CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Sam's Club, and Winn-Dixie pharmacies, as well as county and state-run sites and federally-operated vaccination locations in Miami, Orlando, Tampa, and Jacksonville.

"There are now 1,600 pharmacies located throughout the state of Florida offering COVID vaccines," DeSantis said.



I'm pleased to announce that beginning this Monday, March 29, all Floridians age 40 and older will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Beginning the following Monday, April 5, all Floridians age 18 and older will be eligible.



9:05 AM · Mar 25, 2021



♥ 15.5K 💬 4.1K ↗ Share this Tweet

Publix is currently booking appointments every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday starting at 7 a.m. To book a COVID-19 vaccine appointment at Publix, **click here**.

Appointments at CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Sam's Club, and Winn-Dixie can be made at any time.

To make an appointment at CVS, **click here**.

To make an appointment at Walgreens, **click here**.

To make an appointment at Walmart and Sam's Club, **click here**.

To make an appointment at Winn Dixie, **click here**.

The four federally-operated vaccination sites do not require an appointment. The closest in South Florida is at Miami-Dade College's North Campus, located at 11380 Northwest 27th Avenue in Miami. For more information about the federal vaccination sites, as well as additional state-run sites in our area, **click here**.

RELATED: Palm Beach County Vice Mayor says we're 'turning the corner' on COVID-19 pandemic

Earlier this month, President Joe Biden directed all states to make all adults eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine by May 1. DeSantis has said for weeks that Florida will easily meet that deadline.

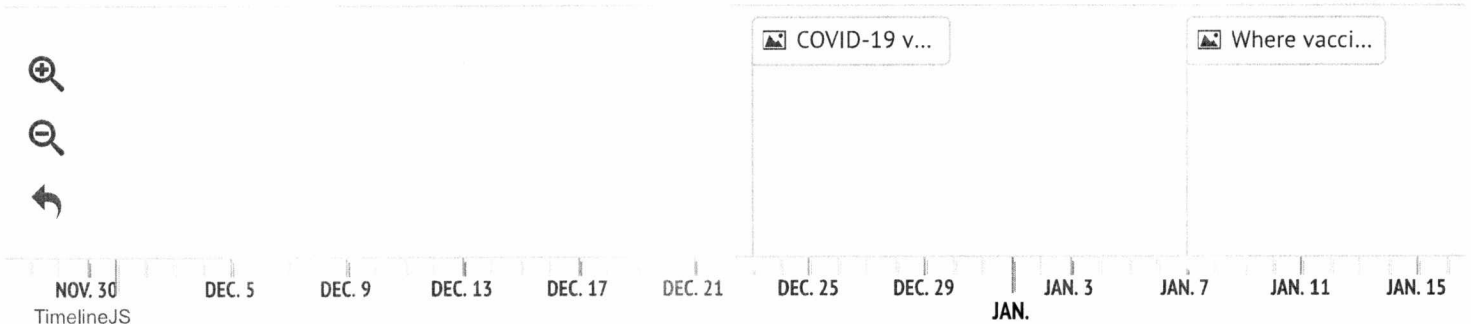
"We've made great progress and I look forward to continuing to work hard to make sure everyone in Florida who wants a shot can get a shot," DeSantis said.

COVID-19 VACCINE IN FLORIDA

WPTV takes a look back at Florida's rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine and how we got to where we are today.



COVID-19 VACCINE COMES TO FLORIDA



Scripps Only Content 2021

ALL FLORIDIANS 18 YEARS AND OLDER WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE COVID-19 VACCINE ON APRIL 5

🕒 March 25, 2021 05:21 📍 U.S. 👁 1 Views



TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – In less than two weeks, all Florida residents age 18 and older will be able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Governor Ron DeSantis announced Thursday morning that starting Monday, April 5, he will open the vaccine to “everyone over 18 years of age.”

Additionally, beginning Monday, March 29, all Floridians over the age of 40 will be eligible to receive the vaccine.

“We are ready to take this step,” DeSantis said in a short video posted on social media. “We want to maintain that momentum as we expand eligibility to other age groups throughout the state of Florida.”

WATCH THE GOVERNOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT:

All Floridians 18 years and older will be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine on April 5

According to the latest figures from the Florida Department of Health, 5,205,239 people have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in the Sunshine State, including more than 3.2 million people 65 and older.

“Florida’s ‘Seniors First’ vaccine strategy is paying off,” DeSantis said. “We have now vaccinated more than 70% of the approximately 4.4 million older people who live in the state.”

Floridians are encouraged to pre-register for the vaccine on a website operated by the state by **by clicking here**. We will then contact you when a vaccination appointment is available in your area.

You can currently receive the COVID-19 vaccine in Florida at Publix, CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Sam’s Club, and Winn-Dixie pharmacies, as well as at county and state administered sites and federally administered vaccination sites. in Miami, Orlando, Tampa. and Jacksonville.

“There are now 1,600 pharmacies located throughout the state of Florida that offer COVID vaccines,” DeSantis said.

Publix is currently booking appointments every Monday, Wednesday and Friday starting at 7 am. To book an appointment for the COVID-19 vaccine at Publix, **Click here**.

Appointments can be made at CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Sam’s Club, and Winn-Dixie at any time.

To make an appointment at CVS, **Click here**.

To make an appointment at Walgreens, **Click here**.

To make an appointment at Walmart and Sam’s Club, **Click here**.

To make an appointment at Winn Dixie, **Click here**.



The four federally run vaccination sites do not require an appointment. The closest one in South Florida is on the North Campus of Miami-Dade College, located at 11380 Northwest 27th Avenue in Miami. For more information on federal vaccination sites, as well as additional state-run sites in our area, **Click here**.

RELATED: Palm Beach County Deputy Mayor Says We’re ‘Turning the Corner’ in the COVID-19 Pandemic

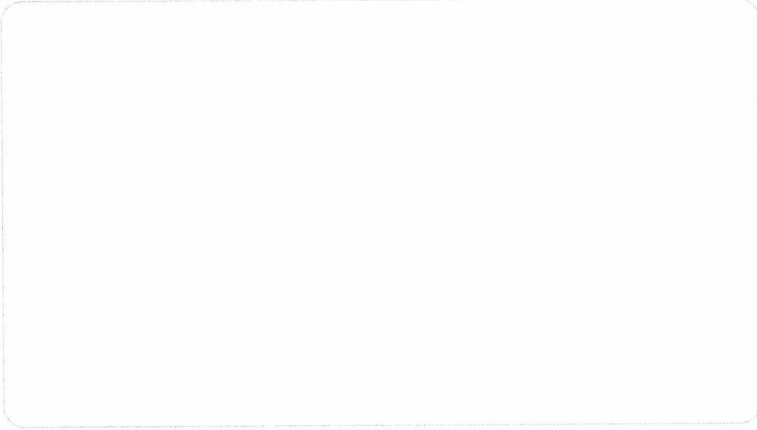
Earlier this month, President Joe Biden directed all states to make all adults eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine by May 1. DeSantis has said for weeks that Florida will easily meet that deadline.


“We have made great progress and I look forward to continuing to work hard to make sure that everyone in Florida who wants a vaccine can do so,” DeSantis said.






Ron DeSantis 
@GovRonDeSantis 

I'm pleased to announce that beginning this Monday, March 29, all Floridians age 40 and older will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Beginning the following Monday, April 5, all Floridians age 18 and older will be eligible.



9:05 AM · Mar 25, 2021 

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FLORIDA

Floridians 18+ will be able to receive COVID-19 vaccine starting April 5

Vaccines for 40+ begins Monday, March 29

Amanda Batchelor, Managing Editor

Madeleine Wright, Reporter

Published: **March 25, 2021, 9:10 am**

Updated: **March 26, 2021, 12:00 am**

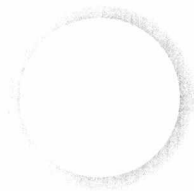
Tags: **Coronavirus, Florida**





Gov. Ron DeSantis said Thursday that all Floridians 40 and older will be eligible to receive the vaccine next Monday, March 29, and everyone ages 18 and older will be eligible on the following Monday, April 5.

People looking to receive the vaccine are still encouraged to pre-register through the state's website: **myvaccine.fl.gov**. (To register for vaccines sites run by Miami-Dade County, go to **miamidade.gov/vaccine**.)



Once pre-registered, people will be contacted when the vaccine is available in their area.

