



# Miami Dade College

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Friday July 15, 2022

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## The Daily News Clippings

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# Nursing schools opening the spigots

By MONICA CORREA

Some of the top nursing schools in Miami-Dade County expect to graduate more students in coming semesters as enrollments have increased in the last couple of years.

Although graduate numbers for Miami Dade College's Benjamin Leon School of Nursing have stayed steady, the school expects an increase in future graduates, as enrollment has risen in the past years, said Tommie Norris, dean of the Benjamin Leon School of Nursing. "We're now getting to the point where [the augmented number of students enrolling previously] are going to graduate soon in December and in May."

In spring last year, 1,177 nursing students enrolled seeking associate's degrees and 366 enrolled in quest of bachelor's degrees. The number of graduating nursing students was 174. In fall 2021, the school saw 236 more students apply than usual, Dr. Norris added.

In spring 2022, the nursing school had 1,089 enrollments for associate degrees and 368 seeking bachelor's degrees, she said.

"We are in the process of growing our nursing programs to meet the demands of our practice partners," she said.

The Benjamin Leon School is in the beginning of development stages to bring back the licensed practical nurse (LNP) program. "We're going to admit 50 in the fall and 50 in the spring. And we are ready; our practice partners are really excited."

At the College of Nursing and Health Sciences of Barry University, enrollment also rose in the past two years. The school intends to graduate over 100 entry-level nursing professionals each fall and around 50 in the spring. "Last year, we graduated 125 new nursing students and 186 advanced practice nurses, nurse practitioners and nurses with Ph.D.s," said John



*'We are in the process of growing our nursing programs to meet the demands of our practice partners.'*

**Tommie Norris**

McFadden, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Barry.

The school expects 180 to 200 new students graduating from NP degrees, nurse anesthetists and Ph.D.s in nursing programs.

"The crisis around the pandemic really made us think to abandon our traditional ways of teaching because the students couldn't be in front of us," said Mr. McFadden. "We had to really focus on competency-based learning, the quality of the limited clinical experiences we had, and combine them with controlled simulation experiences, and that became the foundation for clinical learning."

The Benjamin Leon School of Nursing's curriculum also changed in the wake of the pandemic, said Dr. Norris. The school introduced an opportunity for students to virtually assist patients, interact with virtual patients via iHuman, a virtual reality simulation where students can treat and learn on virtual patients.

"But as soon as we could, we got them back into the clinical setting," she added. "One of the things it

taught us is the value of integrating with these experiences, and adding them more into the curriculum, as an opportunity for the students with different learning styles, but also to support the really rigorous nursing curriculum."

The social aspect of learning, said Mr. McFadden, was really important to the modified nursing curriculum at Barry. "We really had to think about all the experiences that could have interfered with our learning, whether it was a lack of funding or social isolation."

"Trying to help all of our graduates deal with the unexpected occurrences, whether it's Covid-19 or Zika virus outbreaks or some type of weather catastrophe like a hurricane, we're trying to insure that in all of our various healthcare programs we're reinforcing the skills to manage unordinary situations," Mr. McFadden said, "because we all agree this was a wake-up call, and it may not be the last pandemic that we have to deal with."

## THE INSIDER

**JOBS FOR THE HOMELESS:** Apartment Investment and Management**Hilda Fernandez**

Company has pledged \$1 million to Camillus House to support expanded workforce development programs to skills or experience to get better-paying jobs. Camillus House houses more than 1,700 people nightly through 11 residential facilities. "Many people experiencing homelessness want to work, but without the necessary training and skills it's extremely difficult for them to earn enough income to move forward," said **Hilda M. Fernandez**, Camillus House CEO. "Thanks to this critical and very generous multiyear grant from Aimco, we can now expand our workforce development program to provide the guidance, support, and vocational training that can help prevent homelessness and change... lives." The initiative is to provide opportunities to Camillus residents such as participation in construction trade programs operated by Florida International University and funded by Southeast Over-town/Park West Community Redevelopment Agency, an eight-week culinary certificate through the Miami Dade College Culinary Arts Program, and employment opportunities with the Downtown Enhancement Team through the City of Miami's Downtown Development Authority and Omni Community Redevelopment Agency. Aimco will sponsor scholarships to individuals in the Camillus House program designed to remove barriers to employment.

## MDC offers Fire Fighter Minimum Standards Training to Miami-Dade Fire Rescue

Miami Dade College's (MDC) School of Justice, Public Safety and Law Studies recently began its second cohort of Fire Fighter Minimum Standards training classes.

The MDC Fire Academy provides vocational training to prepare tomorrow's Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR) certified firefighters. The program is the only academy in Miami-Dade County to train MDFR personnel.

Last year, MDC conducted its inaugural class of the fire academy training program that prepares trainees for certification as a firefighter in the State of Florida after 492 hours of training. During the training, students learn all aspects of firefighting including fire behavior, building construction, hydraulics, use of Personal Protective Equipment as well as practical and live burn trainings.

Upon completion, trainees attend a Standard Operating Procedures training to acclimate to MDFR procedures. Employment of firefighters is projected to grow eight percent from 2020 to 2030. Many of those openings are a result of the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, due to retirement or the pandemic.

The program prepares graduates with the technical skills needed to fulfill roles



Firefighter training at MDC,

MDC

and positions in the fire service and emergency services industry. MDC has a nearly 100 percent pass rate for the State of Florida Firefighter Certification test. MDC's Fire Service instructors are among the most experienced instructors in the state and represent fire departments in the tri-county area. The instructors' expertise includes Hazardous Materials Technician, Urban Search and Rescue, Flight Medic, Marine Firefighting, Technical Rescue.

MDC's School of Justice at the North Campus has been training and educating public safety professionals for the past 41 years. More than 80 percent of all public safety professionals in Miami-Dade County have received training at the School of Justice.

For more information, visit <https://www.mdc.edu/justice/fire-science/fire-fighter-certification.aspx>.



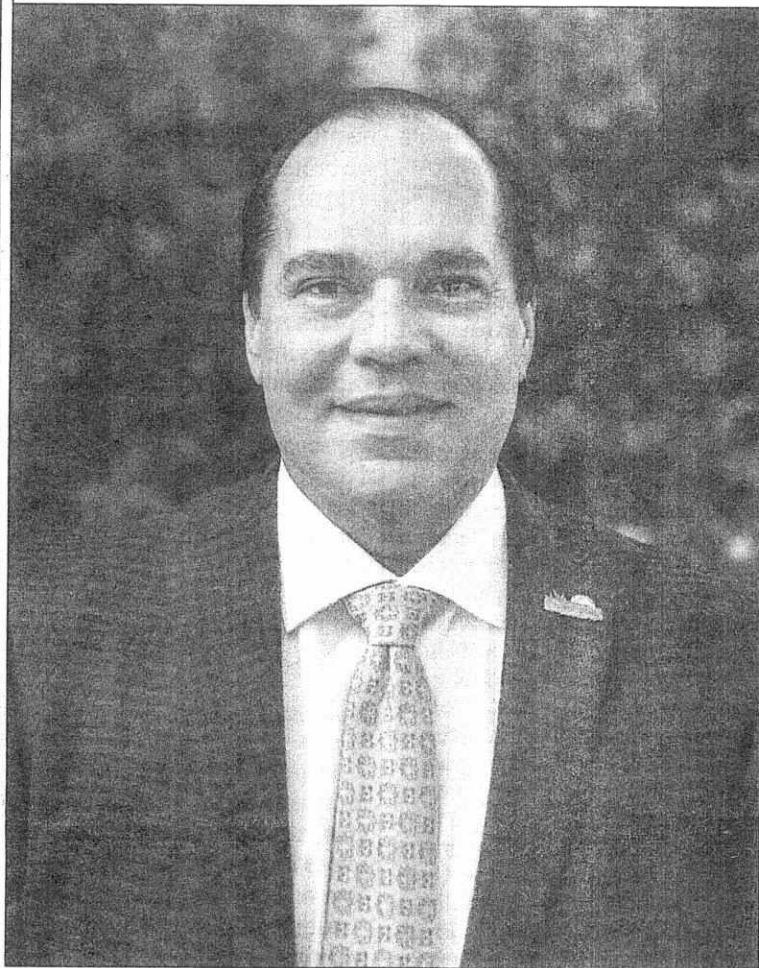
The College of the Florida Keys (CFK) celebrated the graduation of Basic Law Enforcement (BLE) Academy #80 with a ceremony on June 24 at Coral Shores High School. Twelve cadets successfully completed the 770-hour training program. Upon passing the state certification exam, each will be eligible to become a Florida Law Enforcement Officer. Both academies are part-time evening programs, running Monday through Friday, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., starting in August and ending in June 2023. Applications are due July 29.

Visit - <https://www.cfk.edu/academics/academic-departments/institute-for-public-safety/>.

# 40th Year MIAMI TODAY

WEEK OF THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022

## THE ACHIEVER



**Rafael Casals**

Envisioning redevelopment for Cutler Bay's town center

The profile is on Page 4

# Manager Rafael Casals sees visioning vital as 83 acres...

Rafael Casals started his professional career in 1985 when he was only 17 and signed up for a program as a senior at Homestead High to attend classes half a day and work the other half.

He started part time in the Finance Department in Florida City doing accounts payable and payroll. As soon as he graduated, he started a full-time position while attending Miami Dade Community College.

"I was able to plug in when somebody was on vacation, go learn how to do purchasing, go learn how to do work with Public Works Department, help with other departments, fill out grant applications, work in the mayor's office answering the phones," he recalled.

He then started his studies at Florida Atlantic University after earning a Pell Grant.

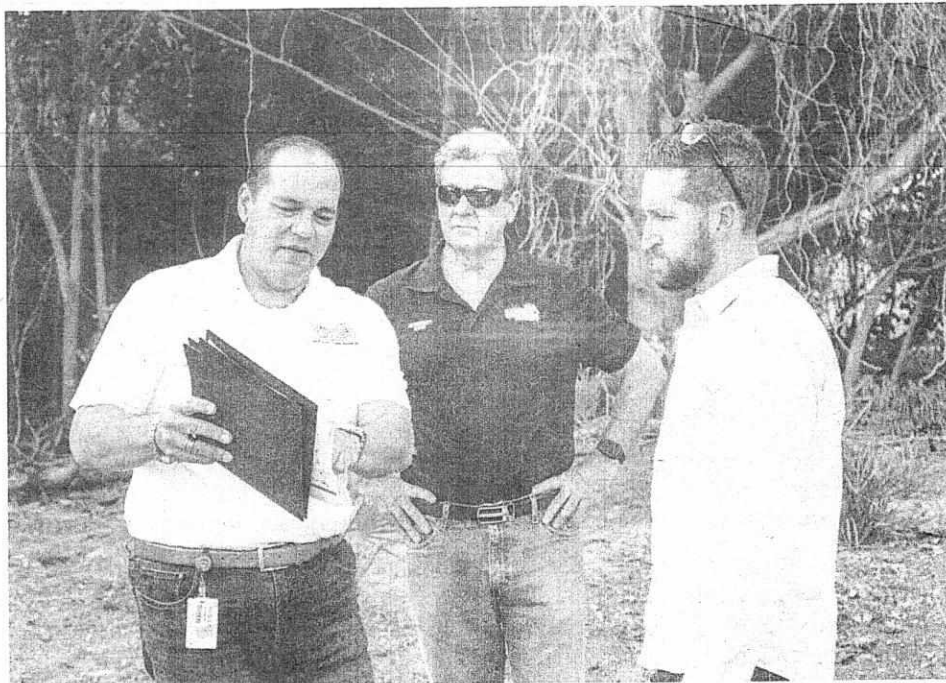
In 1992 he was still working in Florida City when Hurricane Andrew hit, an experience he says shaped him into the manager he is today. "I think that Hurricane Andrew also molded me as a person and to understand how to deal with chaos," he said.

After the hurricane, he re-applied to FAU since he took a year and a half to work on rebuilding the city, and he finally earned his degree. Mr. Casals decided it was time to learn in other locations, so he joined North Bay Village as public works director. Three months later, the city manager retired, so Mr. Casals decided to apply for the position and he got it.

After four and a half years, he decided to begin another chapter in his professional career and joined the Town of Miami Lakes as an assistant manager. As a newly incorporated municipality, Mr. Casals was able to have many experiences that shaped him for the responsibilities he was to undertake three and a half years later.

Mr. Casals joined the Town of Cutler Bay in 2005 as public works director. In 2012 he was appointed interim town manager, and a year later he was formally named town manager. He now serves the 46,000 residents of Cutler Bay and is responsible for implementing the official policies of the town council.

Mr. Casals spoke with Miami Today reporter Gabriela Henriquez Stoikow.



Rafael Casals, left, with Mayor Tim Meerbott and state resilience officer Wesley Brooks.

