



PS PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMS

Dear Friends,

Last month, I invited you to be part of the Arsht Center’s five-year strategic plan. Over the next many months we won’t stop asking and listening to better understand who we are to you and how we can fulfil our potential as your performing arts center. While we offer a robust schedule of performances this summer, we are also organizing community conversations in partnership with Miami-Dade County Commissioners and District representatives to hear from those we serve. Help us build the future of arts and culture in Miami; share your voice at arshtcenter.org/myfeedback.



Adrienne Arsht Center President and CEO Johann Zietsman

This summer, there’s something for everyone at the Arsht Center. We have two Broadway hits to round out our exceptional Broadway in Miami Series. *Come from Away*, from June 18th to June 23rd, with its feel-good lessons on hospitality, is based on the true story of 38 airliners carrying 7,000 passengers, forced to divert to Newfoundland on 9/11. Disney’s *The Lion King*, from May 8th to May 26th, is a winner of six Tony Awards®, including Best Musical – a true phenomenon that has touched the hearts of more than 90 million people around the world. The power of these Broadway hits will be amplified in the acoustic marvel of the Ziff Ballet Opera House’s Dorothea Green Theater.

You won’t want to miss John Leguizamo with his outrageously funny *Latin History for Morons* from July 12th to July 14th in the Ziff Ballet Opera House. The House Theatre of Chicago’s *United Flight 232*, adapted from the critically acclaimed book, *Flight 232: A Story of Disaster and Survival* by Laurence Gonzales, will keep you on the edge of your seat from May 4th to May 19th in the Carnival Studio Theater. And Ketama, a Spanish group of flamenco fusion will blend the virtuosity of traditional flamenco with musical forms such as jazz, pop and salsa on June 9th in the Knight Concert Hall.

While you are enjoying our inspired summer lineup, be a part of Miami’s next cultural evolution. Help us fulfill our promise to offer the best in performing arts while delivering ground-breaking educational programs to more than 60,000 Miami-Dade County Public Schools students. It will mean the world to me to hear from you. Please visit arshtcenter.org/myfeedback and answer two questions: “**What do we mean to you?**” and “**If (in 2025) the Arsht Center were to be recognized on the world stage for something unique that makes us stand out, what would you like us to be recognized for?**”

Thank you for joining us on this quest.

Sincerely,

Johann Zietsman
President & CEO
Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County



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Dear Friends,

I am eager to immerse myself in the rich cultural life of Miami as I take the helm of this extraordinary institution as CEO and President. From my homeland in South Africa to my nine years as President and CEO of Arts Commons in Calgary, I have seen firsthand the transformative power of the arts. It's what makes the Arsht Center such a gem in Miami – a place where talent, diversity and imagination merge to create an exhilarating artistic landscape for all to experience. This is a gathering place for everybody.

So many things inspired my wife and I to move here: the Arsht Center's ground-breaking community programs top the list. Each year, these efforts feed the hearts and minds of more than 60,000 Miami-Dade County Public Schools students. These once-in-a-lifetime experiences include AileyCamp Miami, a full scholarship, six-week summer program transforming the lives of over 1,000 underserved students since 2008, and *Kitty Hawk*, a program that encourages science and math learning through the arts among Miami-Dade's 22,000 seventh-graders every fall with a live musical celebrating the Wright brothers and American ingenuity.

These uniquely curated community engagement programs are matched only by the exceptional talent of local and international superstars on our stages. We're bookending February with the best of the Broadway in Miami series – *Les Misérables* from February 5th to February 10th and *Waitress* from February 26th to March 3rd, both in the Ziff Ballet Opera House. *Les Misérables* is one of the world's most celebrated musicals, seen by more than 70 million people in 44 countries and in 22 languages around the globe. And *Waitress*, which the *Chicago Tribune* calls "an empowering musical of the highest order," features original music and lyrics by six-time Grammy nominee Sara Bareilles and a special appearance from one lucky Miami child chosen to play the daughter of the show's main character.

Yoel Levi's tour with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra on February 6th is a prized experience of the Knight Masterworks Classical Music Series. It's a thrilling opportunity to see an internationally-renowned conductor, celebrated for raising performances to new and critically-acclaimed levels, and one of Israel's oldest and most influential cultural institutions together in Miami. I cannot wait to experience this unforgettable concert in the Knight Concert Hall's world-class acoustics.

The Jazz Roots Series virtuosic lineup continues with *Jazz in the Key of Ellison* featuring innovative luminaries including Will Downing, Nona Hendryx and the Andy Farber Jazz Orchestra on February 8th in the Knight Concert Hall. The program pays homage to Ralph Ellison, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Invisible Man* and the music that inspired him - from Louise Armstrong to Nina Simone. Audience favorite, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, celebrates its 60th Anniversary from February 14th to February 17th in the Ziff Ballet Opera House. You'll be thrilled to know that the grand finale of each performance will be Ailey's beloved masterpiece, *Revelations*.

I am confident that these and so many more stellar experiences will bring you back to the Arsht Center. And as we work together to deliver the best performing arts experiences – accessible and relevant to all – I will look for you in our halls. Thank you for joining us.

Sincerely,

Johann Zietsman
President & CEO

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County



Adrienne Arsht Center President and CEO Johann Zietsman and Adrienne Arsht Center Trust Board Chairman Ira D. Hall.



PHOTO BY BRETT HUFZIGER

Dear Friends,

We are proud to usher in another dazzling year of dance, music and theater with you in mind. This is a significant time for the Arsht Center, one marked by a historic transition as we bid a fond farewell to our friend, advocate and brilliant leader of 10 years John Richard and welcome our new CEO and President Johann Zietsman. While we continue delivering the best of performing arts, I want to shine a light on the unwavering dedication of those who steer this ship through the seas of change towards excellence – the Arsht Center staff.



Led by a seasoned senior team, this talented group executes our grand vision to educate, entertain and enlighten, day in and day out. We continue to build solid international partnerships and local collaborations, creating space for globally-recognized legends and rising artists while forging connections that allow us to touch the hearts and minds of nearly 60,000 Miami-Dade County Public Schools students annually.

This month, we kick off our Knight Masterworks Classical Music Series with a night of Mozart, impeccably performed by the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra accompanied by pianist Javier Perianes on January 5 in the Knight Concert Hall. Miami City Ballet presents two 20th century masterworks by Jerome Robbins—*Dances at a Gathering* set to live Chopin piano music and *Brahms/Handel*, a collaboration between Robbins and Twyla Tharp, from January 11th to January 13th in the Ziff Ballet Opera House.

Continuing our award-winning Theater Up Close season is *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, a production by Zoetic Stage, one of South Florida’s most critically-acclaimed theater companies, from January 17 to February 3 in the Carnival Studio Theater. This 2015 Tony Award® winner for Best Play is Simon Stephens’ adaptation of Mark Haddon’s novel which takes us on an incredible journey with an extraordinary young man as he solves a perplexing murder mystery.

Our ever-popular Jazz Roots Series will captivate with the sublime sounds of Joshua Redman, son of legendary saxophonist Dewey Redman, on January 18 in the Knight Concert Hall. Florida Grand Opera continues their outstanding season with *The Marriage of Figaro*, Mozart’s brilliant comic opera from January 26th to February 3rd in the Ziff Ballet Opera House. These are only a few of the outstanding performances we have lined up with you in mind.

While the Arsht Center transitions into a new era of excellence in education and entertainment, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our donors, community partners, volunteer leadership and our dedicated patrons. You bring meaning to what we do and help us deliver the best of who we are.

Best regards,

Valerie Riles
Interim President and CEO and Vice President, Board and Government Relations
Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County