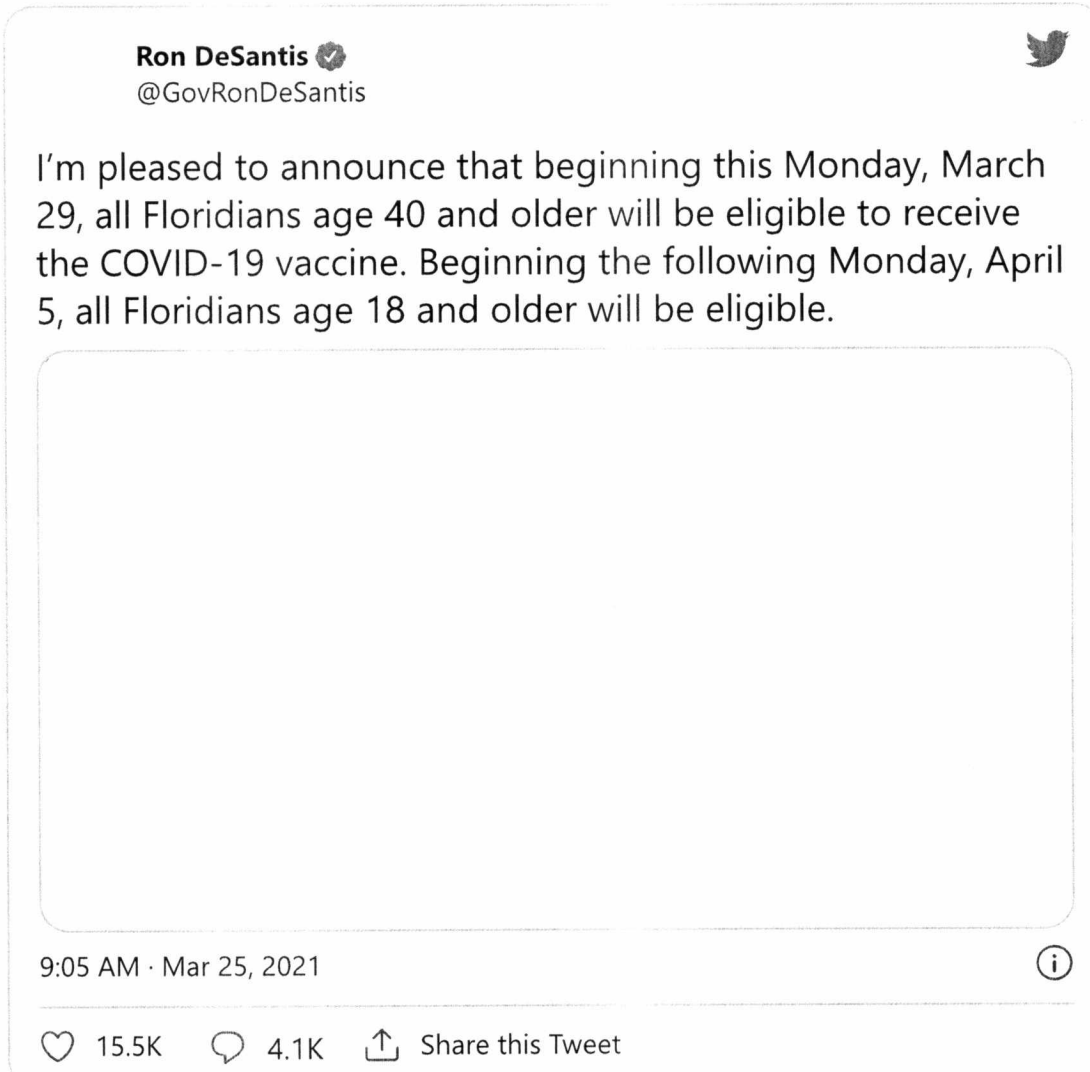
Floridians can also call the vaccine preregistration phone number for their county. **Click here** to find the number for your area.

Ad



In a video announcement, DeSantis confirmed that more than 3.2 million seniors have received the vaccine so far in Florida.

“We’ve now vaccinated over 70% of the roughly 4.4 million seniors living in the state,” he said. “We’ve also made great progress on those age 60 to 64 and on those age 50 and older, and we’re ready to take this step.”



In addition to state and local distribution sites, “vaccines are also available at 150 CVS locations, 125 Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club locations, more than 70 Winn Dixie locations, soon-to-be over 600 Walgreens pharmacies, and every single one of the 730 Publix pharmacies across the state,” a news release from the governor’s office stated.

Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava commended the governor for lowering the age requirement ahead of the May 1 deadline given by the Biden administration.

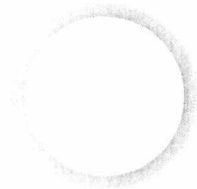
“I commend the Governor for following the lead of communities like Miami-Dade that moved forward with



sites, the mayor said in a statement. Miami Dade has now vaccinated 75% percent of seniors 65+ with over 650,000 of our residents having received at least a first dose. We are now ramping up a more aggressive community-wide public engagement campaign in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole to ensure that with expanded eligibility to all adults on April 5, every resident knows they can get a shot. And starting this Monday, all residents 40+ can get a vaccine at any vaccination site in Miami-Dade.

Ad

"This is our clearest path to return to normal and put this pandemic behind us, and I will be working with our community to ensure all our residents get vaccinated. Get your shot, Miami-Dade."



Demand for the vaccine across South Florida remains high.

On Wednesday, the FEMA-funded site at Miami Dade College's North Campus ran out of all 500 doses allocated for first-time recipients.



"We had a lady who actually showed up here. She had brought her mother and she was crying because she could not get her mother vaccinated. It's heartbreaking," site lead Bruce Roberts said.

But about two hours after they ran out, an extra shipment of vaccines arrived to save the day.

"So we'll collaborate with the health department and we'll say, 'Hey, let us know if we have extra at the CVS or a Publix or somewhere that has not met that mark,' and so we were like, 'We can do it and we can receive those and we can actually get 'em out,' and actually that's what happened," Roberts said.

Ad

In the end, staff ended up administering 2,000 first doses. That's four times the initial supply.

But while staff members were waiting for that extra shipment, they turned away 50 to 100 people who showed up for their first dose.

One man, identified only as Victor, was told to try again Thursday morning, so he came back at 6:30 a.m. to secure his spot and this time he succeeded.

"It was good," he said. "We had the opportunity to get it today."

The site lead said he's unsure whether they might get an extra shipment Thursday, so for now, just 500 first doses will be available through April 7.

There are plenty of second doses to go around.

Related links

List of cases by city in South Florida

Find a COVID-19 testing site near you

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Here's how people 18 and older can get on a COVID-19 vaccine wait list in Florida

Michelle Marchante

Thu, March 25, 2021, 12:22 PM

All Floridians 18 and older will soon be able to get a COVID-19 vaccine. And you don't have to wait until April 5 to sign up for a shot.

Florida has a statewide preregistration system that allows you to sign up for a vaccination wait list. So does Miami-Dade County. Anyone who pre-registers for a vaccine appointment will be notified when slots become available.

While proof of Florida residency is required, you don't have to get the shot in the county you live in. And you can pre-register for both lists to see which one gets you an appointment first.

Here's how it works:

How to pre-register for a COVID-19 vaccine in Florida

Anyone who pre-registers through Florida's statewide system will be put on a wait list for state-run sites. The website is myvaccine.fl.gov. You can also pre-register by phone.

For Miami-Dade, call 888-499-0840 or TTY 888-256-8918. For Broward, call 866-201-6313 or TTY 844-252-2003. For Monroe, call 866-201-7069 or TTY 833-990-2908. To find the designated number for another county, visit floridahealthcovid19.gov.

State-run sites in Miami-Dade include Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens and Marlins Park in Miami.

State-run sites in Broward County include Snyder Park in Fort Lauderdale, Coral Square Mall in Coral Springs, Markham Park in Sunrise, Tree Tops Park in Davie, Trade Winds Park in Coconut Creek and Central

Regional Park in Lauderhill, and Broward College's Coconut Creek campus.

TIP: Some state-run sites don't require appointments, including Bucky Dent Park in Hialeah, Overtown Youth Center and Oak Grove Park in Miami. So once you're eligible, you can just show up and wait in line for your dose. As a reminder, Florida's age criteria drops from 50 to 40 Monday. It then drops to 18 on April 5.

How to pre-register for a COVID-19 vaccine in Miami-Dade County

Anyone who pre-registers through Miami-Dade County's online portal miamidade.gov/vaccine will be put on a wait list for county-run sites Zoo Miami, Tropical Park and the Homestead Sports Complex. You can also call 305-614-2014 to preregister.

What about at FEMA sites?

The only federally-supported vaccination site in South Florida that accepts appointments is the one at Miami Dade College North campus. You can pre-register for a shot through the statewide preregistration system but officials say it's probably faster to show up (once you're eligible, of course).

The MDC North site accepts walk-ins and the wait hasn't been long these past couple of days. But remember, the site will be offering first and second dose Pfizer shots until April 7. After that, it will only give second Pfizer doses.

The two FEMA pop-up sites that move across the county are only administering second Pfizer doses. The sites are in Sweetwater and Florida City through March 31 and will then move to North Miami Beach and Miami Springs.