## The Achiever

### Rafael G. Casals

Town Manager  
Town of Cutler Bay  
10720 Caribbean Blvd., Suite 105  
Cutler Bay 33189  
(305) 234-4262  
[rcasals@cutlerbay-fl.gov](mailto:rcasals@cutlerbay-fl.gov)

Born: Havana, Cuba.

Age: 54

Education: Associate in Arts, Miami Dade College. Bachelor's in Business Management, Florida Atlantic University.

Personal philosophy: You see it, I see it, why do we still see it? I am very humbled and privileged to play a major role in improving our residents' daily quality of life.

**Q: What are your priorities as city manager?**

**A:** Our town center district, which is the Southland Mall area, which is also an opportunity zone, was recently purchased, both the mall and Macy's. The mall was going through foreclosure, and Macy's was up for sale, so I call that the two perfect storms. The third piece of the puzzle was the old Sears, so all three of those properties make up the Southland Mall, which has been zoned for mixed use.

Our biggest [effort] was the marketing of that location. Even though we didn't own it, we just wanted to make sure the right firm came in, and as of a couple of months ago, there was a group that purchased the mall and Macy's for over \$100 million. Now, that same group is making an aggressive move to purchase the Sears complex. So, for us, that would be a wonderful scenario where we have a single group that owns over 83 acres inside the town center district.

The visioning has to be done just right to make sure that is consistent with what the community wanted years ago. Then you sprinkle in \$300 million of the bus rapid transit on the transitway, so now you have an ideal location, which as Mayor Tim Meerbott has mentioned is the next downtown hub in South Dade.

So, [we are] working closely with the developers on that location, making sure that the vision is consistent [with what the community wants], making sure that we bring the proper development. Jobs, jobs, more jobs, and entertainment. That's what our residents had been [asking for]. Obviously, you balance that out with housing as well. So, I think that that town center district is going to be the critical [priority].

The second part, equally important, is our recent accomplishment as a municipality of our general obligation bond – we call it GO Bond – that we went out to an election and we received overwhelming 66% approval from residents to develop our town center municipal complex park in the center of the town.

That's 16 acres and a \$37 million project. Between October and May we had over 24 public involvement meetings, homeowners associations meetings, and meetings underneath the tree with residents to gain their faith and confidence in such an inflationary economy and a war going on.

We were able to get approval from voters by 66%, and now the visioning process starts.

When we were going through this process, we commissioned the University of Miami to do nine renderings just to get the conversation going. We had a lot of feedback, and what we're doing now is making sure that now it gets to the point of developing the vision.

We have an idea of the vision, now we're to the point that we're going to get one single design team to design the complex for us, which will be for generations to enjoy.

We talked about [the fact that] we only have 32 employees, we don't need a big municipal complex. We are going to have a police department, a municipal complex, and a community center. We're talking about roughly 50,000 square feet, but the rest of it is going to be a lot of open space and park.

The third aspect is that there's not that much property left in Cutler Bay that's vacant land, so we are making sure that the vision of the community and the council is consistent with what the applications that we're receiving for those few vacant parcels that we have. That's going to be the

future, making sure that we still maintain the hometown feel.

We're 45,000 residents. We have several special events throughout the year. Myself, the mayor, and the council all attend and we want to make sure that folks don't feel intimidated by the government. We want residents to come on in, knock on the door, and ask for the town manager. If I'm not in the middle of Zoom or a meeting I will have you.

All our special events that we have throughout the community, that's your best feedback, that's where you hear the issues the community has. And the hardest thing for me is the easiest thing, believe it or not, which is the follow-up. That is what we're sort of getting around. So, it's that balance; it's the town center, the general obligation bond, and maintaining that small town quality feel, quality of life.

**Q: Do you have additional community meetings to discuss the vision of the municipal center?**

**A:** Right now we're developing what's called the bid package, request for qualification (RFQ) to put together the over 1,000 surveys we received from residents with feedback. We have the University of Miami concepts with their feedback. We're going to put that all together in a bid document so that we'll go ahead and find the best firm to design our municipal complex.

I want to make sure that the information that I have is the same one that the firm in Coral Gables, and the same one Seattle, WA, has. We want to make sure we get the best design team available because that is a legacy type of project that you do for generations to come.

**Q: Have you issued any of the GO Bond?**

**A:** No. It's like an equity line of credit. We have \$37 million. We have not drawn down anything because we're just developing, there's nothing to pay yet. I'm putting together the package to select the best firm. Once we select the best firm we will negotiate how much to [pay to] design the project, and then we start drawing up.

**Q: Cutler Bay recently had to respond to major floodings due to Tropical Storm Alex. Can you talk to me about those efforts?**

**A:** We were the unfortunate city that received 26 inches of rain within seven days, which is half the rain of the entire year. So, 26 inches, half the rain that you receive the entire year in seven days. There's no stormwater system that's going to handle that.

We were the unfortunate place; maybe the next time the cloud is going to be over some other city, but it was us and we had to deal with it.

We had a couple of neighborhoods, the Saga Bay community, the Lakes by the Bay community, and an area behind one of our parks that was severely flooded where you could not get out of your house unless you had a 4x4.

Our first reaction was to make sure that our first responders could respond. We have the Miami-Dade Police Department that provides us with their services, we pay them for that; then we also have Miami-Dade County Fire Department. These are the best departments that you have in the country.

So, immediately we contacted them and we started getting the high vehicles, we had an airboat, we had buses to transport folks there. [County] Mayor Daniella Levine Cava's office was on site; the Miami-Dade County Emergency Manager, Pete Gomez, was on site; Fred Ramirez, Miami-Dade County Police and Fire Chief, was there as well. We worked on making sure there was a big collaborative effort.

Most importantly was the South Florida Water Management District, which came with some large pumps, as well as our public works folks. Our public works team is around five employees; our guys made sure they secured all the different pumps, and what we started doing was just trying to pump out a lake.

I've never seen a scene like that in all my years of experience where you literally have a lake that was overflowing over six feet into the road.

# ...in Cutler Bay's town center undergo vast development

It was a collaborative effort with the South Florida Water Management, Miami-Dade County Fire, Miami-Dade County Police, and Miami-Dade County Public Works Department, everybody was all hands on deck.

In the Saga Bay community, we had water at least four feet in the middle of the street that this lake was overflowing, and it couldn't go anywhere because the groundwater table was so saturated, so we immediately started literally pumping down the lake, and that's what you saw on the news, us pumping down the lake.

**Q: How is the town preparing for future storms?**

**A:** The response plan is going to make sure that residents get an early alert that this rain is coming, and also do as much as they can to protect their homes. By mid-July, we are meeting with the homeowner association for the Saga Bay community, and we are scheduling visits to the other communities where we can educate residents [and let them know that] if this happens again, the same thing is going to happen again. There's no drainage system that is going to handle 26 inches of rain in six days. So, protect yourself, protect your property, and plan ahead.

Obviously, we're going to do what we can do on our end because you try to design in such a way that you're getting as much water out, but when the groundwater level is saturated, where does the water go to? There's no magic. Water is going to go into the lake or canal and if those are already high, the same thing is going to happen again.

What we do now is coordinate with the South Florida Water Management District, which draws down the canals. When they draw down the canals, they draw down the water level underneath your feet. But that process only works great when it's low tide.

The biggest thing we're trying to do is relay a message to residents to plan ahead, try to protect your property as much as you can, and we're going to do what we can on our part in terms of drawing down the

water with the district. But when you have a lake that is overflowing six feet, that's the hardest thing [to handle].

We're not going to over-promise anything. But the good thing is that the location of the Saga Bay community and the Lakes by the Bay community, all those projects have already been earmarked during the planning phase for additional drainage projects. There's an area right behind the Fragile Park that we didn't think it flooded but Mother Nature told us that it does, so it's now our next priority project. We have 19,000 properties in Cutler Bay, and we probably had around 600 or 700 that were affected.

Again, we had 26 inches and the rest of the system worked great except in these historically flooded areas. The good thing is that we're going to go through the planning phases to add more drainage there. But again, it's going to be very difficult to design something that captures half of the year's rain.

**Q: Cutler Bay was one of only 15 cities selected to participate in U.S. Green Building Council's LEED for Cities Local Government Leadership Program for 2022. Can you talk to me about this?**

**A:** That was something that we saw come across our desk and we said, you know what, let's go ahead and apply for that because we were, believe it or not, one of the first cities in the county to have what's called Florida Green Building Coalition, meaning that we've done a lot ever since we've incorporated.

We were the first ones to initiate the Property Assessment Clean Energy (PACE) Program. We were one of the cities that went up and changed the state law to allow golf carts on roads. We were the ones that initiated the law for the PACE financing that you hear about all time.

So, we've been big on environmental issues, and in Cutler Bay, we know where we're at. We're next or adjacent to wetlands, so a lot of our laws are very protective of the wetlands. So when I saw that come across our desk I said, 'Hey, let's go ahead and apply because there are a



lot of things we're really doing already.'

It was a great honor to be selected as one of those cities and to show the recognition that we have in terms of the alternative green programs in the town. It's very exciting that we do that because it all starts from our education process. Miami-Dade County Schools has what's called Coast Academies, [we have] Cutler Bay Middle School and High School. And even at the elementary level, we have William Elementary, which is called the Wave Academy.

So, we have all these little future environmentalists being taught, and we're really big on doing a lot of things for the environment, and we have a lot of environmental cleanup days, a lot of planting days.

Not only do we want to just go out to pick up litter, which gets boring after the first 20 minutes, but we actually have them plant trees and bushes and do a lot of restoration projects. It's great seeing junior high kids, high school kids, college kids, and older residents all working together doing restoration, because we only have one planet.

**Q: What is your involvement with the Miami-Dade County and City Managers Association?**

**A:** That's a great association. I was a two-time president and that was fun. There are only 32 [town/city] managers in Miami-Dade County. So, those are my colleagues. You want to have that support system there, you want to try to bounce off ideas.

It was a real honor that my colleagues voted twice to make me president of the association. I think [the association] is important because we share a lot of ideas, we share a lot of best practices, we meet monthly, and I'm big on that because you don't have to reinvent the wheel, you just have to go find it. Somebody else has probably done it better, or you give them your ideas and kind of tweak it to customize it.

It's very important for the Professional Managers Association to communicate and that's something that even back in

the day when Merrett Stierheim was at the county [as manager], he instilled that all the municipalities have to work together. We just had a flooding incident, nowhere near trying to put it in comparison to what happened to our colleagues in Surfside, and that's where you see that collaboration. Nowhere near [Hurricane] Andrew.

So, you see that collaboration and it's very important to have that intergovernmental collaboration because you're not going to be able to do it by yourself. In some incidents you can, but in others you need to have help from the county, the state, at a federal level, and other cities as well. I'm a true believer in that.

**Q: What do you consider your biggest achievement?**

**A:** Longevity. [In June I reached] my 10-year mark as manager, 16 years with the town, and that to me is longevity. I'm having fun with what we do. I think the achievement is basically being recognized by your colleagues and being named president of the association. I think that's a great achievement.

But I'm not done yet. I think the achievement would be the satisfaction of employees that I mentored and now are in other positions and call back and 'we learned so much [with you.]'

I'll give you a good example: I'm really committed to internships. We have Cutler Bay Senior High internship just for 11th graders, and they come in and work at town hall. I'm a true believer [in internships] because I started off when I was 17.

We also did a collaboration with Florida International University and I created through the managers association, an executive internship for MBA students at FIU.

One of those students was with me the entire semester, and I'm glad to say that [in June] he got a job offer in another municipality. The internship is really tough. He was actually driving from Bay Harbor all the way down here and the internship pays zero. So, I think that my biggest accomplishment would be all the people that I have been able to teach.

## ***The Children's Trust Family Expo Returns With Three Events***

*By: Community News Releases - July 14, 2022*



**WHAT:** The Children's Trust Family Expo is going into the community with three events that feature The Trust's extensive provider network, community agencies and partners. Exhibitors include child care, after-school programming, arts/sports, STEM, health & wellness, special populations, family services, and more. The back-to-school-focused events include live entertainment activities and backpack and school supply giveaways. Free meals will also be provided. The Family Expo draws thousands of attendees every year.

**WHO:** James Haj, President & CEO of The Children's Trust, Papa Keith from 103.5 The Beat (North location only), exhibitors, local families, and youth performers.

**WHEN/WHERE:**

**Central Miami-Dade – Saturday, July 23, 10 a.m.– 3 p.m.**

The Children’s Trust Family Expo at Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus  
300 NE 2nd Ave, Miami, FL 33132

**South Miami-Dade – Saturday, July 30, 10 a.m.– 3 p.m.**

The Children’s Trust Family Expo at Sweet Home Community Campus  
10701 SW 184th Street, Cutler Bay, FL 33157

**North Miami-Dade – Saturday, August 6, 10 a.m.– 3 p.m.**

The Children’s Trust Family Expo at PK People Matter Fest  
Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex  
3000 NW 199th Street, Miami Gardens, FL 33056



**<https://communitynewspapers.com/featured/the-childrens-trust-family-expo-returns-with-three-events/>**

# eMerge

**PREMIERE ISSUE**  
volume 1



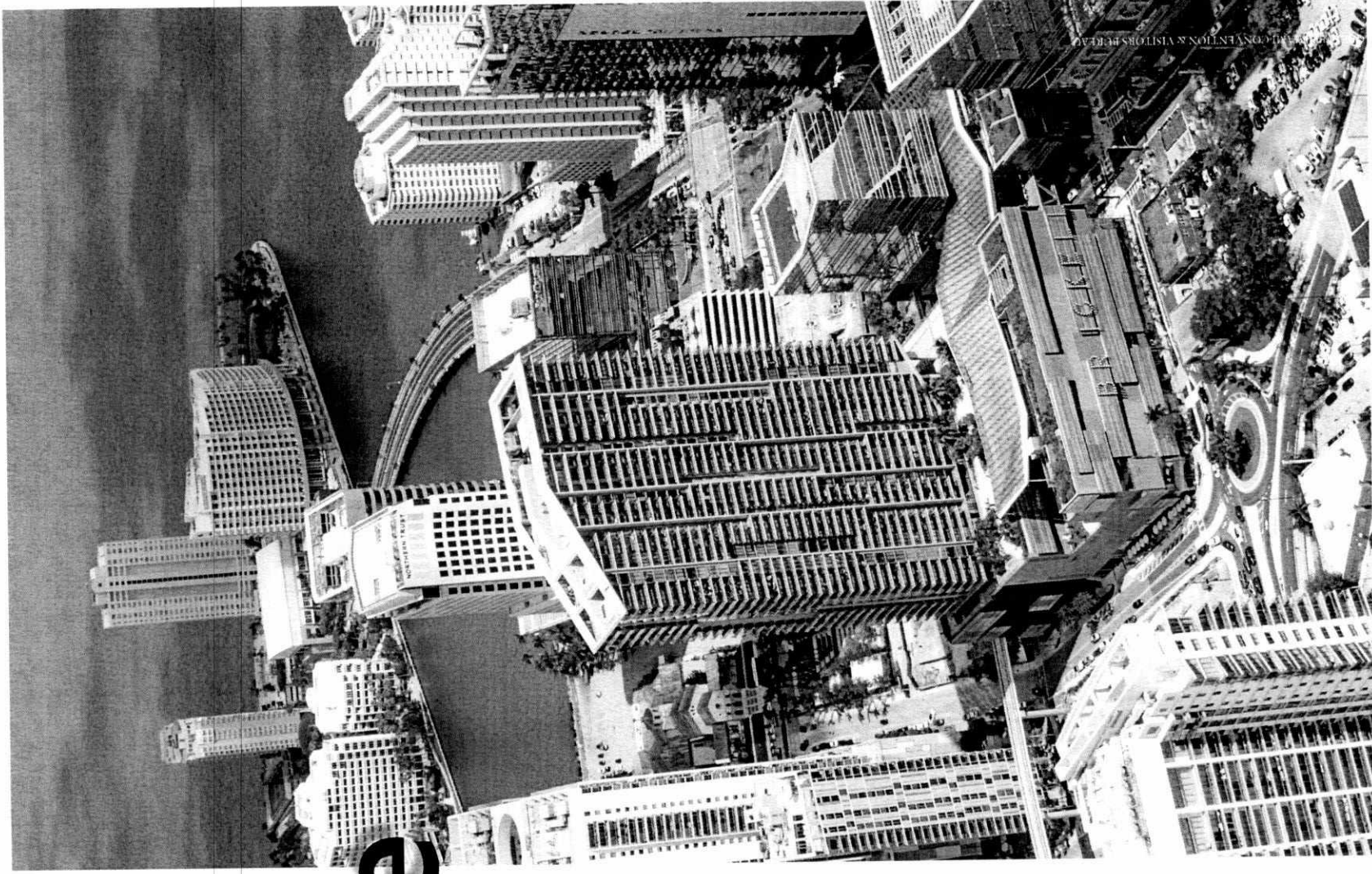
## **The Changing Face of Tech**

Transforming Miami into a Global Tech Hub

# The New Wave

The alchemy  
of technology,  
innovation, and  
finance power  
players sweetens  
Miami's tropical  
pot like never  
before.

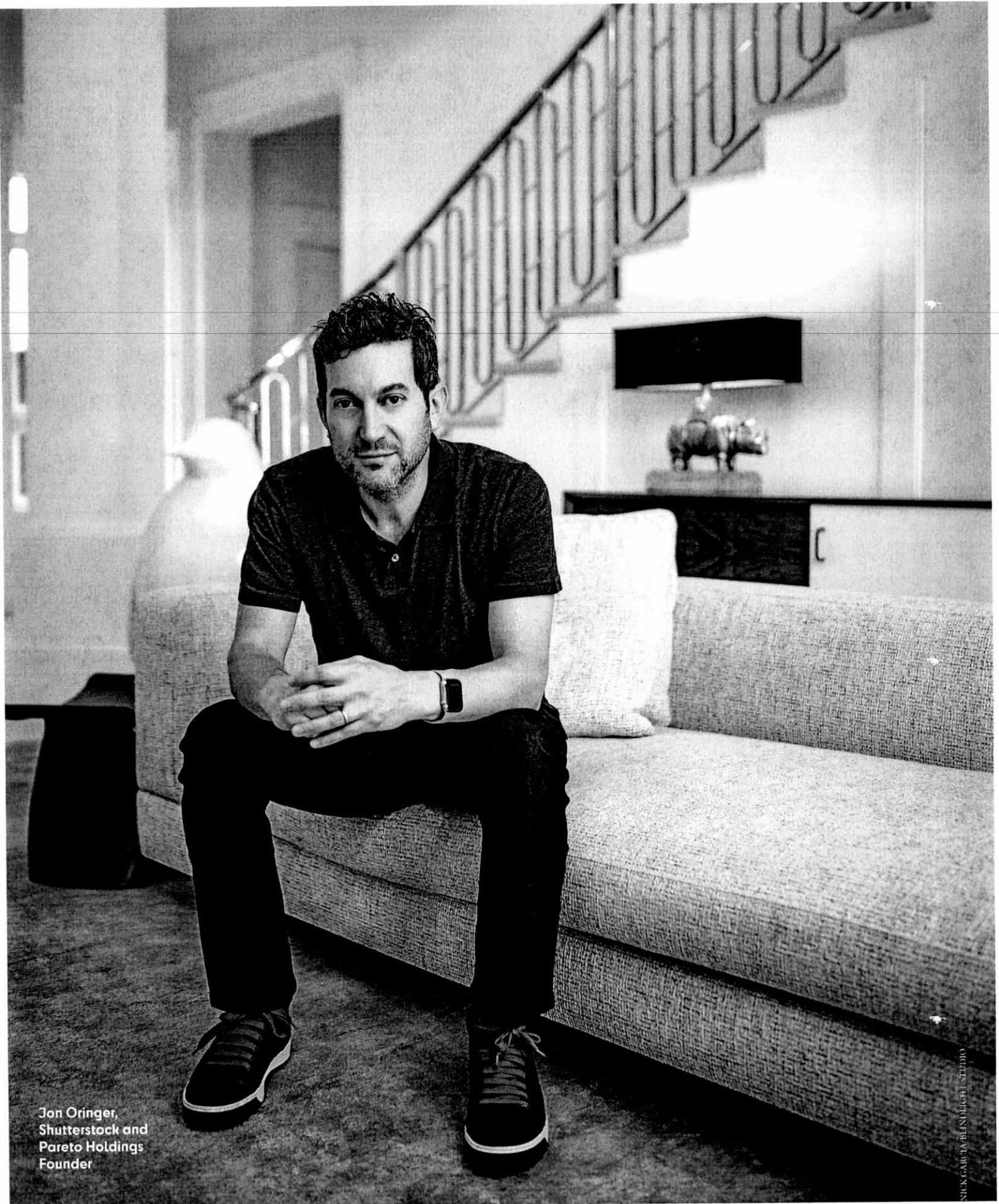
By Dirk DeSouza





Bustling Downtown Miami continues to grow in leaps and bounds, attracting industry leaders from around the world.

**IN** attempting to identify “company zero,” perhaps South Florida’s most consequential tipping point originated in Chicago. Coronavirus raging, news leaked that Citadel Securities billionaire Ken Griffin had decamped and dovetailed his Chicago and New York operations to Palm Beach in a full buyout of The Four Seasons. A 5-star public beachfront resort-turned-private-high-speed-trading-floor, Citadel so frantically altered the hotel’s electrical infrastructure to drive banks of servers stacked in ballrooms, the City of Palm Beach deemed the unpermitted work a fire hazard. With stock markets crashing, and Griffin’s gilded war room gobbling the dips, Wall Street’s power and excess officially arrived on Florida’s shores in a perfect storm of influence: Griffin’s Four Seasons landlords were Bill Gates and Saudi Prince al-Waleed bin Talal. Before he left, Griffin spent \$95 million on lots on Star



Jon Oringer,  
Shutterstock and  
Pareto Holdings  
Founder

STICK GARDIA/REINOLTA/STUDIO

Island for a planned 70,000-square-foot home, along with \$350 million for 20 acres of Palm Beach oceanfront to build a 50,000-square-foot compound.

The move's endorsement of sunshine and sandbars as a capital-creating backdrop had — finally! — unleashed an en masse migration of venture capital, private equity, and investment banking away from Silicon Valley and Manhattan, driving unprecedented innovation, technology, and philanthropy to Miami. This stampede represents “The New Wave” of businesses, people, and trends quickly shaping Miami's strategically bright future. It's wondrous to watch unfold in real time.

Shutterstock and Pareto Holdings billionaire venture capitalist founder Jon Oringer sums it up. “With local governments in New York and San Francisco becoming less business-friendly, Miami stands out as a very pro-business environment, with a mayor open to a lot of different ideas.” Low taxes, weather, and lifestyle are also huge factors... the executive paid \$42 million for the magnificently modern waterfront home where he now works. The Zoom life is here to stay.

Since arriving in 2020 from New York, Oringer and partner Edward Lando have personally funded over 150 new companies in fintech, telemedicine, and ecommerce, injecting each with \$25,000-\$500,000 in pre-seed support to entrepreneurs with budding ideas. Over 400 startups have taken the seven minutes to apply online for Pareto's largesse. “We move really, really fast, making

**“With local governments in New York and San Francisco becoming less business-friendly, Miami stands out as a very pro-business environment, with a mayor open to a lot of different ideas.”**

**- Jon Oringer**

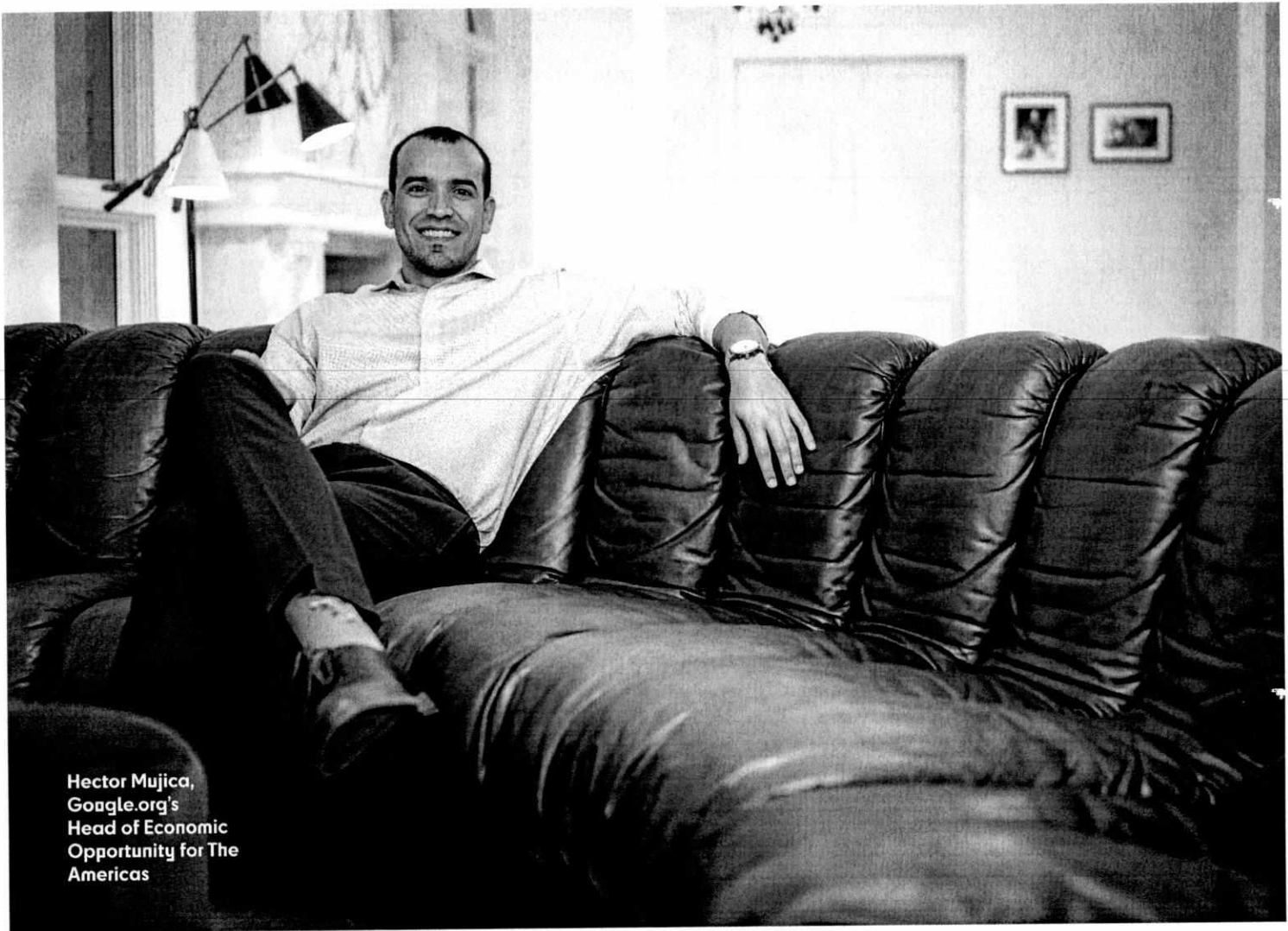
decisions within 24-48 hours. Entrepreneurs really like that because they know they need to get to market quickly and to get first mover advantage. There's no investment committee, just us.” Running in parallel is The Pareto Fellowship program, a philanthropic arm connecting experienced CEOs and founders with often-novice entrepreneurs to disperse sage, capitalistic wisdom.