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/people-18-older-covid-19-162227238.html>

Daily Caller - <https://dailycaller.com>

HEALTH

Is 'Natural Immunity' Better Than A Coronavirus Vaccine?



(Win McNamee/Getty Images)

DAILY CALLER NEWS FOUNDATION

ANDREW TRUNSKY
ELECTIONS REPORTER

March 25, 2021
8:23 PM ET

FONT SIZE: **+** **-**

- **It's not clear whether infection or a vaccine provides a stronger immune response, but experts urge Americans to get vaccinated when eligible due to how effective they are known to be.**
- **"Natural immunity" from contracting the virus provides a strong response, but initial studies have suggested that vaccines may provide an even stronger one, since the exact level of natural protection varies from person to person and may wane over time.**
- **"Vaccines are designed to produce a strong and effective immune response," Dr. Ellen Foxman, an assistant professor of immunobiology at the Yale School of**

Medicine, told the DCNF. “We really don’t know how protective a previous infection is in every case. But we do have a lot of data about the efficacy of vaccines.”

Since the coronavirus vaccines were approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) last December, some have suggested that they were unnecessary for those who have already had COVID-19, arguing that “natural immunity” was more effective than immunity granted by vaccines.

Kentucky Republican Sen. Rand Paul, who had COVID-19 last year, suggested in February that “naturally acquired” cases were 99.9982% effective against reinfection, a number greater than the protection rates offered by the three authorized vaccines. But at this point, experts say, we do not definitively know whether infection or a vaccine provides a stronger response.

Most initial studies have suggested that while “natural immunity” does offer a strong response, vaccines may provide an even stronger one. And even though immunity built after contracting the virus may be quite robust at first, it is impossible to know the exact level of protection it provides and could even decrease over time, Dr. William Hanage, an associate professor of epidemiology at Harvard’s T.H. Chan School of Public Health, told the Daily Caller News Foundation.

“Nobody knows *exactly* how protected they are. Immunity varies from person to person, and wanes somewhat over time. Reinfection is certainly possible,” Hanage said, adding that after about eight months it may decrease to a point that permits reinfection in approximately 10% of people.

Even though experts are not exactly sure how long immunity lasts from a vaccine, the Centers for Disease Control still recommends it, since vaccines, at the very least, offer protection without the risk of long-term health complications or death from the virus itself.

“Vaccines are designed to produce a strong and effective immune response,” Dr. Ellen Foxman, an assistant professor of immunobiology and laboratory medicine at the Yale

School of Medicine, told the DCNF. “Although you can sometimes [generate a response] after being infected, we really don’t know how protective a previous infection is in every case. But we do have a lot of data about the efficacy of vaccines.”

“For that reason, once there are enough vaccines available, it absolutely makes sense to get one even if you have recovered from COVID. Then you can be sure you are protected and eliminate the guess work,” Foxman added. **(RELATED: COVID-19 Could Reinfect Old People Who Aren’t Vaccinated, Study Shows)**



An Army soldier from the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, helps give COVID-19 vaccinations at the Miami Dade College North Campus on March 09, 2021. (Joe Raedle/Getty Images)

Breaking Down The Vaccines

The three coronavirus vaccines granted emergency approval in the United States are from Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson.

All three are overwhelmingly safe and effective, according to the FDA, Centers for Disease Control, and the vast majority of health experts. Real-world analysis from Israel has shown Pfizer’s vaccine to be over 97% effective overall and 94% effective against asymptomatic spread, while trial results from Moderna and Johnson & Johnson’s vaccines have shown them to be nearly 95% and 72% effective, respectively.



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Johnson & Johnson's vaccine, while slightly lower than the other two in preventing overall spread, was 85% effective in preventing symptomatic cases and 100% effective in preventing coronavirus-related hospitalizations and deaths. **(RELATED: Johnson & Johnson Begins Shipping 4 Million Doses Nationwide)**

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine, approved in February, was designed to be fully administered in just one dose, while Pfizer and Moderna's vaccines were designed to be given as two doses administered three and four weeks apart, respectively.



People line up at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore, Maryland, to get vaccinated on March 20, 2021. (ERIC BARADAT/AFP via Getty Images)

Despite the differences between the vaccines, public health experts have urged Americans to not discriminate between them and receive whichever is available once they are eligible.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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1

“[Each vaccine undergoes] a very careful vetting process for both safety and efficacy,” Foxman said. “Therefore, any FDA-approved vaccine is a great choice. It cannot protect you if you have not gotten it yet, therefore my advice would be to get the first vaccine available to you, as soon as possible.”

In multiple polls regarding Americans’ willingness to receive the vaccine, those opposed have often expressed hesitancy due to possible side effects including but not limited to aches, swelling and fatigue. And while they can be uncomfortable or even painful for up to several days, side effects are temporary and a sign that your body is actively building immunity to COVID-19, according to the CDC. **(RELATED: Trump Recommends Coronavirus Vaccine To Those Who Don’t Want It)**

Do Coronavirus Variants Increase The Risk Of Reinfection?

Nobody knows exactly how much new variants increase the chance of reinfection, but the emergence of some that may be more transmissible and lethal have led to recent surges across the globe.

“It is strongly suspected that some variants ... are better at causing reinfections,” Hanage said. “The [Brazilian] variant has been associated with a very large surge of infections that overwhelmed healthcare, even in communities that we thought had a very large amount of immunity from prior infection. We are extremely concerned about the potential of these variants to cause disease in unvaccinated individuals, whether or not they have previously been infected [with COVID-19].”

“Multiple studies show that vaccination [among those who have been previously infected] produces greater immunity than they have already,” Hanage added. “The resulting immunity is higher, which means that it is more likely to protect against variants, and there is evidence from laboratory studies that this is the case.”

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MARCH 24, 2021

AstraZeneca seeks emergency approval by FDA to be used in US; FEMA-supported vaccination sites relocate

[Elitsa Bizios](#) | [Andrew Scheinthal](#) | [7 News WSVN](#)

SWEETWATER, FLA. (WSVN) - It has been smooth sailing at Federal Emergency Management Agency vaccination sites in South Florida, as a fourth vaccine maker is looking to get its shot approved in the United States.

Guests lined up to receive their second vaccine dose as part of a rotating vaccination system. Sites that were set up at South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center and at Charles Hadley Park relocated to Ronselli Park in Sweetwater and the Florida City Youth Activity Center at 9 a.m. on Wednesday.

- **Related: [Where to get the COVID-19 vaccine in South Florida](#)**

Only second doses will be administered at the sites to those who were vaccinated with their first dose three weeks ago at the same location.

"I like that you don't need an appointment," said Stefanie Harris. "I think it's, you know, I actually see our tax dollars at work, which makes me happy."

One nurse spoke with 7News about why she got the vaccine.

"It's better if you do get it, looking at the percentage, you know," she said. "It's just better to protect yourself."

7News cameras captured people already lining up to receive their second dose of the vaccine before 6 a.m. The sites will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Miami-Dade College North vaccination site, the largest in South Florida, is distributing second doses to those who need one, as well as 500 first doses per day.

The state on Tuesday reported 5,300 new cases of the virus and a positivity rate of 6.5%.

To help reign in the pandemic, AstraZeneca plans to seek emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

While some are concerned about the drug's safety, Florida International University infectious disease expert Dr. Aileen Marty said the evidence isn't there.

"It's not something that we have the data to support at this time, so it may be just as safe as other vaccines," she said.

With Moderna, Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccinating tens of millions of people weekly, Marty said AstraZeneca may be too late to the game.

"We don't necessarily need an additional vaccine in the United States at this time," she said.

On Wednesday afternoon, Washington gave a COVID response update.

"Every day, two and a half to three million people get vaccinated," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, Chief Medical Advisor to the President, "so every day we get closer and closer to that extraordinary degree of effectiveness."

Those planning to receive their second dose of the vaccine at a FEMA-supported site must bring with them their CDC shot card as well as their Florida-issued identification card.

Additionally, those planning on receiving the first dose of the Pfizer vaccine must visit one of the four hub sites and not the satellite sites.

Also on Wednesday, Hialeah Mayor Carlos Hernandez announced a new COVID-19 walk-up vaccination site will open at Babcock Park. Anyone who is a Florida resident can get vaccinated at the site. The site will offer 200 appointments daily starting Monday.

Homebound seniors who are Hialeah residents can register to schedule appointments by calling 305-863-2955.

"We will have teams going out there to vaccinate these individuals and also their caretakers, if they wish to be vaccinated," Hernandez said.