There are also challenges. “Clearly, Miami's infrastructure wasn't ready for the influx of people, and there's very little Class A office space on Miami Beach,” he observes. “There's much more Class A in Miami proper, but also more houses and apartments, which we'll need much more of as Miami continues to grow. There's plenty of land to build on, and high rises need to push height restrictions.”

Pareto Holdings isn't alone in its nascent Florida love affair. Financial titans and deep-pocketed startups Point72 Asset Management, Blackstone, Elliott Management, hedge fund Citadel LLC, XRP Capital, Thoma Bravo, Ramp Financial, and Goldman Sachs have all announced moves or expansions in the Greater Miami corridor. West across the peninsula, investor superstar Cathie Wood's ARK Invest, with \$78 billion in assets, moved its headquarters from New York to Tampa Bay, then launched ARK Innovation Center, a talent incubator. Rapid7, a \$7 billion Boston-based cybersecurity company, invaded Tampa Bay, too. The City of Miami estimates that since 2020, over 80 new-to-market companies have arrived, lured by its pro-business policies and purview.

With the Miami-Dade County median household income hovering around \$51,000, thousands of new, tech-driven, high-paying jobs are critical for local GDP growth to create a rising tide of newfound prosperity that floats more boats. In a huge “get” for The Miami-Dade Beacon Council and Miami Downtown Development Authority, Microsoft announced a new 50,000-square-foot regional hub to house the tech giant's





**Hector Mujica,**  
Google.org's  
Head of Economic  
Opportunity for The  
Americas

Latin America sales, marketing, and operations teams. As a matter of context, Microsoft's current office in Fort Lauderdale manages 35 offices in 18 countries with a team of 4,000 employees supporting 80,000 Microsoft business partners. Philanthropically, the company asserts it has donated more than \$441 million in software and cash to both startups and nonprofits. Joining Microsoft at 830 Brickell is coworking giant WeWork, which will occupy 100,000 square feet and potentially house hundreds of startups.

The new wave of Silicon Valley's influence is based in Wynwood's rapidly developed hardscape, which is now anchored by pinnacle venture capital firms Founders Fund, SoftBank, and Atomic. In Miami's collective "pinch us, we must be dreaming" best-case scenario, it's astounding that the VCs that funded Facebook, SpaceX, Airbnb, Postmates, OpenStore, Affirm, Palantir, ByteDance/TikTok, Doordash, OpenStore, and Uber

**"Every day we think, 'How do our investments catalyze change and get others involved?' but ultimately we measure success through two lenses: job placement and wage gains."**

**- Hector Mujica**

sit alongside Coyo Taco, Wynwood Walls, and The Salty, where billion-dollar valuation unicorns eat donuts sold for \$54 a dozen.

Largely decamping from their offices at The Presidio of San Francisco, a former military fort, Keith Rabois and Founders Fund partner Peter Thiel are both all-in on Miami's tech scene, purchasing Venetian Causeway homes a few islands apart and living in Miami virtually full time. At least four Founders Fund investors now live here, betting that Miami-based portfolio companies like ecommerce store buyer OpenStore, workforce on demand platform Traba, and insurance infrastructure provider Lula will be breakout winners. The firm typically supplies entrepreneurs with \$1.5 to \$15 million.

Says Rabois, "Miami is the best city in the U.S. to live from weather, art, design, cuisine, happiness, and healthiness perspectives. It's also at the intersection

The new wave of Silicon Valley's influence is based in Wynwood's rapidly-developed hardscape.



GREATER MIAMI COMMISSION ON VISITORS BUREAU

of entertainment, culture, and technology, which will form the future wave of startup innovation. From an investor perspective, Miami also propels investments in Latin America and Europe. People here are more diverse, more creative, and more original in their thinking than in California.”

The world’s largest VC firm, Japan’s SoftBank, is equally enamored with Wynwood, investing in 12 local tech companies while drastically expanding the fund’s \$100 million Miami Initiative to over \$250 million due to sheer opportunity. The firm has over 100 local employees rumored to be moving into new Class A offices at the former site of Rubell Museum. With an eye on giving back, the company has launched SoftBank Operator School, a startup talent development initiative with partnerships with group Data Science 4 All / Correlation One and local colleges like Miami Dade College.

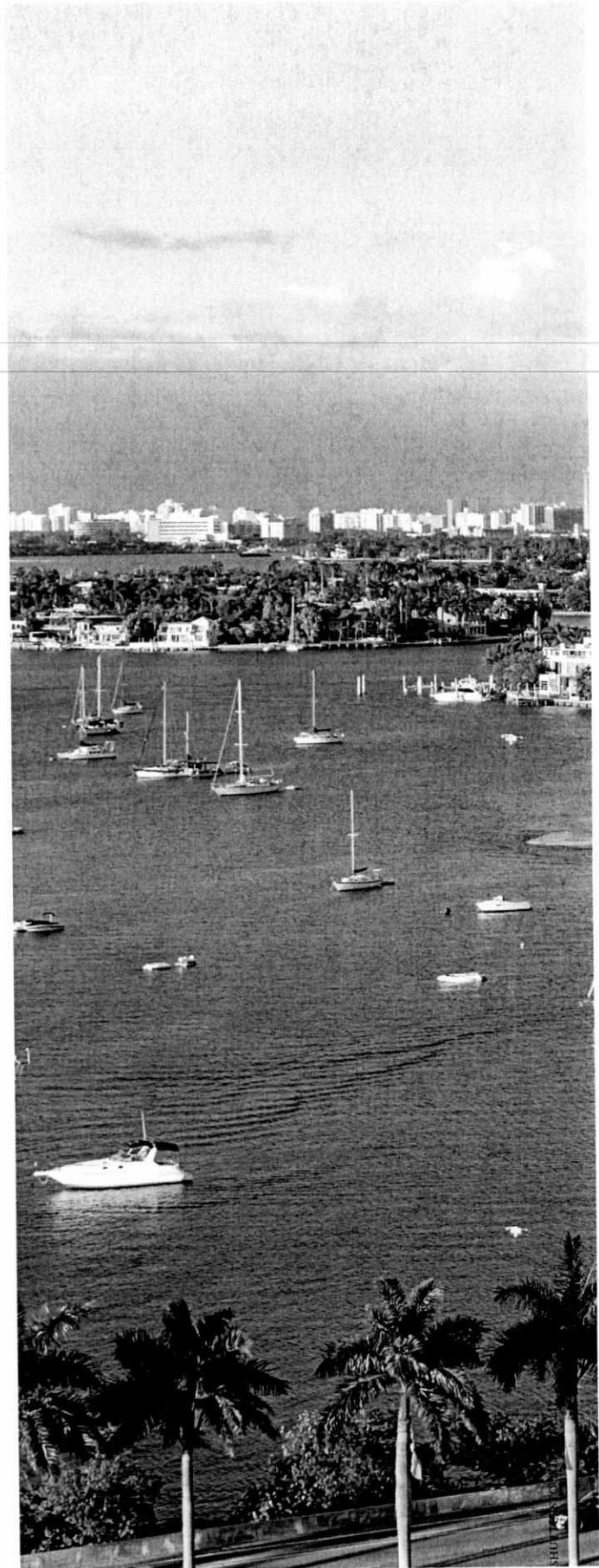
But with so much money flowing seemingly at the top, perhaps no other company is investing more intently in digital equality and technology skill development and uplifting Miami’s marginalized communities than Google. Operating “at the intersection of social justice and technology,” Hector Mujica, Head of Economic Opportunity for The Americas, recently returned to Miami, alongside a team of more than 50 Google employees from the company’s Brickell office. Since 2018, Mujica has tripled the company’s Florida grant-making efforts, supporting over 11,000 nonprofits with almost \$31 million in free advertising in 2020 alone, while overseeing a multi-million America’s grant budget supporting organizations like Social Finance with a

\$100 million fund to support underserved job seekers with pathways to digital economy jobs. Almost 10,000 Florida small business owners have been paired with digital coaches to hone their skills, while about 200,000 Floridians have received skills training through 430 local organizations Google supports.

Google.org’s motivation is altruistic, Mujica says, to give those being left behind in a digital world a hand up with free programs. “As a company, we know a lot about technology, know a lot about computer science, artificial intelligence, and digital skills. Two-thirds of all jobs require digital skilling, and individuals without those skills will be left out of the economy, full stop.”

On a typical day, Mujica and his team meet with community leaders, local governments, marginalized citizens, and other partner funders, including foundations such as Lumina Foundation and Walmart Foundation. “Every day we think, ‘How do our investments catalyze change and get others involved?’ but ultimately we measure success through two lenses: job placement and wage gains,” he explains.

When asked if corporate social responsibility should be a vital component for startups, Oringer responds succinctly, “We need as many people as possible to realize that as they’re considering starting a company that they stay in Miami instead of leaving. Building a successful business and creating jobs really is the ultimate way to give back.” ©



Ken Griffin, Keith Rabois,  
and Peter Thiel are all-in  
on Miami's tech scene,  
purchasing Venetian  
Causeway homes and  
lots on Star Island.





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## PR Newswire

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### Mantra Health and NAIA Survey Reveals College Athletic Directors Need Better Support to Address Student-Athlete Mental Health Crisis

- 92% of athletic departments want psychiatric services included in their athletic programs
- The #1 resource college athletic depts wish they had is mental health training for coaches & directors
- Mantra Health releases an additional guide that describes barriers preventing student-athletes from accessing mental health care and recommendations from leading experts like Toronto Raptors' Dir. of Wellness

NEW YORK and KANSAS CITY, Miss., July 11, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- A joint survey conducted by [Mantra Health](#), the preeminent digital mental health clinic for young adults, and The [National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics](#) (NAIA) revealed college athletic directors are currently lacking the appropriate training and services needed to address the student-athlete mental health crisis effectively. An overwhelming majority (92%) of athletic staff reported they don't have but want psychiatric services available in their athletic programs to support students, and 44% rated their college's mental health resources as "average."

# Mantra Health

*The 2022 Mantra Health and NAIA Student-Athlete Mental Health Survey* had over 50 NAIA members (including 39 athletic directors) participate during May 2022. While many athletic departments recognize the need for more mental health resources, services, and support, there is no clear direction for developing or implementing them effectively. This survey identifies the resources college athletic departments need most and how they can build and deploy mental health best practices.

#### Major findings from the survey include:

- According to respondents, the top 3 factors impacting student-athletes' mental health are: balancing academic and athletic responsibilities (92%), interpersonal relationships (82%) and financial security (77%).
- The #1 resource (90%) athletic departments wish they had is mental health training for coaches and directors.
- 70% of athletic departments wish they had a sports psychologist or therapist in their athletic program.
- 48% of athletic department staff reported academic success as their top priority regarding student mental health, while 44% reported student retention as their primary concern.

"With all the stressors that come with juggling school work, social life, and a demanding athletics career, it is important that our institutions are able to protect and prioritize the mental health and wellbeing of our student-athletes," said NAIA President and CEO Jim Carr. "We want to thoroughly understand the services and resources that can help our student-athletes, and the findings of this survey are a great step in giving us this insight."