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NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

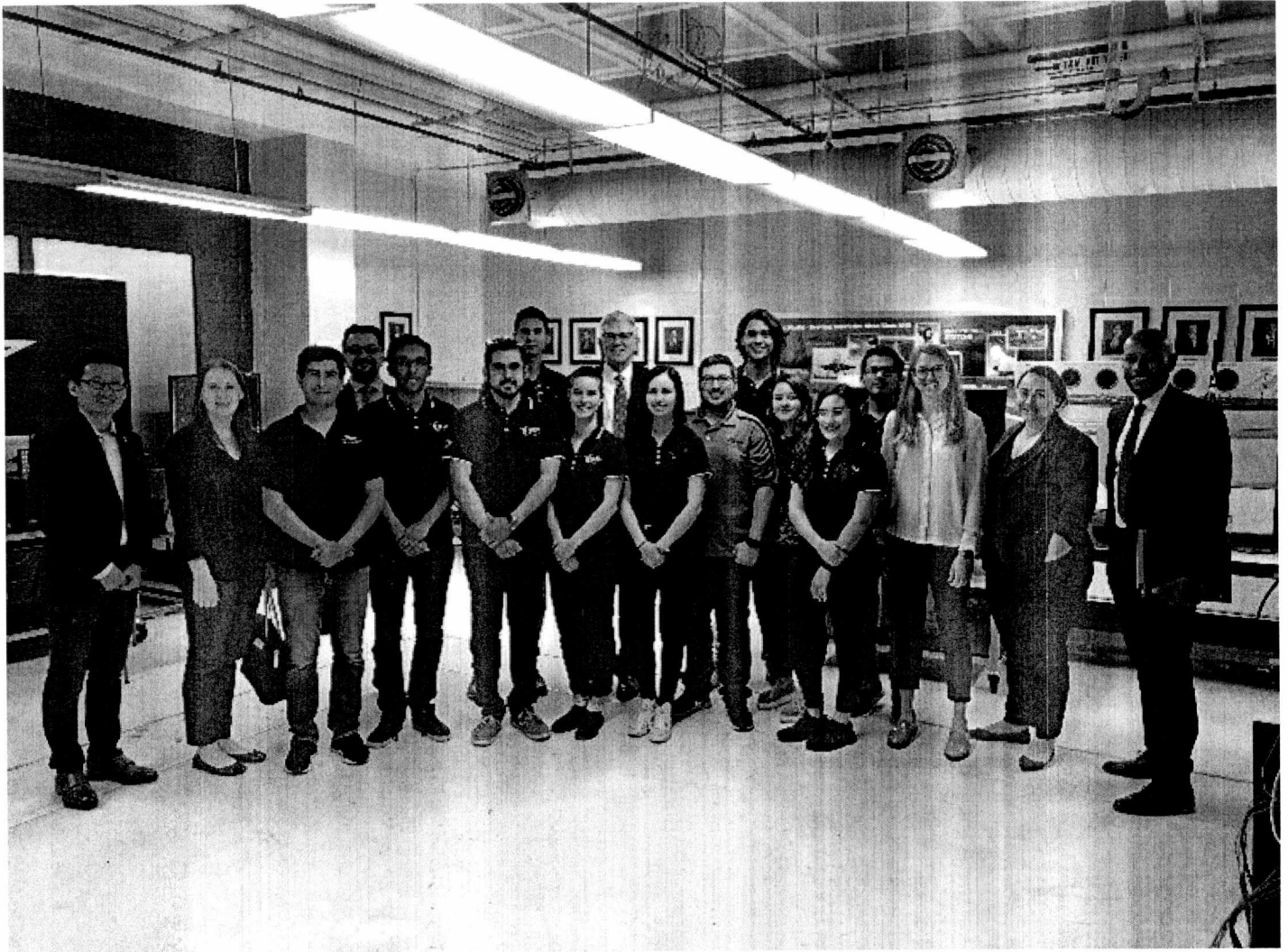
National Nuclear Security Administration

NNSA's Minority Serving Institution Partnership Program's expansion strengthens the STEM pipeline

MARCH 26, 2021

National Nuclear Security Administration »

NNSA's Minority Serving Institution Partnership Program's expansion strengthens the STEM pipeline



Students in the MSIPP program tour an advanced manufacturing lab in El Paso, Texas, in 2019.

NNSA's Minority Serving Institution Partnership Program (MSIPP) invests in educational and research capacity, as well as student enrichment activities, to support a diversified, highly skilled, and enduring STEM pipeline of individuals advancing America's nuclear security agenda. In the fall, it grew to include five new consortia across 15 schools.

MSIPP investments now support a total of 13 consortium-based teams across 33 institutions composed of 14 Historically Black Colleges and Universities, five Tribal Colleges and Universities, and 14 Hispanic Serving Institutions. The strategic partnerships developed between the universities and their NNSA lab, plant, and site partners allow students and faculty to participate in collaborative cutting-edge research while making immediate contributions to the crucial mission of the Nuclear Security Enterprise.

"NNSA is proud of the growth MSIPP has experienced while increasing consortia partnerships from six to 13 in less than two years," said NNSA Deputy Associate Administrator for Management Marcus Lea. "Students are the heart of this program and despite the challenges we've faced due to COVID-19, we were able to support over 120 students this summer through

virtual internships and other enrichment activities, successfully sustaining MSIPP's STEM pipeline."

The five new consortia across 15 schools include the following: (lead institutions are marked by a *):

- **Advanced Sensors Technologies for Applications in Electrical Engineering – Research and Innovation Excellence Consortium**
 - Florida International University*
 - Florida A&M University
 - Miami Dade College

- **Consortium Hybrid Resilient Energy System**
 - Universidad Ana G. Mendez-Gurabo*
 - Universidad de Puerto Rico Mayaguez
 - University of New Mexico
 - University of Texas at El Paso

- **Consortium for Nuclear Security Advanced Manufacturing Enhanced by Machine Learning**
 - North Carolina Central University*
 - Elizabeth City State University
 - Southern University at Baton Rouge

- **Scholarly Partnership in Nuclear Security**
 - Alabama A&M University*
 - Navajo Technical University
 - University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras

- **Successful Training and Effective Pipelines to National Laboratories with STEM Core**
 - North Carolina A&T State University*
 - Navajo Technical University
 - New Mexico State University

[Click here to learn more about MSIPP at NNSA.](#)



Participants at the 2019 MSIPP Technical Meeting in El Paso, Texas.

National Nuclear Security Administration

1000 Independence Ave., S.W.

Washington, DC 20585

Phone: 202-586-5000

Media Inquiries: 202-586-7371



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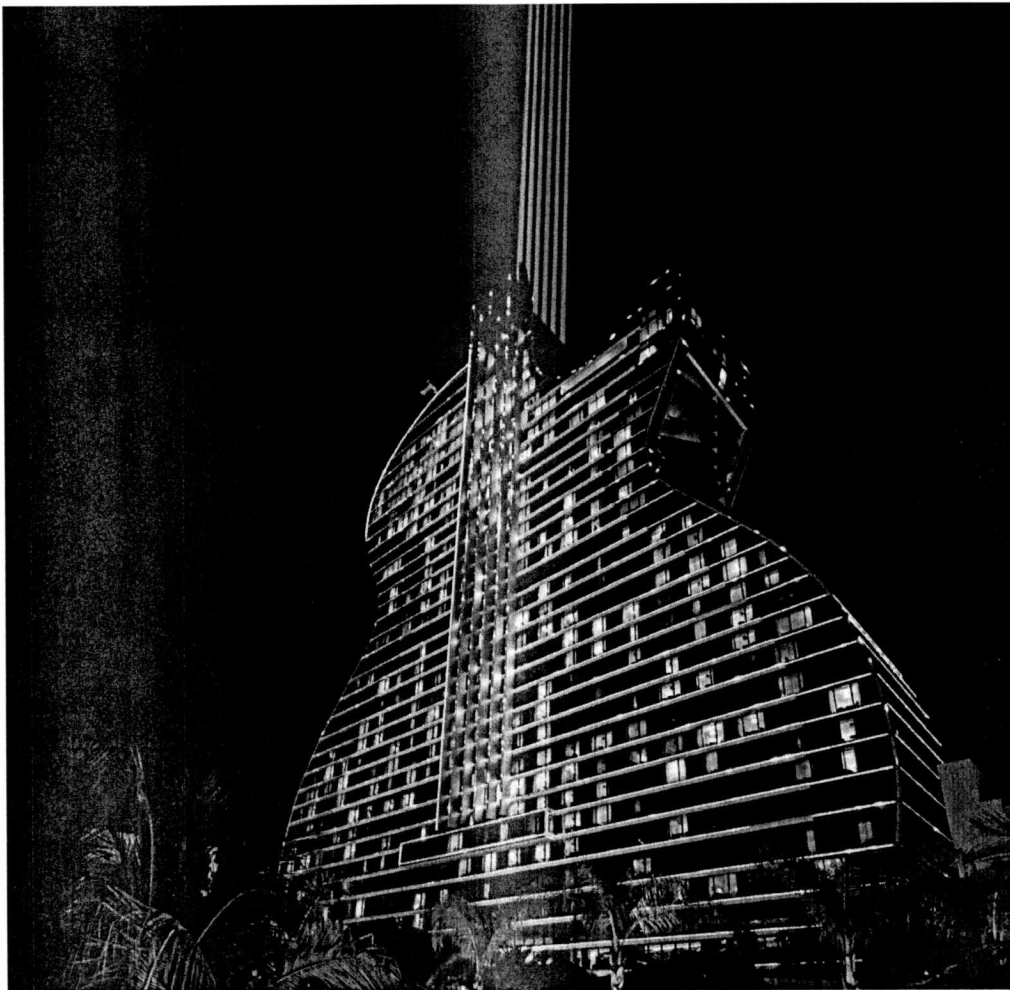
Dan Marino Foundation Honors Autism Awareness

The foundation will host a virtual 1.3 With Me for Autism run and encourage South Florida buildings to light up in blue beginning April 2

By **Site Staff** - March 25, 2021

The Dan Marino Foundation and Walgreens will present 1.3 With Me for Autism, a virtual run/walk fundraiser, from April 2-13 in honor of World Autism Awareness Day (Friday, April 2) and World Autism Month. Participants can complete their 1.3 mile run or walk at their own pace in teams or individually to raise awareness about autism.

Local schools from pre-kindergarten to twelfth grade can create teams to help raise funds for special needs programming. Twenty percent of what a school raises will go back to the school's special needs programming if a minimum of \$250 is raised. Every dollar raised through this effort benefits the Dan Marino Foundation's work with South Florida's autism community. Individual tickets for 1.3 With Me for Autism cost \$25.



Hard Rock Hotel & Casino will light up blue for World Autism Month.

The foundation will also invite South Florida's iconic buildings and homes to "Go Blue" (the internationally-recognized color for autism) in honor of Autism Awareness Day on April 2. The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Guitar Hotel, downtown Fort Lauderdale's Bank of America Building, and the Freedom Tower in Downtown Miami have committed to raising awareness by lighting their buildings in blue. Supporters are encouraged to join the Dan Marino Foundation by lighting their homes or businesses in blue and are encouraged to share images of participating buildings and individuals on

social media tagging the Dan Marino Foundation on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter and use the hashtag #DMFwearsblue.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities, please email Tammy Long, Director of Community Engagement and Events, at tlong@danmarinofoundation.com

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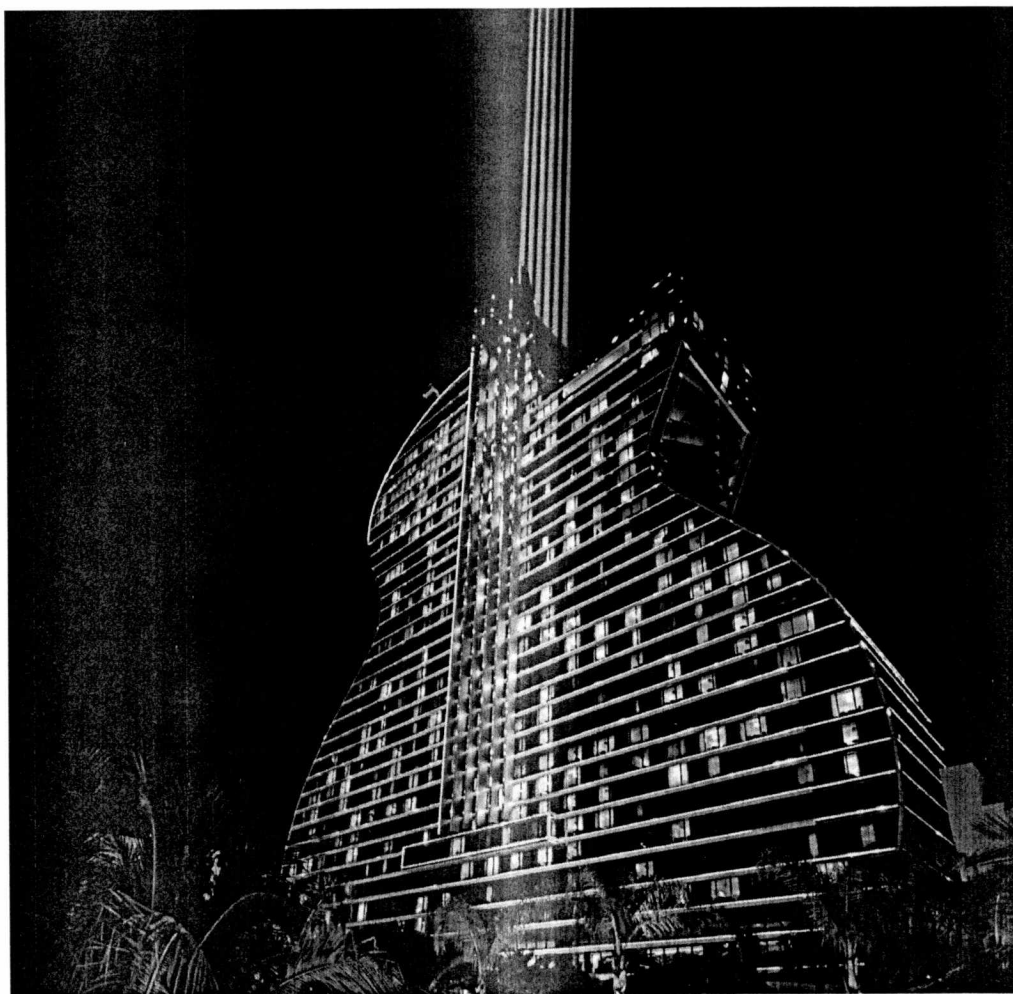
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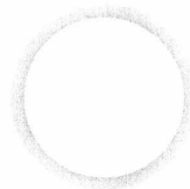
New American citizens sworn in at Bayfront Park in front of special sculpture

Saira Anwer, Reporter

Michelle Solomon, Podcast Producer/Reporter

Published: **March 24, 2021, 8:11 pm**

Tags: **Miami, Miami-Dade County**



MIAMI, Fla. – Ten new American citizens took the oath of allegiance on Wednesday in the shadow of an appropriate piece of artwork in Bayfront Park with a Vatican connection.

The sculpture, **Angels Unawares**, will be at Bayfront Park through April 7 and on Wednesday, it was the backdrop for a citizenship ceremony.

“This sculpture reminds us that the history of humanity is the history of migration,” Archbishop Thomas Wenski, of the Archdiocese of Miami, said.

The inspiration of the work comes from a passage from Hebrew 13:2 found in the Bible’s New Testament: “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.”

Canadian Timothy P. Schmalz is the creator of the sculpture with some of his most reputed pieces installed in historical church in Rome and at the Vatican.

On September 2019, the large bronze of Angels Unawares was installed in St. Peter’s Square Rome and the smaller bronze was installed in St. Paul’s Basilica, Rome.

The sculpture, a full-size replica of the one blessed by Pope Francis that weighs 9,000 pounds, travels in a specially built steel cage.

In the shadow of Miami’s Freedom Tower and the faces of the bronze “Angels,” Colombian born Nicolas Cabrera was sworn in as an American.

He calls it a dream come true. “Finally. I’m very excited I’m very happy to be here and finally become a citizen. There will be a celebration for sure tonight and the weekend,” he said.

The sculpture arrived in Bayfront Park on Feb. 9 after stops in Boston, New York and Atlanta, before coming to Miami.

“Miami is the South’s Ellis Island and a fitting place to host this sculpture that honors migrants and refugees,” Wenski said.

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Saira Anwer joined the Local 10 News team in July 2018. Saira is two-time Emmy-nominated reporter and comes to South Florida from Madison, Wisconsin, where she was working as a reporter and anchor.

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Michelle Solomon

Michelle F. Solomon is the podcast producer/reporter/host of Local 10's original, true crime podcast The Florida Files and a digital journalist for Local 10.com.

[✉ email](#)

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VoiceofReason 1 DAY AGO

And that ladies and germs is how it is done LEGALLY!!! Immigration works just fine when you're not trying to sneak your way in.

REPLY ^ 1 ▾ 1

FR

Freely_Think 1 DAY AGO

American citizens? What part of America? How about United States citizens? God Bless The United States "of" America.

REPLY ^ 0 ▾ 3

MI

Mike60 1 DAY AGO

Congratulations and all the best wishes for a prosperous and fruitful future!!!

REPLY ^ 3 ▾ 0



Rick Wallach 1 DAY AGO

Excellent and welcome to America ladies and gentlemen. We are honored to have you and hope to



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VIERNES 26 DE MARZO 2021
SABADO 27 DE MARZO 2021

el Nuevo Herald

LA INMUNIZACIÓN EN EL ESTADO

Florida bajará la edad mínima para vacunarse a 40 años

POR ANA CLAUDIA CHACIN
achacin@miamiherald.com

Por fin sabemos cuándo todos los adultos de la Florida serán elegibles para recibir la vacuna contra el COVID-19.