"In addition to the normal stressors of college life, student-athletes face a lot of pressure to perform in sports and academics, all while balancing interpersonal relationships and personal responsibilities," said Dr. Liz Jodoin, Mantra Health Clinical Solutions Consultant. "We've also seen that student-athletes are less likely to seek help than non-athletes since many have been

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conditioned to play through physical, emotional, and psychological pain. As a result, this has contributed, in part, to higher rates of stress, anxiety, depression, and in many cases, has exacerbated pre-existing mental health conditions."

Maintaining a strong, collaborative team of high-performing athletes is a top priority for coaches and athletic directors, even in solo sports. When one or two teammates cannot perform due to a physical injury, it can significantly impact the team as a whole – and the same is true for a mental health issue. However, the difference is that mental health conditions are invisible, making them easier to hide, and harder to identify, diagnose, and treat.

"Elite athletes like Simone Biles and Naomi Osaka have recently stepped forward to share their personal experiences with mental health issues," said Ed Gaussen, Co-Founder and CEO of Mantra Health. "While this is spreading awareness for student-athlete mental health, the larger initiative Mantra and NAIA are trying to tackle is to change the culture in athletics. Our goal is to help athletic departments build robust mental health practices, which will take time, research and collaboration. This will also have the greatest chance of addressing student-athletes' specific needs and improving their mental health in the long-term."

In addition to the survey, today Mantra released [\*Taking a Team Approach to Mental Health\*](#), a best practices guide for collegiate athletic departments. In this guide, athletics directors and mental health professionals address the barriers preventing student-athletes from accessing quality mental health care and offer recommendations for transforming athletic departments to support student-athlete mental wellness better.

- To download the *2022 Mantra Health and NAIA Student-Athlete Mental Health Survey* [click here](#).
- To download *Taking a Team Approach to Mental Health* [click here](#).

To learn about Mantra Health's student-athlete mental health services, please contact [partners@mantrahealth.com](mailto:partners@mantrahealth.com) or visit [mantrahealth.com](http://mantrahealth.com).

### **About National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)**

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), headquartered in Kansas City, Mo., is a governing body of small athletics programs that are dedicated to character-driven intercollegiate athletics. NAIA members provide more than 77,000 student-athletes with opportunities to play college sports, earn \$800 million in scholarships and compete in 27 national championships. [naia.org](http://naia.org) | @NAIA

Brad Cygan

Director of Athletics Communications

[bcygan@naia.org](mailto:bcygan@naia.org)

O: 816.595.8119 | M: 618.210.4518

### **About Mantra Health**

[Mantra Health](#) is a digital mental health clinic on a mission to improve access to evidence-based mental healthcare for young adults. Through augmenting high-quality clinical services with software and design, we aim to improve the mental health of over 20 million university and college students through partnerships with higher education institutions and health insurance plans. The Mantra program has been deployed across 50+ campuses with over 500,000 students including Penn State, MIT, Cornell, and Miami Dade College.

#### Media Contact

Laurel Getz

203.767.5963

[mantrahealth@hermesprgroup.com](mailto:mantrahealth@hermesprgroup.com)

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Business / Finance Press Release

Jul 13

## GREATER MIAMI AVIATION ASSOCIATION TO HONOR MAJOR LOCAL LEADERS AT ITS NOVEMBER 5th CHARITY GALA



EIN Presswire



*The GMAA has announced its 95TH Annual 2022 Nov. 5th Gala award recipients and will be held at the Sheltair FBO Hangar in Fort Lauderdale, Florida*

**We're proud to support outstanding young aviators, women, and men who dream of careers in aviation and are citizens of our community. Such scholarships could change the lives of these students,"**

*— GMAA Board President, Aviv*

MI Tzur

AMI, FL, USA, July 13, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Today, the GMAA has announced its 95TH Annual 2022 Gala award recipients. The November 5th Gala, themed The Great Gatsby, will be held at the Sheltair FBO Hangar at Fort Lauderdale International Airport. In assessing the candidates, the emphasis was placed on hometown executives who, under extreme and unprecedented conditions, continue to navigate their companies and organizations with a sure hand, toward recovery. They have contributed to the remarkable surge in our local economy and provided many well-paying jobs to the aviation community.

The awardees include:

- Fred Murphy, CEO, FEAM Maintenance & Engineering for the Wright Brothers Award;
- Mark Gale, CEO/Director of Aviation at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport for the Juan Trippe Award;
- Jorge Fernandez & Allan Jiron, Co-owners of Summit Aviation for the Glenn Curtiss Award;
- Lisa Holland, President, Sheltair for the Amelia Earhart Award.
- GA Telesis for the Corporate Award;
- Michael Finney (Posthumously) Beacon Council Lifetime Achievement Award.

In addition, students from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida Memorial University, Broward College, Miami-Dade College and George T. Baker Technical College will receive Scholarships and Type Rating Certificates ranging from \$1,000.00 to \$10,000.00 through the George T. Bachelor Scholarship Fund, Paramount Aviation Services, the Murphy Family, the Tzur Family, and the Nelson Gonzalez family.

The GMAA has provided over \$750,000 in scholarships to local young aviators. The scholarships will be awarded to the students at the gala. The Aviv Tzur, President of GMAA commented: We are proud to support outstanding young aviators, women, and men who dream of careers in the aviation industry, and are citizens of our community. Such scholarships could change the lives and career trajectory of these students, which was the vision of Mr. Batchelor. We are also proud this year, to recognize our hometown heroes, individuals who, in the midst of a global pandemic continue to guide their companies on the road to recovery.

The Greater Miami Aviation Association (GMAA) was established in 1927 and is one of the largest and oldest Civic and Business Aviation organizations in the Americas. GMAA works in concert with other organizations, industry leaders, government, and civic leaders to ensure that professional, ethically positive action programs are implemented in matters relating to the Aviation and Aerospace industries.

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# Berkadia Arranges for Rilea Group a \$21M Refinancing of Garden-Style Apartment Community in Kendall, Florida

JULY 14, 2022



**Berkadia** announces it has arranged the refinancing of Vista Verde at Deerwood, a 208-unit garden-style apartment community in the Kendall submarket of Miami. Senior Managing Director **Charles Foschini**, Managing Director **Christopher Apone** and Senior Analyst **Shannon Wilson** of Berkadia Miami secured the financing on behalf of RILEA Group, a real estate management and development company based in Miami, Fla.

State Farm provided the 10-year, fixed-rate loan, with interest only.

“Kendall is experiencing resurgent demand and scarce vacancies, now one of the lowest in the metro, which has led to a year-over-year rent growth of 17.9 percent,” said Foschini

Located at 13901 SW 122<sup>ND</sup> Avenue, Vista Verde at Deerwood was built in 1999 and offers one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments averaging 698 square feet to 1,176 square feet. Individual amenities feature hurricane shutters, walk-in closets, European-style cabinets, frost free refrigerators and ice makers, range and oven, dishwashers, double stainless-steel sinks, wall-to-wall designer carpeting, vertical blinds, pest control services and high efficiency wall insulation. The pet friendly community amenities include a pool with free Wi-Fi, a fitness center, volleyball court, BBQ and picnic area, balconies and patios.

Vista Verde at Deerwood is situated within the Kendall submarket of Miami, close to the Miami Dade College Kendall Campus, West Kendall Baptist Hospital, Jackson South Medical Center, The Falls shopping mall, the Zoo Miami, Deerwood Bonita Lakes Park, Tamiami Pinelands and the Sergeant Joseph Delancy Park.

**About Berkadia®:**

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By News - July 14, 2022



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## PR Newswire Life Sciences News (FL)

### Roberto Uriel, MD, is recognized by Continental Who's Who

HIALEAH, Fla., July 12, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Roberto Uriel, MD, is being recognized by Continental Who's Who as a Top Physician for his distinguished career in Pediatrics and in acknowledgment of his work at South Florida Pediatrics.

Widely known in his community as a caring and compassionate Pediatrician, Dr. Uriel has been a practicing physician for 35 years. He has owned and operated South Florida Pediatrics, Inc for 31 years, located at 2300 West 84th St., Suite 202, in Hialeah, FL. Dr. Uriel recently announced opening a second office location for his practice, at 3905 NW 107th Ave., Suite 412, in Doral, FL.

In addition to general pediatrics, Dr. Uriel also focuses on allergy and asthma treatment. He maintains active affiliation with Nicklaus Children's Hospital, including nearly 800 attending physicians and more than 390 pediatric subspecialties. Founded in 1950, the facility is the only licensed pediatric specialty hospital located in South Florida.

Dr. Uriel completed his Bachelor's degree at Miami-Dade College and the University of Miami. He then earned his Medical Degree at the Universidad Central del Este in the Dominican Republic. He completed his Pediatrics Residency at Rush Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center, in Chicago, IL.

A widely respected expert in his field, Dr. Uriel was honored in his community as the recipient of the Patients' Choice Award in 2015, the Compassionate Doctor Recognition in 2015, and the Top 10 Doctor in 2014.

For additional information, please visit [www.southfloridaped.com](http://www.southfloridaped.com) (<https://c212.net/c/link?t=0&l=en&o=3591970-1&h=1042886246&u=https%3A%2F%2Fsouthfloridaped.com%2F&a=www.southfloridaped.com>).

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A widely respected expert in his field, Dr. Uriel was honored in his community as the recipient of the Patients' Choice Award in 2015, the Compassionate Doctor Recognition in 2015, and the Top 10 Doctor in 2014.

For additional information, please visit [www.southfloridaped.com](http://www.southfloridaped.com) (<https://c212.net/c/link/?t=0&l=en&o=3591970-1&h=1042886246&u=https%3A%2F%2Fsouthfloridaped.com%2F&a=www.southfloridaped.com>).

Contact: Katherine Green, 516-825-5634, [pr@continentalwhoswho.com](mailto:pr@continentalwhoswho.com) (<mailto:pr@continentalwhoswho.com>)

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## DISNEY ORIGINAL DOCUMENTARY DEBUTS TRAILER FOR CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AND AWARD-WINNING 'MIJA'

July 13, 2022 at 10:30:00 PM CEST

17 hours ago

Businesswire

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[WATCH TRAILER HERE](#)

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[DOWNLOAD KEY ART HERE](#)

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By: Disney Original Documentary via Business Wire

July 13, 2022 at 15:00 PM EDT

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Jul 13, 2022

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Marcus Cammack, [Marcus.Cammack@natgeo.com](mailto:Marcus.Cammack@natgeo.com)

KEYWORD: UNITED STATES NORTH AMERICA CALIFORNIA

INDUSTRY KEYWORD: OTHER ENTERTAINMENT FILM & MOTION PICTURES TV AND RADIO MUSIC ONLINE GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT MOBILE ENTERTAINMENT ENTERTAINMENT

SOURCE: Disney Original Documentary

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[Submit your news, get featured!](#)

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## TRAILERS

### Official Trailer for Disney Doc 'Mija' About Immigrants from Mexico

by [Alex Billington](#)

July 14, 2022

Source: [YouTube](#)



"The blood, sweat, and tears that go into this, mean something to someone." Disney has revealed an official trailer for a documentary film titled *Mija*, made by filmmaker Isabel Castro. This initially premiered at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival earlier this year, arriving in select US theaters this August. *Mija* chronicles the emotional and complex stories of **Doris Muñoz & Jacks Haupt**, daughters of undocumented immigrants from Mexico, navigating their careers in the music industry (one is a manager, the other is an upcoming artist). For these two, "making it" isn't just a dream, it's a necessity for their survival and for their family. Director Isabel Castro's intimate debut feature constructs an ethereal vision and homage to the daughters that fight for their families, their dreams and themselves. It won Best Film at Dock of the Bay Festival 2022. *Mija* has had a strong presence on the film festival circuit, including True/False Film Festival, Miami Film Festival, CPH: DOX, SFFILM Festival, Hot Docs, San Luis Obispo Film Festival, Oak Cliff Film Festival, Los Angeles Latino Film Festival, Guadalajara Film Festival, and others. We recommend this doc - worth a look.

Here's the official trailer (+ poster) for Isabel Castro's doc *Mija*, direct from Disney's [YouTube](#):

# HAPPENINGNEXT



## Advanced Teen Driving Safety Program (ATDSP)

### Schedule

Thu Jul 14 2022 at 08:00 am to 04:00 pm  
UTC-04:00

### Location

Miami Dade College - North Campus |  
Miami, FL

## PART I: TEEN HIGH RISK DRIVING ENVIRONMENT

Objective: Prepare teenage drivers through classroom instruction to help mitigate and prevent motor vehicle related incidents.

The students will participate in a three-hour classroom instruction, in which, they will learn:

- Vehicle dynamics, Pitch/Roll/Yaw
- Psychological and psychological causes of driver stress
- Impaired driving
- Distracted driving

## PART II: TEEN HIGH RISK PRACTICAL DRIVING EXPERIENCE

Location: Miami Dade College North Campus- Driving Range, Adjacent to Building 9

Objective: Prepare teenage drivers through practical experience instruction to help mitigate and prevent motor vehicle related incidents.