A partir de la próxima semana, la edad mínima, que ahora es 50, bajará a 40 años. El 5 de abril todos los adultos de 18 años y mayores serán elegibles para vacunarse en el estado.

El gobernador Ron DeSantis anunció la medida a través de un video publicado en su Twitter y un correo electrónico enviado a

los medios tras semanas de que los gobiernos locales pidieran que bajara la edad mínima, ya que las restricciones probaron ser muy estrictas al ver sitios de vacunación vacíos durante la semana pasada.

Solo el viernes pasado, la alcaldesa de Miami-Dade, Daniella Levine Cava presentó un plan delineando cuándo serían elegibles para vacunarse todos los adultos en sitios de vacunación condales.

“Felicitó al gobernador por seguir el ejemplo de comunidades como Miami-Dade que avanzaron con un cronograma sólido para expandir la elegibilidad



DANIEL A. VARELA dvarela@miamiherald.com

LA PATÓLOGA Hannah Sielk, de 27 años, es vacunada contra el COVID por el cabo Powell, de 23 años, del Ejército de los EEUU, en el Miami Dade College North Campus en Miami.

para la vacunación, dado el mayor suministro proporcionado por los sitios federales”, dijo la alcaldesa a través de un comunicado.

“Este es nuestro camino más claro para volver a la normalidad y dejar atrás esta pandemia. Trabajaré con nuestra comunidad para asegurar que todos los residentes se vacunen.”

¿CÓMO ASEGURAR UNA CITA?

Personas de cualquier edad se pueden registrar a través de la

VEA VACUNA, 2A

VIENE DE LA 1A FLORIDA

pagina web de la Florida myvaccine.fl.gov. Si se registra por esa vía, recibirá una cita en un sitio de vacunación estatal como el Hard Rock Stadium o el Marlins Park.

También tiene la opción de registrarse a través de la página web condal vaccines.nomihealth.com/mdc. Si se registra por esa vía, puede recibir una cita en uno de los sitios condales de Miami-Dade, como el

Tropical Park, Zoo Miami y el Homestead Sports Complex.

Si se registra por alguno de esos dos sitios, serás contactado cuando seas elegible y tengan disponibilidad.

El Departamento de Salud del Condado Broward habilitó líneas telefónicas que las personas pueden llamar a pedir una cita. Cuando sea elegible, puede llamar al 866-201-6313. Si tiene problemas de audición, puede llamar al 833-487-1526.

Ciertas farmacias tam-

bién reciben vacunas a través del gobierno federal. Todas las farmacias Publix del estado podrán vacunar a las personas. Para hacer cita, visite publix.com/covid-vaccine/florida. En el Sur de la Florida también puede solicitar una cita para vacunarse en ciertas farmacias de Winn-Dixie, Fresco y Más, Sam's Club, y Walmart.

También tiene la oportunidad de solicitar una cita en hospitales como en Jackson Memorial o Leon Medical Center. Pero la manera como cada hospi-

tal ofrece las vacunas varía. El Jackson, por ejemplo, avisa a través de su cuenta de Twitter cuando tiene citas disponibles, pero con poca antelación (unos 10 o 15 minutos). Si está interesado en conseguir una cita en ese hospital, sugerimos activar las notificaciones en su cuenta para el usuario @JacksonHealth y así enterarse cuando hayan citas y buscar la suya inmediatamente.

SITIOS DÓNDE NO NECESITA CITA

Si lo quiere intentar, hay varios sitios en el sur de la Florida donde puede ir sin cita si es elegible. Aquí le decimos algunos:

● Bucky Dent Park
Gymnasium

2250 West 60th Street,
Hialeah, FL 330169; de 9
a.m. - 5 p.m., los siete días
de la semana.

● Oak Grove Park -
Father Gerard Jean-Juste
Community Center

690 NE 159th Street,
Miami, FL 33162, de 8:30
a.m. a 5 p.m., todos los
días de la semana.

● Overtown Youth Cen-

ter - Estacionamiento
1551 NW 1st Avenue,
Miami, FL 33136

8:30 a.m. a 5:30 p.m.,
siete días a la semana

● Miami Dade College -
North Campus

11380 NW 27th Avenue,
Miami, FL 33167

7 a.m. a 7 p.m., siete días
a la semana

*La reportera del Herald
Jimena Tavel contribuyó
información.*

*Ana Claudia Chacin:
305-376-3264*

COVID-19: Todos los adultos de Florida podrán vacunarse a partir de abril

tir%20de%20abril&body=Ron%20DeSantis,%20gobernador%20de%20Florida,%20anunciada-vacuna-adultos-coronavirus%2F)



Getty Images

Vacunación contra el COVID-19 en el estado de la Florida.

A

partir del mes de abril todos los adultos residentes de la Florida podrán vacunarse contra el coronavirus COVID-19 (<https://ahoramismo.com/noticias/florida-vacuna-adultos-coronavirus/>), según anunció este jueves Ron DeSantis, gobernador de dicho estado.

Sec ahoramismo

De acuerdo a las declaraciones públicas (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ylx-qK54uxQ&ab_channel=NBC6SouthFlorida) del gobernador DeSantis, desde el próximo lunes 29 de marzo todos los residentes de la Florida mayores de 40 años estarán aptos para recibir una vacuna contra el Coronavirus (<https://ahoramismo.com/noticias/vacuna-johnson-johnson-como-conseguir/>).

Mientras que el lunes siguiente, 5 de abril, el piso de edad para aplicar a la vacunación contra el COVID-19 será reducido a 18 años.

Miami Herald
@MiamiHerald



JUST IN: Gov. DeSantis announces when Florida's COVID vaccine age will drop to 40 and then to 18

Gov. DeSantis announces when Florida's COVID vaccine age will drop to ...
All Florida adults will be able to get vaccinated against COVID-19 as of April 5, Gov. Ron DeSantis announced Thursday morning.
miamiherald.com

9:38 a. m. · 25 mar. 2021



60 44 Compartir este Tweet

Por su parte, el Miami Herald

Secundario **ahorramismo**

(<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/coronavirus/article250196325.html>) informa que aquellos jóvenes de 16 y 17 años que sean considerados “extremadamente vulnerables” por un médico, pueden vacunarse en Jackson Health, Nicklaus Children, CVS Pharmacies y Navarro Pharmacies.

Si eres residente de Florida y quieres preinscribirte para recibir la vacuna contra el COVID-19, puedes llenar el formulario de registro en www.myvaccine.fl.gov (<https://myvaccine.fl.gov/#/>).

La cadena WPLG (<https://www.local10.com/news/florida/2021/03/25/desantis-floridians-18-will-be-able-to-receive-covid-19-vaccine-beginning-april-5/>), afiliada a la ABC, señala que una completada la preinscripción, aquellos aplicantes serán contactados cuando la vacuna esté disponible en su área.

WPLG agrega (<https://www.local10.com/news/florida/2021/03/25/desantis-floridians-18-will-be-able-to-receive-covid-19-vaccine-beginning-april-5/>) que los floridanos también pueden llamar al número de teléfono de preinscripción de vacunas de su respectivo condado, el cual puedes encontrar haciendo clic aquí (https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/FL-VACCINE-HOTLINES_1-29-21.pdf).

Según DeSantis, Florida ya vacunó contra el COVID-19 a cerca del 70% de los mayores de 60 años

Ron DeSantis 
@GovRonDeSantis



I'm pleased to announce that beginning this Monday, March 29, all Floridians age 40 and older will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Beginning the following Monday, April 5, all Floridians age 18 and older will be eligible.

9:05 a. m. · 25 mar. 2021



15,5 mil 4,1 mil Compartir este Tweet

Durante su discurso en video, el gobernador DeSantis ratificó que el ritmo de vacunación en el estado de la Florida continúa en franco crecimiento.

“Ahora hemos vacunado a más del 70% de los aproximadamente 4,4 millones de personas mayores que viven en el estado”, dijo el funcionario.

Y respecto a la decisión de reducir el límite etario para acceder a la vacuna contra el Coronavirus, DeSantis justificó: “También hemos logrado un gran progreso en las personas de 60 a 64 años y en las de 50 años o más, y estamos listos para dar este paso”.

Un comunicado difundido por la oficina del gobernador y consignado por [WPLG \(https://www.local10.com/news/florida/2021/03/25/desantis-floridians-18-will-be-able-to-receive-covid-19-vaccine-beginning-april-5/\)](https://www.local10.com/news/florida/2021/03/25/desantis-floridians-18-will-be-able-to-receive-covid-19-vaccine-beginning-april-5/) informa: “Las vacunas también están disponibles en 150 ubicaciones de CVS, 125 ubicaciones de Wal-Mart y Sam’s Club, más de 70 ubicaciones de Winn Dixie, que pronto serán más de 600 farmacias de Walgreens y cada una de las 730 farmacias de Publix en todo el estado”.



Leer Más en Ahoramismo

[\(https://ahoramismo.com/noticias/pfizer-farmaco-oral-coronavirus/\)](https://ahoramismo.com/noticias/pfizer-farmaco-oral-coronavirus/)

Pfizer inicia ensayos de píldora contra el COVID-19 en EE.UU.

[\(https://ahoramismo.com/noticias/pfizer-farmaco-oral-coronavirus/\)](https://ahoramismo.com/noticias/pfizer-farmaco-oral-coronavirus/)

[\(https://ahoramismo.com/noticias/pfizer-farmaco-oral-coronavirus/\)](https://ahoramismo.com/noticias/pfizer-farmaco-oral-coronavirus/)

Crece la demanda de vacunas en el sur de Florida: por primera vez un centro de Miami-Dade se quedó sin dosis disponibles

Greg Pittman

@GregPittman1957



Miami-Dade College FEMA site runs out of first-dose vaccine early Wednesday, but gets more
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[local10.com](https://www.local10.com)

8:53 a. m. · 25 mar. 2021



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Un fiel reflejo de la alta demanda de vacunas contra el COVID-19 que se registra en el sur de la Florida es lo que ocurrió la semana pasada en el condado de Miami-Dade, donde este miércoles, según reporta la WPLG (<https://www.local10.com/news/florida/2021/03/25/desantis-floridians-18-will-be-able-to-receive-covid-19-vaccine-beginning-april-5/>), el sitio financiado por FEMA en el campus norte de Miami Dade College se quedó sin las 500 dosis asignadas para los aplicantes, por primera vez desde su apertura.

En diálogo con la misma fuente, Bruce Roberts, encargado del centro de vacunación, explicó:

“Tuvimos una señora que realmente se presentó aquí. Había traído a su madre y estaba llorando porque no podía vacunar a su madre. Es desgarrador”.

Si bien la WPLG señala que unas horas más tarde arribó un envío adicional de vacunas al campus norte de Miami Dade College, el citado medio indica que se rechazaron entre 50 y 100 solicitudes durante el periodo en el que no había dosis de vacuna disponibles.

LEER MÁS: COVID-19: Cómo obtener una vacuna de Johnson & Johnson

(<https://ahoramismo.com/noticias/vacuna-johnson-johnson-como-conseguir/>)

Sigue a AhoraMismo en Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/ahoramismousa/>)

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Últimas Noticias (<https://ahoramismo.com/tag/ultimas-noticias/>)

Opinión

Cuatro minutos en televisión dan una falsa idea de empoderamiento

Me honra haber trabajado casi por 30 años en Miami Dade College, donde aprendí que el camino seguro para acceder a una vida de bienestar, sobre todo entre integrantes de las llamadas minorías, es el estudio.

Recuerdo los eventos de extensión educacional del College en las comunidades negras de la ciudad para alentar este camino y evitar, entre otras circunstancias negativas del empobrecimiento, la crisis de embarazo precoz que conspira, sin duda, contra cualquier aspiración de progreso de las adolescentes y jóvenes.



POR ALEJANDRO RÍOS

El College recibe frecuentes visitas de celebridades musicales de la cultura negra que abogan por el estudio, aunque ellos mismos no hubieran contado con esa oportunidad.

Es un trabajo arduo y sistemático que ha rendido frutos notables. Figura entre las instituciones que más estudiantes de origen negro e hispano gradúa en Estados Unidos.

“Empoderamiento” es una palabra que la labor ingente del College incorporó a mi vocabulario. “Adquisición de poder e independencia por parte de un grupo social desfavorecido para mejorar su situación”, así define uno de los diccionarios consultados el término que en Estados Unidos es sumamente respetado por su alcance y significación.

Las nuevas generaciones no encuentran a sus líderes de opinión en la clase política. Actualmente, los conocidos *influencers*, de los medios sociales, suelen marcar la pauta de futuros anhelos. Afortunadamente, estos famosos se expresan con discursos de inclusión y esperanza, abogan por el desarrollo personal y el estudio.

El universo de la música popular sigue marcando pautas también a la hora de definir ejemplos de comportamiento, lenguaje, vestuario y otras maneras de expresión social.

Hay géneros musicales irresponsables que abogan por la rebeldía, a veces rayana en la violencia, el consumo de drogas o bebidas alcohólicas y el sexo, como modos de “empoderamiento”.

A veces los intérpretes son consecuentes en sus comportamientos personales con esos modelos y en otros se trata de puestas en escena para las gradas.

El público, sobre todo joven, no suele dilucidar ese dilema y trata de imitar, dentro de lo posible, tan perjudiciales patrones. Es cuando la labor ingente del College es sustituida por la quimera del éxito mediante la ruta equivocada.

Hace unos años durante el espectáculo de medio tiempo del Super Bowl, el cantante Justin Timberlake accidentalmente le abrió la blusa a la cantante Janet Jackson, apenas mostró su anatomía torácica y el escándalo publicitario no se hizo esperar. Todas las partes involucradas en el hecho estuvieron de acuerdo sobre tan inconveniente incidente para los televidentes.

Este tipo de “accidente” y otros excesos inesperados siempre estuvieron circunscritos a la televisión por cable, siendo la entrega de premios MTV el paradigma de la provocación y la desfachatez.

Recientemente, sin embargo, durante la entrega de los premios Grammy, por un canal de transmisión pública, el escenario de uno de sus números musicales reprodujo cierto club nudista, con su correspondiente barra para hacer las evoluciones sensuales, y seguidamente lo que pudiera ser la cama de un prostíbulo.

La canción interpretada por Cardi B y Megan Thee Stallion se titula “WAP” y es el acrónimo en inglés referente al sexo y el trasero femenino húmedos.

El estribillo que inicia la interpretación, cantada por una voz masculina es “There’s some whores in this house” (Hay algunas prostitutas en esta casa).

Tanto las coreografías del espectáculo como el vestuario de las cantantes nada dejan a la imaginación. Todo se resuelve con la capacidad y fortaleza de fornicar y los órganos sexuales femeninos se humectan tanto que recomiendan traer cubo y trapeador.

Online, donde aparece la letra de la canción, hasta los jóvenes dejan opiniones de asombro: “menos mal que mi mamá no sabe inglés” dice una; “mis oídos perdieron su virginidad”, dice otro.

El público que asiste al espectáculo televisivo aplaude ante cada jactancia, uno de los cuales es la sugerencia del acto lésbico entre ambas cantantes y el hecho de reconocer que ellas no limpian ni cocinan.

El crítico del *New York Times* se refirió a este evento y al premio que recibieron, como modos de empoderamiento para las intérpretes negras, largamente obliterado por la Academia que concede los Grammys.

Yo pensaba, cómo cuatro minutos en pantalla pueden conspirar contra la labor de años de nuestro venerable Miami Dade College.

Siga a Alejandro Ríos en Twitter: @alejandrrioriostv.
Correo: alejandrrios1952@gmail.com.



Los mejores eventos musicales
durante Spring Break en Miami
¡Varios gratis!

POR ISABEL OLMOS
Especial/el Nuevo Herald

Para acabar y empezar el mes, dándole la bienvenida a la primavera en Miami, nada mejor que música de calidad con diferentes estilos, desde el flamenco hasta el jazz, pasando por diferentes ritmos de música latina y danza. Les presentamos los cinco mejores eventos musicales durante el Sapping Break en Miami. Tres son gratuitos.

Melanie Charles, Virtual Jazz en MOCA

El viernes 26 de marzo, a las 7 p.m., el Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, North Miami (MOCA) presenta a Melanie Charles en su tercera edición de Virtual Jazz en MOCA, programa que había sido interrumpido por la pandemia y que esta edición arranca de forma virtual, en asociación con WDNA Radio, la principal estación de radio de jazz del sur de Florida. Melanie Charles es una cantautora y flautista nacida en Brooklyn de ascendencia haitiana, con una fluidez creativa que abarca Jazz, soul, y música experimental de raíces haitianas. Charles sabe cómo unir la tradición con el presente. Recientemente ha aparecido en programas de televisión como Good Morning America, SNL y The Late Show con Stephen Colbert. Organizado por Carter de WDNA Jackson-Brown, la serie virtual cuenta con lo mejor de los músicos jóvenes e innovadores del Sur de Florida. A partir de marzo los conciertos tienen lugar virtualmente el último



MOCA

EL VIERNES 26 de marzo, a las 7 p.m., el Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, North Miami (MOCA) presenta a Melanie Charles en su tercera edición de Virtual Jazz en MOCA.

viernes de cada mes a las 7 de la tarde. Más:
www.mocanomi.org/virtual-jazz-at-moca/