The students will participate in a nine-hour field instruction in which, they will learn:

- Vehicle safety checks
- Vehicle Performance Drills and Evaluation
- Evasive Maneuver: The ability to make a quick lane change, simulating avoiding a collision. Proper use of accelerator and steering techniques.
- Braking Technique: The ability to stop the vehicle smoothly, and quickly, without losing steering control utilizing various acceptable braking techniques.
- Backing Technique: The ability to back the vehicle through an exercise demonstrating control and understanding of vehicle clearance.
- Forward Serpentine: The ability to steer smoothly between a series of cones demonstrating proper hand position and limited weight transfer.
- Cornering Technique: The ability to corner smoothly without radical weight transfer, selecting a proper apex and using appropriate steering methods.
- Skid Control Technique: The ability to regain control of a skidding vehicle, utilizing proper steering methods and use of the accelerator.




## Advanced Teen Driving Safety Program



Advertisement

### Where is it happening?

 Miami Dade College - North Campus, 11380 Northwest 27th Avenue, Miami, United States

### Event Location & Nearby Stays:

**Tickets**  
USD 0.00

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**It's more fun with friends. Share with friends**



March 28, 2022

Words: Jesse Dorris

Photography: Oriol Tarridas/Courtesy of MoAD

## AMLgMATD invoke 'Tropical Cubism' for the Museum of Art and Design's Education Lab in Miami

The Museum of Art and Design at Miami-Dade College's new Education Lab, a 1,500-square-foot space housed in the Freedom Tower downtown, will offer the community a host of innovative lectures, workshops, and artmaking activities. The space needed to be as forward-thinking and flexible as its curricula, which is why MoAD approached local firm [AMLgMATD](#) to conceive its design.

Over the next few years, co-founders Laz Ojalde and Natalie Zlamalova refined not a space, but a style. "We searched for a commonality that would bridge our artistic

approaches and principals and that would feel appropriate to exist within the walls of the 1920s-built landmark,” the pair say. “Natalie’s Czech background and admiration for early Czech Cubism & Functionalism and Laz’s love of industrial design and Art Deco, especially the overly stylized Tropical Art Deco found mainly throughout South Florida, were focal to the process. We discussed what if these two different yet somewhat similar styles of decor and function amalgamated and lived on today as a hybrid style called Tropical Cubism?”

The end result fuses bold colors and abstract geometries for a space with reconfigurable furnishings and intriguing finishes, organized into a quartet of arrangements including a main area, children’s area, reading zone, and build/work zone. “Every single piece had to be designed with modularity in mind so that it could be carried in and assembled on site by only a couple of people,” say the design duo. “Tropical Cubism gave us the ability to play creatively with bold angular line work and historic silhouettes. And it allowed us to artistically reinterpret the styles’ functionalities and purpose in this space.” Not to mention offering inspiration to future generations learning in the lab.



## INTERIOR DESIGN



AMLgMATD's Laz Ojalde and Natalie Zlamalova seized upon the idea of 'tropical cubism' for their design.

SOUTH FLORIDA // GENERAL BUSINESS



# The Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami Celebrates Diversity Through Art with Robust Public Programming in August

JULY 13, 2022



## **What/Who:**

In the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami (MOCA)'s continued efforts to celebrate diverse voices and perspectives, the museum is offering a robust series of education and public programming throughout August.

MOCA's groundbreaking exhibition "*My Name is Maryan*" has been extended and is now on view through October 2, 2022. Curated by **Alison M. Gingeras**, the exhibition is a monographic presentation of four decades of paintings, sculptures, drawings and film by the iconoclastic, ground-breaking Polish-born artist Maryan. Drawing upon new scholarship and a trove of never-before-exhibited works, "*My Name is Maryan*" is the first retrospective to holistically examine all periods of Maryan's life and work. Throughout the museum, Maryan's extraordinary biography and prolific oeuvre represent a deeply moving monument to the perseverance of the human spirit and power of art to work through traumatic loss. Credited as being among the first artist-eyewitnesses to directly depict their experiences of the Shoah, Maryan's unique approach to figurative art strove to solidarity across cultures and generations. A catalog for "*My Name is Maryan*" is forthcoming this summer. After closing in October, the exhibition will then travel to the Tel Aviv Museum of Art.

## **MOCA's August programming includes:**

### **MOCA miniMakers: Diversity Appreciation | Saturday, Aug. 6, 2 - 4 p.m.**

- **Details:** MOCA is celebrating diversity through art! Inspired by Jade Purple Brown illustrations, participants will combine photos with bold, graphic illustrations celebrating important historical diversity leaders. MOCA miniMakers is MOCA's free and inclusive series of art workshops for children ages 6 and up. Children will have access to a variety of art techniques, as well as an inclusive curriculum incorporating step-by-step guides, STEAM activation and creative free play.

Taught by experienced artists and sponsored by the North Miami Community Redevelopment Agency, MOCA miniMakers aims to foster an accessible spirit of learning through the arts.

- **Cost:** Free
- **RSVP:** For more information, please visit: <https://111401.blackbaudhosting.com/111401/packetickets?tab=3&txobjid=4e23cefb-d39d-4fde-bdfc-c9f03ea09371%C2%A0>

**Sunday Stories: “Just Ask!: Be Different, Be Brave, Be You” by Sonia Sotomayor | Sunday, Aug. 7, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

- **Details:** Join MOCA on the first Sunday of every month for MOCA Sunday Stories’ story time, followed by a DIY early childhood art project. MOCA is reading “Just Ask!: Be Different, Be Brave, Be You” by Supreme Court Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor. In this book, feeling different, especially as a kid, can be tough. But in the same way that different types of plants and flowers make a garden more beautiful and enjoyable, different types of people make the world more vibrant and wonderful. After the reading, participants may create their own variety of different paper flowers to take home. Sponsored by the North Miami Community Redevelopment Agency, this early childhood art series engages toddlers and fosters reading, motor skill development and socialization. MOCA Sunday Stories is a great way for children to bond with their parents or guardians as they create together.
- **Cost:** Free
- **RSVP:** For more information, please visit: <https://111401.blackbaudhosting.com/111401/packetickets?tab=3&txobjid=932f563f-2481-4692-a197-52be03f4cfa3>

**MOCA Makers: Portrait Painting | Saturday, Aug. 13, 1 – 3 p.m.**

- **Details:** MOCA Makers is a series of adult art workshops, which bring forward an artistically interested public to work with and learn from local artists in South Florida. Topics such as figure drawing, print making, and portrait painting are hosted for all level of participants. Art Packs are available for purchase from the MOCA Shop. This August, participants will be studying portrait painting with artist Lucia Morales. MOCA Makers courses are made possible with the support from the North Miami CRA.
- **Cost:** Free
- **RSVP:** For more information, please visit:

<https://111401.blackbaudhosting.com/111401/MOCA-Makers-Portrait-Painting-13Aug2022>

**My Name is Maryan – Docent-Led Exhibition Tour | Sunday, Aug. 14 and 28, 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.**

- **Details:** Register for a tour led by MOCA docent **Dr. Helen Sachs Chaset**. Dr. Chaset is an educator with more than 45 years of experience in administration, professional development, and program development. She is also a board member of Miami-Dade Holocaust Survivors, the Jewish Community Services of South Florida and the Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education. Dr. Chaset is the daughter of two Holocaust Survivors and was born in a displaced persons camp in Hannover, Germany.
- **Cost:** All tours are free with admission. Admission to the museum is \$10. Admission for students, seniors, and visitors identifying as disabled is \$3. Admission is free to MOCA members, children under 12, North Miami residents, city employees, veterans, and caregivers accompanying people who are disabled.
- **RSVP:** For more information, please visit: <https://mocanomi.org/2022/02/tours-at-moca/>

**My Name is Maryan – Public Exhibition Tour with Education Exhibitions Specialist Lauren Baccus | Friday, Aug. 19, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

- **Details:** Register for a tour conducted by MOCA's Exhibition Education Specialist and textile artist **iren Baccus**. Through her practice and ongoing research in material culture at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Baccus brings an object-driven approach to learning and relation.
- **Cost:** All tours are free with admission. Admission to the museum is \$10. Admission for students, seniors, and visitors identifying as disabled is \$3. Admission is free to MOCA members, children under 12, North Miami residents, city employees, veterans, and caregivers accompanying people who are disabled.
- **RSVP:** For more information, please visit: <https://mocanomi.org/2022/02/tours-at-moca/>

#### **Jazz at MOCA Featuring Karina Iglesias and the Nu-Thang | Friday, Aug. 26, 8 p.m.**

- **Details:** "Jazz at MOCA" is MOCA's free outdoor concert series in-person on the last Friday of every month. On Friday, Aug. 26, MOCA is pleased to present **Karina Iglesias** and the **Nu-Thang**. Born and raised in Miami, Florida, to Honduran parents, Iglesias' sound mirrors the diverse musical and cultural influences that have shaped her character and forged her individuality as an artist. With a style equally informed by rhythm & blues, boleros, gospel and hip-hop, Iglesias delivers her performances with the intimacy of a deep soul crooner and the conviction and drive of a dauntless female singer and songwriter.
- **Cost:** Jazz at MOCA is free and open to the public. The gallery is open to view MOCA's current exhibition, "My Name is Maryan," from 7-10 p.m. with museum admission. Admission to the museum is \$10. Admission for students, seniors, and visitors identifying as disabled is \$3. Admission is free to MOCA members, children under 12, North Miami residents, city employees, veterans, and caregivers accompanying people who are disabled.
- **RSVP:** For more information, please visit: [111401.blackbaudhosting.com/111401/jazz-at-moca-featuring-karina-iglesias-and-the-nu-thang](http://111401.blackbaudhosting.com/111401/jazz-at-moca-featuring-karina-iglesias-and-the-nu-thang)

#### **Art on the Plaza: "Clint and April" | Aug. through Oct.7**

- **Details:** On view from Aug. through Oct. 7 as part of MOCA's Art on the Plaza series, Casey's "Clint and April" is a sculptural installation featuring two swans, each secured on their respective plinths. The sculptures are illuminated from within via solar-powered lights. Existing as a pair to echo the natural practice of swans who mate for life, "Clint and April" creates a tender space for the contemplation of beauty, love, ideas of worship and familial bonds. Included with the installation is a performance with a written prompt of questions to inspire conversation between the artist and the audience. Casey draws on the ambiguity of personal memory and pop-cultural ephemera, to fantasize and elaborate on reflections of the world. Her practice moves from sculpture to collage, as well as video and performance. She enjoys redeploing existing materials or moments in unexpected, idiosyncratic ways. Casey received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the New World School of the Arts, Miami, FL and a master's degree from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA. Her work has also been included in group exhibitions at the Pérez Art Museum Miami, FL; the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, FL; Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA; Practice Gallery, Philadelphia, PA; among others. Her work is collected by the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, the Pérez Art Museum Miami and in private collections in Miami and New York City. She was born in West Palm Beach, FL, and currently lives and works in Miami, FL.
- **Cost:** Free and open to the public

#### **Where:**

Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami (MOCA)

770 NE 125<sup>th</sup> Street

Miami, FL 33161

#### **Support:**

"My Name is Maryan" is made possible with lead support from the Terra Foundation for American Art and **William M. Lehman, Jr.** MOCA is grateful to The Polish Cultural Institute of New York, The Wege Foundation, Funding Arts Network and Adele and Joel Sandberg for their generosity. Special thanks to The William Louis-Dreyfus Foundation, BNY Mellon Wealth Management, Florida Humanities, Arlene Kahn and Richard Yulman. We are also grateful to Bal Harbour Village, City National Bank, Grand Brulot, Judi Witkin, Daniel Lewis, Isaac Fisher, Brian Bilzin, Helen Chaset, and The Robert Russell Memorial Foundation for their support.

MOCA North Miami exhibitions and programs are made possible with the continued support of the North Miami Mayor and Council and the City of North Miami, the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, and the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners. MOCA North Miami also thanks its Board of Trustees, Curator's Circle and MOCA Members for their meaningful support.

### **About the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami**

MOCA North Miami presents contemporary art and its historical influences through exhibitions, educational programs, and collections. Inspired by its surrounding communities, MOCA connects diverse audiences and cultures by providing a welcoming place to encounter new ideas and voices, and nurturing a lifelong love of the arts. MOCA developed from the Center of Contemporary Art which was inaugurated in 1981. The establishment of the permanent collection coincided with the institution's move into their current building designed by Charles Gwathmey of GSNY in 1996.

Under the direction of Executive Director **Chana Sheldon** and a newly installed Board of Trustees, MOCA premiered *AFRICOBRA: Messages to the People* during Art Basel Miami Beach in 2018. *AFRICOBRA: Nation Time*, the next chapter of the exhibition, was selected as an official Collateral Event of Biennale Arte 2019 in Venice, Italy. Original exhibitions include: *My Name is Maryan* curated by Alison Gingeras (2021),

*Michael Richards: Are You Down?* co-curated by Alex Fialho and Melissa Levin (2021), *Raul de Nieves: Eternal Return and The Obsidian Heart* curated by Risa Puleo (2020), and *Alice Rahon: Poetic Invocations* curated by Teresa Arcq (2019).

Located in one of the most diverse communities in the country, MOCA North Miami welcomes 35,000 visitors per year, and its award-winning education programs have served thousands of children and teens. MOCA North Miami exhibitions and programs are made possible with the continued support of the North Miami Mayor and Council and the City of North Miami, the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners. The museum is supported by the Green Family Foundation, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Nathan Cummings Foundation, Terra Foundation for American Art, National Endowment for the Arts, and individual donors.

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# HAPPENINGNEXT



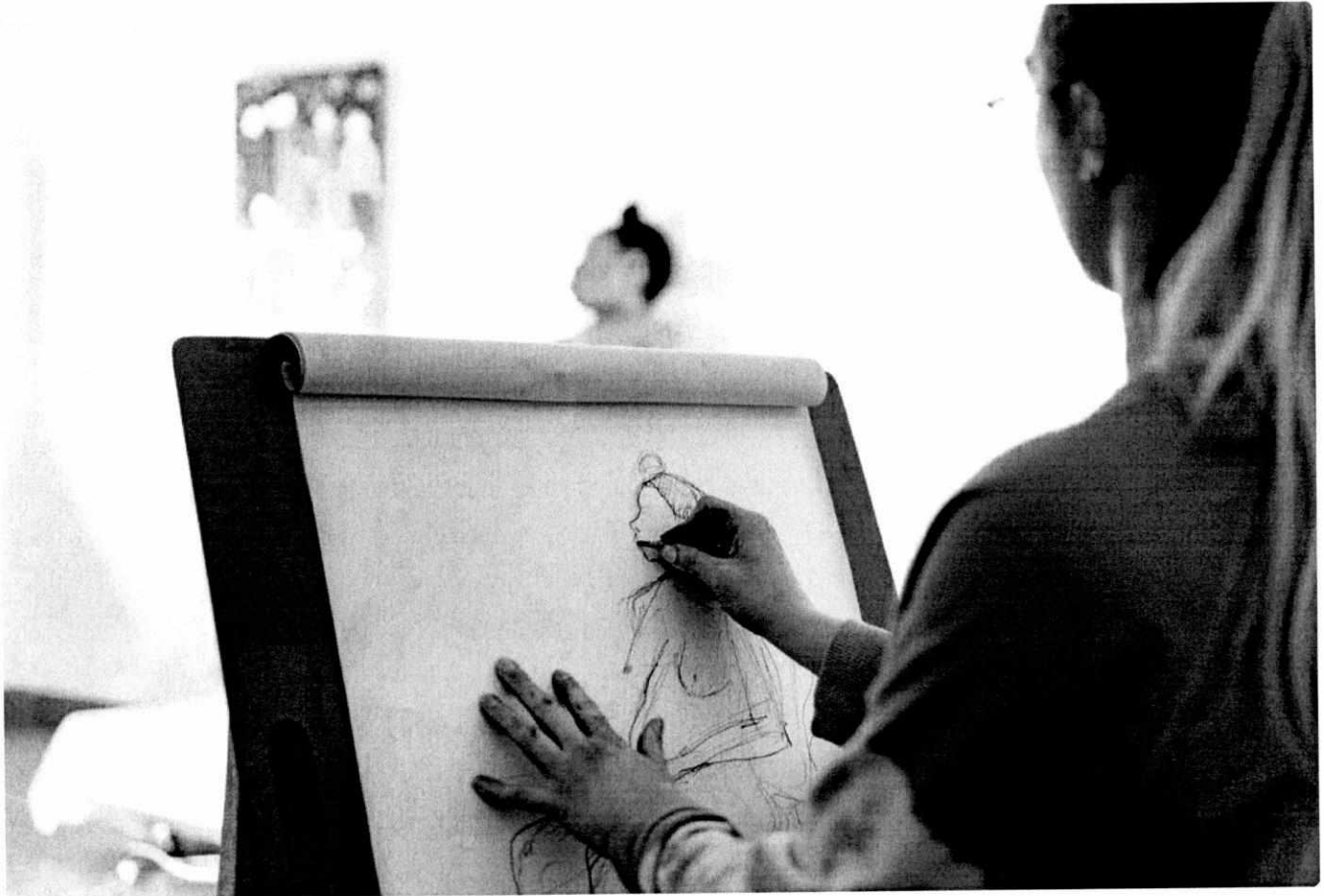
## Figure Drawing Workshop

### Schedule

Thu Jul 21 2022 at 06:00 pm to 09:00 pm  
UTC-04:00

### Location

Oolite Arts | Miami Beach, FL



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All registrants are required to follow the COVID safety precautions put in place by Oolite Arts and agree to all the terms in the waiver.

In this workshop, students will tackle the classic challenge of drawing the human figure from life. There will be demos and exercises to practice gesture, proportion, movement, foreshortening, form, light and shadow.

Students will learn to put marks on paper that will describe what they see in front of them. This class is not so much about finished drawings, but rather the process of learning to express what they see on paper. A nude model will be used, taking short and long poses. Various media may be explored. There will be a recap at the end of the session for students to review their work and learn from their fellow artists.

Open to teens with written parental permission.

### ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

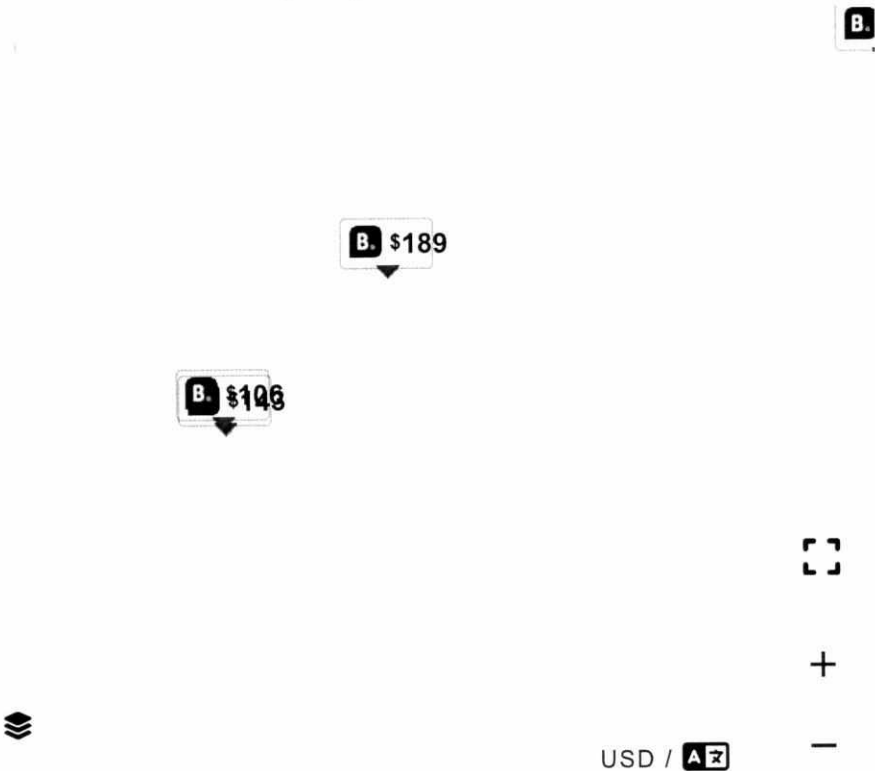
Kristen Thiele is a painter and lives and works in **Miami**, FL. Thiele received her BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1995 and her MFA from Miami International University in 2012. Thiele has taught drawing at Savannah College of Art and Design and is currently teaching drawing at Miami Dade College. She is an Oolite Arts Alumna (2000-2010) and former Board of Directors Member.

Advertisement

## Where is it happening?

 Oolite Arts, 924 Lincoln Rd, Miami Beach, United States

### Event Location & Nearby Stays:



The map interface displays the event location and nearby stays. A location pin is placed at the event location. Two nearby stays are shown with price tags: one for \$189 and another for \$108. The map includes standard navigation controls such as a compass, a zoom-in (+) button, a zoom-out (-) button, and a full-screen button (four corners icon). The currency is set to USD.

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[www.openmaptiles.org/](https://www.openmaptiles.org/)) © OpenStreetMap contributors (<https://www.openstreetmap.org/about/>)

# The Moving Music Museum by Michael Gil

CONCERTS & PERFORMANCES, EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Koubek Center presenta

## THE MOVING MUSIC MUSEUM

*Idea Original de Michael Gil*

SÁBADO 16 DE JULIO

5 p.m.

FREE WITH RSVP

koubekcenter.org

FREE PARKING



Un evento para disfrutar en familia de instrumentos ancestrales y contemporáneos de diferentes partes del mundo



### DATE

Saturday, July 16, 2022, 5:00 pm

### PRICE

Free

**ORGANIZATION****Koubek Center****CATEGORIES****Concerts & Performances, Events of the Week****PLACE**

Koubek Center at Miami Dade College

**ADDRESS**

2705 SW 3rd St. Miami FL 33135

**PHONE****(305)237-7750****WEBSITE****<https://www.squadup.com/events/the-moving-music-museum-idea-origin-al-michael-gil-koubek-center?legacy=0>****CONTACT EMAIL****[koubekcenter@mdc.edu](mailto:koubekcenter@mdc.edu)**

Multi-instrumentalist Michael Gil presents an integrated arts experience that explores a vast collection of ancestral and contemporary musical instruments from different parts of the world. "The Moving Music Museum" is a family-oriented concert and exhibition to learn about and honor others.

Search Here

**Save the Date**

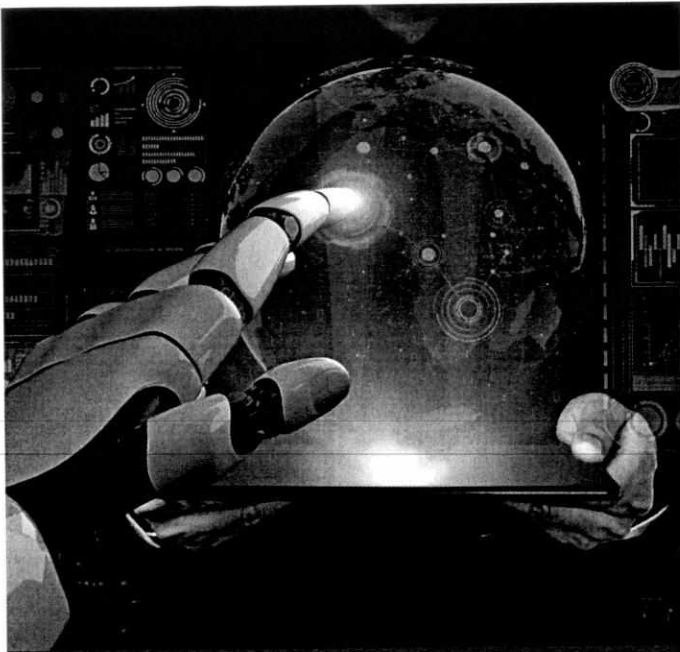
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volume 1



## **The Changing Face of Tech**

Transforming Miami into a Global Tech Hub



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## *Alinear la industria y la educación superior es nuestra misión continua*

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### OPINIÓN

En la actualidad existe una marcada desalineación entre los talentos que demandan los empleadores y las habilidades que tienen los graduados cuando ingresan a la fuerza laboral, y son varias las instituciones educativas en el país que aún no reconocen el daño.

Esta desalineación podría tener implicaciones críticas, incluso a largo plazo. Las empresas de las principales industrias informan que no pueden crecer y competir porque tienen dificultades para identificar el talento calificado. El 49% informa vacantes y el 37% no puede asumir un nuevo proyecto o una iniciativa importante. Así lo indica una reciente publicación de Gallup y Strada Education Network.

“

**Somos el motor  
que impulsa la  
fuerza laboral y  
la economía de  
nuestra región”**

Durante este tiempo convulso es imperativo que las instituciones de educación superior creen alianzas con los sectores públicos y privados para impulsar un ecosistema de innovación. El Miami Dade College, como la mayor institución de educación superior en el país, asume la responsabilidad de ser la fuente principal para que cualquier individuo pueda adquirir nuevas habilidades y evolucionar en su entorno laboral.

Somos el motor que impulsa la fuerza laboral y la economía de nuestra región, y entre nuestras prioridades se encuentra establecer asociaciones significativas con empresas para impulsar el futuro de nuestros estudiantes.

A través de colaboraciones con las industrias, el MDC brinda a los estudiantes oportunidades únicas para obtener credenciales rápidas y títulos en demanda. Además

de las herramientas necesarias para contribuir a un futuro económico sostenible para todos.