Live on the Plaza, Adrienne Arsht

Esta es una de las series más exitosas al aire libre del Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, que se llevan a cabo en el Parker and Vann Thomson Plaza for the Arts, una plaza que conecta ambos edificios de Arsht Center a través de Biscayne Boulevard. El viernes 2 de abril es la actuación de JUke, un



FOTO/EDWIN CARDONA

EL 9 DE abril se presenta Cortadito, uno de los mejores grupos latinos del Sur de la Florida.

grupo liderado por el genio de la armónica y el cantante Eric García, que toca temas no tradicionales y al mismo tiempo mantiene a la multitud en movimiento. El 9 de abril es el turno del grupo Cortadito, uno de los mejores grupos latinos del Sur de la Florida con su son montuno, guaracha, boleros, nengon y bolero. Recuerda el sonido de Buena Vista Social Club. Y el 16 de abril es el turno del Trío Brandon Goldberg. El pianista de jazz de Miami Brandon Goldberg, que ahora tiene 15 años, toca el piano desde que tenía 3 años. Más: www.arshtcenter.org/

“Without Further Delay”, gratis por la Fundación Nacional YoungArts

YoungArts, en asociación con Aon, presenta el estreno de ‘Without Further Delay’, un espectáculo de danza virtual el 8 de abril de 2021 a las 8 p.m. Se trata de una coreografía de Desmond Richardson, co-director artístico de Complexions Contemporary Ballet y nominado al prestigioso premio Tony. Richardson también fue el ganador de YoungArts en danza en 1986 y académico presidencial de los Estados Unidos en las artes. La actuación cuenta con una composición del ganador del premio Grammy Terence Blanchard, quien fue ganador de YoungArts en 1980 en música clásica, y reúne a nueve ganadores del premio YoungArts 2021 de todo el país. “Without Further Delay” investiga el momento actual explorando elementos de aislamiento, confinamiento, comunidad, perseverancia y diversidad. Después del estreno, “Without Further Delay”, estará disponible en el canal de YouTube de YoungArts. ¡La actuación virtual es gratis! a través de la página web oficial de la fundación. Más: www.youngarts.org.

El pianista Andy LaVerne, Jazz Miami Dade College

Andy LaVerne, pianista, compositor y arreglista de jazz con varios discos en su haber, estudió en Juilliard, Berklee, y New England Conservatory, y también asistió a lecciones privadas con el legendario pianista Bill Evans. En el concierto, que se lleva a cabo el 7 de abril, a las 12 del mediodía, interpreta obras

grabadas por Bill Evans en una amplia gama de presentaciones incluyendo piano solo, dúo con guitarra, trío y cuarteto. LaVerne ha trabajado con Frank Sinatra, Stan Getz, Woody Herman, Dizzy Gillespie, Chick Corea, Lionel Hampton, Michael Brecker, Elvin Jones, Gerry Mulligan, Miroslav Vitous, Benny Golson, Brandford Marsalis, Chris Potter, y muchísimos más. Puedes ver todos los conciertos gratuitos en su página de YouTube. Más: www.facebook.com/jazzatwolfsonpresents/ y [www.youtube.com/c/miamidadecollege/](https://www.youtube.com/c/miamidadecollege/featured)

‘Siudy Flamenco: Íntimo’ en South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center

El sábado 27 de marzo, a las 4 de la tarde, regresan las actividades al South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC) con la actuación de Siudy Garrido Flamenco Company, quienes presenta ‘Siudy Flamenco: Íntimo’, junto con la asociación FUNDarte. Esta actuación, la primera tras un año de parón debido a la pandemia, tiene lugar en el jardín y la plaza de conciertos del patio trasero de SMDCAC para garantizar el distanciamiento social requerido. La pieza Íntimo, está compuesta por ocho bailarines de ballet flamenco y un conjunto de músicos virtuosos liderados por la bailarina y coreógrafa Siudy Garrido, quien es una de las artistas más impresionantes de la escena del baile flamenco en la actualidad y conocida por romper barreras al combinar técnicas tradicionales y contemporáneas en un estilo de flamenco que es exclusivamente suyo. Esta Compañía contribuye a la evolución moderna del baile flamenco en América. En el caso que la lluvia no permita la actuación del 27 de marzo, el evento se trasladará para el 28 de marzo. Más: *South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, 10950 SW 211 Street, Cutler Bay, FL. 33189. Entradas en www.smdcac.org, por teléfono en el (786) 573-5300 y en South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center Box Office, de martes a viernes desde las 12 p.m. a las 7 p.m., y el sábado de 12 p.m. a 5 p.m. www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUfN2I6aoNO Twitter: @IsabelOlmos*

Entretenimiento · Cine y TV

Actor Frank Egusquiza con sentimientos encontrados en filme "Plantados"

Aunque vivió la mayor parte de su vida en Cuba, desconocía las torturas a las que fueron sometidos los presos políticos.



El joven actor se mostró satisfecho por la acogida del público que tuvo el filme durante su estreno la pasada semana en Miami. (Suministrada)

Por Luis Ernesto Berríos

24 de marzo de 2021 · 11:45pm

El actor cubano radicado en Miami, Florida, Frank Egusquiza, aseguró que tuvo sentimientos encontrados en la caracterización de su personaje antagónico, el "sargento Mauricio", en la película cubana "Plantados", la cual estrena hoy en Fine Arts.

Egusquiza sostuvo que aunque vivió la mayor parte de su vida en Cuba, desconocía las torturas a las que fueron sometidos los presos políticos por negarse a seguir el régimen castrista, según resalta el filme.

Por eso tuvo que documentarse y entender los motivos que tuvieron los presos políticos, para revelarse contra el régimen cubano y viceversa, conocer las razones de odio de los guardias para torturarlos.

"'El sargento Mauricio', es mi primer y gran antagonista en el séptimo arte, un personaje con una responsabilidad histórica tremenda. Tuve que investigar muchísimo, observar muchos documentales de la época, películas y entrevistas, para encontrar la esencia de este hombre, para lograr entender de donde provenía el odio visceral al que se opone a la revolución".

"El proceso fue triste porque mientras más indagaba más me dolían las cosas que encontraba, sobre todo los miles de fusilamientos injustos perpetrados por la dictadura", manifestó.

Egusquiza reveló detalles de su personaje.

"La película 'Plantados' tiene dos tiempos de acción, presente y pasado. Mi personaje es el Mauricio del pasado, teniente, carcelero y esbirro del castrismo, una persona inhumana, cínica, despiadada y un sin fin de cualidades oscuras que se pueden encontrar fácilmente en muchos hombres dentro de las filas militares comunistas en Cuba. Están entrenados para reprimir y no para servir o proteger al pueblo".

Describe su participación en "Plantados", un filme dirigido por el cineasta cubano, Lilo Vilaplana, cuyo final fue grabado en el Fuerte San Gerónimo del Viejo San Juan como, "una jornada de mucho aprendizaje. Hubo mucho trabajo en equipo y la energía que había alrededor era muy especial, nos sentíamos cómodos. También teníamos de asesores a los propios protagonistas, a los verdaderos 'plantados', que nos contaban historias todo el tiempo y nos dieron la confianza necesaria para poder representar tan alta responsabilidad", subrayó.

El joven actor se mostró satisfecho por la acogida del público que tuvo el filme durante su estreno la pasada semana en la Ciudad del Sol. La misma fue escogida

para participar en el 38th Miami Film Festival.

"Estamos sumamente contentos porque llenamos siete salas, y el trailer llegó al estreno con más de 56 mil visualizaciones en el canal de youtube del festival. La película obtuvo el premio de la Popularidad. La gente ha apoyado el proyecto desde el día uno, hay un compromiso sincero de darla a conocer, le ha tocado el corazón a mucha gente y tengo certeza de que en Puerto Rico, también será un éxito taquillero".

A Frank Egusquiza, quien salió de Cuba como parte de un intercambio cultural entre el Centro de Teatro cubano y la Universidad de Alabama, en el 2013, le gustaría trabajar en la Isla.

"El rodaje de la película hizo que conociera a Puerto Rico, un país del que quedé completamente enamorado, finalmente comprendí el significado de 'De un pájaro las dos alas'. Me encantaría volver y hacer cosas allá, pues me ha dado la posibilidad, en sus espacios, de realizar una película que ha significado mucho dentro de mi carrera, me sentí como en casa", concluyó.

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[www.miamibookfair.com/
event/15-minutos-de-
lectura-con-afonso-cruz/](http://www.miamibookfair.com/event/15-minutos-de-lectura-con-afonso-cruz/)

La Feria del libro en la gran lectura de 2021, “Lab Girl” de Hope Jah- ren

Las memorias de la crianza de Jahren en Minnesota y cómo descubrió su amor por la ciencia, convirtiéndose más tarde en una científica aclamada. Organiza Biblioteca sucursal de Kendall.

Detalles: 27, 10:30 a.m.
Por Zoon: [https://mdpls.org/
event/4887898](https://mdpls.org/event/4887898)

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