Este mes tuve la oportunidad de participar en el Foro de Negocios y Educación Superior (BHEF) que se celebró en Nueva Jersey, donde líderes en educación superior y ejecutivos de una variedad de industrias se reunieron para celebrar el décimo aniversario de la Iniciativa Nacional de Educación Superior y Fuerza Laboral (HEWI), un conjunto de proyectos, en estados seleccionados, que se enfoca en estable-

cer alianzas entre las instituciones educativas y las empresas.

En el MDC, una de nuestras principales prioridades es satisfacer las necesidades de talento de una economía global al preparar a los estudiantes para los trabajos en demanda. A través de los años, nuestros líderes han aprovechado los conocimientos de este foro, para forjar asociaciones exitosas en la industria de la aviación, el análisis de datos, la ciberseguridad y el sector de la salud y la enfermería.

Recientemente, unimos

fuerzas con Amazon Web Services (AWS) para desarrollar un plan de estudios innovador que capacita a los profesores y certifica a más profesionales como Practicantes de La Nube. El estudiante Elias Marcel, es un ejemplo de determinación y entusiasmo, al recibir varias certificaciones que incluyen; AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner, AWS Certified Solutions Architect y CompTIA Cloud Essentials las cuales lo posicionaron como profesional de soporte TI ó Técnico Informático de la compañía global Amazon. Marcel es una de las tan-

tas historias de éxito que surgen del Miami Dade College.

Los reclutadores de AWS también organizan talleres para mejorar los currículos de los estudiantes y trabajan con sus clientes para guiarlos en la creación de puestos que se alinean con los programas de estudio del MDC. Esta alianza se ha convertido en un modelo nacional para las instituciones de educación superior interesadas en desarrollar el programa. Fuimos reconocidos por la Asociación Estadounidense de Colegios Comunitarios con el Premio a la Asociación Cor-

porativa/Colegio Sobresaliente en 2022.

En un esfuerzo para garantizar que nuestros estudiantes adopten el modelo de Inteligencia Artificial, nuestra institución se asoció con la empresa Intel para ofrecer educación a más de 300 docentes y empleados. Uno de los enfoques es asegurar oportunidades de colocación laboral para nuestros estudiantes.

En esta asociación, tanto IBM como MDC trabajan juntos para explorar vacantes en la prestigiosa empresa para estudiantes que hayan completado los cur-

sos de IBM Skills Academy. Tesla es otro socio importante del MDC al igual que otros concesionarios de autos, especialmente en instrucción sobre la reparación de vehículos eléctricos e híbridos.

Alinear la industria y la educación superior no es tarea fácil, pero vale la pena hacerlo para crear un suministro de talento global. La clave para cualquier institución será ser proactivos y trabajar con las empresas para cumplir con sus estándares. Ofrecer una educación innovadora a los estudiantes por el bien de todos en la comunidad ●



📧 NEWSLETTER



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# ¿Eres una emprendedora venezolana comenzando tu negocio en el Sur de la Florida?



por **Redacción** — julio 14, 2022 en **Miami**

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(14 de julio del 2022. El Venezolano).- Por cuarto año consecutivo, CISNEROS abre la convocatoria al programa de formación gratuito FOCUS MUJERES EMPRENDEDORAS, para venezolanas radicadas en el sur de la Florida con interés en desarrollar sus negocios. El programa se ofrecerá desde el 31 de agosto, hasta el 16 de noviembre, con clases presenciales, una vez a la semana, por 12 semanas. **El período de aplicaciones ha comenzado y estará vigente hasta el 20 de agosto.**

FOCUS fue creado en 2019 por CISNEROS para apoyar a las mujeres venezolanas que desean validar una idea de negocio o **se encuentran en la fase inicial de desarrollo de un emprendimiento.**

**Durante doce semanas, las 20 participantes seleccionadas,** aprenderán acerca del mindset para alcanzar el éxito y diferentes metodologías que las llevarán desde la identificación del problema que su producto o servicio busca resolver, al descubrimiento del modelo de negocio, hasta la fase de validación y test de hipótesis. El programa se imparte en inglés para fortalecer las habilidades de comunicación de sus participantes y facilitarles su inserción en el ecosistema emprendedor local.

La invitación está abierta a todas las mujeres venezolanas, emprendedoras o con deseos de emprender, a formar parte de una comunidad creciente de mujeres que se apoyan y **están comprometidas con el avance de todas.**

El programa fue desarrollado en colaboración con el Idea Center de Miami Dade College y su contenido programático y metodología de entrega fueron diseñados por Gustavo Grande. 

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extracurriculares y al concluir el programa pasan a formar parte de la Comunidad FOCUS, que reúne a las egresadas y fomenta alianzas y transferencia de conocimientos, **mientras les ofrece información, apoyo y encuentro regulares.**

Este año, con el aporte de \$250 de cada participante y fondos de contrapartida de CISNEROS, la cuarta cohorte de FOCUS patrocinará una cohorte del programa **“Semillero de Emprendedoras” de la Asociación Mujeres Emprendedoras en Venezuela (AMEV).**

Venprendedoras, comunidad global de mujeres emprendedoras venezolanas co-creada por una alumna de la primera cohorte de FOCUS, se unirá a CISNEROS en 2022 como aliado de implementación para el programa, que se realizará en los espacios de Venture Café Miami, organización que conecta e impulsa a emprendedores e innovadores locales. Las aplicaciones para la cohorte 4 ya están abiertas. **Interesadas pueden aplicar aquí.**



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WIRE

## 'El Museo de la Música en Movimiento', un espectáculo para la familia en el Koubek Center

Arturo Arias-Polo, El Nuevo Herald, Miami

Jul 14, 2022

Jul. 14—Tras presentarse en varias salas y escuelas del Sur de la Florida el multi instrumentista cubano Michael Gil ocupará el Koubek Center del Miami Dade College con El Museo de la Música en Movimiento, un novedoso espectáculo interactivo dirigido a toda la familia que subirá el telón en función única este sábado 16 de julio a las 5 p.m.

"El proyecto consiste en una colección de instrumentos musicales ancestrales y contemporáneos de diferentes partes del mundo que va visitando escuelas, comunidades y teatros para compartir el origen, la historia y la técnica de ejecución de los mismos con niños y adultos a través de la integración de otras ramas del conocimiento que convergen con la música, como la geografía, la antropología y la historia", explicó Gil a el Nuevo Herald.

"Cada presentación intenta proveer una experiencia artística informativa audiovisual a la audiencia, al mismo tiempo que brinda y fomenta la interacción con el público en dependencia de las condiciones del lugar y la cantidad de espectadores que asistan. La interacción verbal a través de preguntas, breves intercambios de ideas, hasta la ejecución de algún instrumento siempre están implícitos en cada experiencia".

Gil, nacido en La Habana, se formó en una escuela para niños aventajados de la capital cubana. Luego de concluir la enseñanza preuniversitaria estudió guitarra clásica en la Escuela Félix Varela. Con el tiempo, trabajó como profesor de guitarra, escribió música para cine, teatro, danza contemporánea y otros espectáculos audiovisuales. Pero su gran

"descubrimiento" se produjo cuando encontró un berimbau en casa de un amigo. Este instrumento de percusión brasileño de una sola cuerda se emplea en la capoeira, un arte marcial que combina elementos de danza, acrobacia y música.

Después de aprender unos cuantos toques, Gil se dedicó a investigar y estudiar sobre un sinnúmero de instrumentos musicales étnicos, tales como la kalimba, el didgeridoo, el tambor parlante y las arpas de mandíbula. Estos instrumentos se incorporan a sus composiciones y son objeto de las conferencias que ha impartido en Cuba, México y Estados Unidos.

"La música cubana siempre está presente, no solo porque es una influencia natural, sino porque algunos instrumentos afrocubanos son parte de la presentación ya que Cuba, al igual que muchos otros países de América, es en parte también el resultado del legado cultural africano recibido durante la trata de esclavos a través del Atlántico desde el siglo XVI", añadió el artista residente en Miami desde el año 2008.

Gil destacó que en su ciudad de adopción el teatro ha sido una fuente inagotable de proyectos ya que ha tenido la dicha de componer e interpretar bandas sonoras en vivo para los grupos Artefactus Cultural Project, Antihéroes y Conecta. Y en lo que respecta a la danza contemporánea he trabajado con el coreógrafo y bailarín Lázaro Godoy, entre otros, y en proyectos audiovisuales de la artista plástica Nedine del Valle

"Después de viajar por diferentes condados del estado de la Florida realizando esta presentación, y en tiempos en que es recurrente el cuestionamiento acerca del tipo de contenido al cual los niños son expuestos hoy, creo firmemente que El Museo de la Música en Movimiento es una experiencia sumamente valiosa para las nuevas generaciones", aseveró Gil. "No hay ninguna cultura, ninguna, sin alguna forma de música, por muy elemental que sea".

'El Museo de la Música en Movimiento' Sábado, 16 de julio, 5 p.m. 2705 SW 3rd St. Entrada y estacionamientos gratuitos RSVP <https://www.squadup.com/events/the-moving-music-museum-idea-original-michael-gil-koubek-center?legacy=0>



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## 'El Museo de la Música en Movimiento', un espectáculo para la familia en el Koubek Center

Arturo Arias-Polo, El Nuevo Herald, Miami - Ayer a las 1:14 p. m.



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Guardar

Jul. 14—Tras presentarse en varias salas y escuelas del Sur de la Florida el multi instrumentista cubano Michael Gil ocupará el Koubek Center del Miami Dade College con El Museo de la Música en Movimiento, un novedoso espectáculo interactivo dirigido a toda la familia que subirá el telón en función única este sábado 16 de julio a las 5 p.m.

"El proyecto consiste en una colección de instrumentos musicales ancestrales y contemporáneos de diferentes partes del mundo que va visitando escuelas, comunidades y teatros para compartir el origen, la historia y la técnica de ejecución de los mismos con niños y adultos a través de la integración de otras ramas del conocimiento que convergen con la música, como la geografía, la antropología y la historia", explicó Gil a el Nuevo Herald.

"Cada presentación intenta proveer una experiencia artística informativa audiovisual a la audiencia, al mismo tiempo que brinda y fomenta la interacción con el público en dependencia de las condiciones del lugar y la cantidad de espectadores que asistan. La interacción verbal a través de preguntas, breves intercambios de ideas, hasta la ejecución de algún instrumento siempre están implícitos en cada experiencia".

Gil, nacido en La Habana, se formó en una escuela para niños aventajados de la capital cubana. Luego de concluir la enseñanza preuniversitaria estudió guitarra clásica en la Escuela Félix Varela. Con el tiempo, trabajó como profesor de guitarra, escribió música para cine, teatro, danza contemporánea y otros espectáculos audiovisuales. Pero su gran "descubrimiento" se produjo cuando encontró un berimbau en casa de un amigo. Este instrumento de percusión brasileño de una sola cuerda se emplea en la capoeira, un arte marcial que combina elementos de danza, acrobacia y música.

Después de aprender unos cuantos toques, Gil se dedicó a investigar y estudiar sobre un sinnúmero de instrumentos musicales étnicos, tales como la kalimba, el didgeridoo, el tambor

parlante y las arpas de mandíbula. Estos instrumentos se incorporan a sus composiciones y son objeto de las conferencias que ha impartido en Cuba, México y Estados Unidos.

"La música cubana siempre está presente, no solo porque es una influencia natural, sino porque algunos instrumentos afrocubanos son parte de la presentación ya que Cuba, al igual que muchos otros países de América, es en parte también el resultado del legado cultural africano recibido durante la trata de esclavos a través del Atlántico desde el siglo XVI", añadió el artista residente en Miami desde el año 2008.

Gil destacó que en su ciudad de adopción el teatro ha sido una fuente inagotable de proyectos ya que ha tenido la dicha de componer e interpretar bandas sonoras en vivo para los grupos Artefactus Cultural Project, Antihéroes y Conecta. Y en lo que respecta a la danza contemporánea he trabajado con el coreógrafo y bailarín Lázaro Godoy, entre otros, y en proyectos audiovisuales de la artista plástica Nedine del Valle

"Después de viajar por diferentes condados del estado de la Florida realizando esta presentación, y en tiempos en que es recurrente el cuestionamiento acerca del tipo de contenido al cual los niños son expuestos hoy, creo firmemente que El Museo de la Música en Movimiento es una experiencia sumamente valiosa para las nuevas generaciones", aseveró Gil. "No hay ninguna cultura, ninguna, sin alguna forma de música, por muy elemental que sea".

'El Museo de la Música en Movimiento' Sábado, 16 de julio, 5 p.m. 2705 SW 3rd St. Entrada y estacionamientos gratuitos RSVP <https://www.squadup.com/events/the-moving-music-museum-idea-original-michael-gil-koubek-center?legacy=0>

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