



Dear Friends,

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Welcome to the Adrienne Arsht Center. At the end of this month, on March 30, the Adrienne Arsht Center will hold its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala, which, I am pleased to say, will be chaired by Adrienne Arsht Center Foundation Chairman, Tony Argiz.

With Adrienne Arsht as the evening's Honorary Chair, it is most fitting that this year's Gala title and theme is "A Celebration of Women in the Arts." At this special event – a one-night-only concert and gala dinner – world-class female artists and arts advocates will be taking center stage.

The performance will be a star-studded extravaganza boasting superb entertainers from the worlds of opera, cabaret, Broadway, pop, jazz, television and film, including Denyce Graves, Marilyn Maye, Rita Moreno, Storm Large and Vanessa Williams, and special appearances from legendary artists such as Gloria Estefan, Judith Jamison and Chita Rivera. With tickets starting at just \$25, we hope all of you—our greatest fans—are able to join us for this unique show, being created exclusively for the Arsht Center. For Gala sponsors and those interested in the full Gala experience, the evening will also include numerous opportunities to celebrate the occasion with fellow supporters, community leaders and philanthropists, beginning with an intimate cocktail reception, a gourmet dinner on stage, premium seating for the concert in the John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall, followed by dancing and dessert.



*11th Annual Arsht Center Gala Guest Performer Vanessa Williams and President and CEO John Richard*

Beyond the entertainment and excitement of the evening itself, the most cherished spirit of the Gala lies in the splendid support it provides to the Center's mission-driven arts education and community outreach programs. Throughout the Center's first decade of excellence, proceeds from our Galas have allowed us to enlighten 300,000 children and lifelong learners in our community; offer more than 170 free performances enjoyed by nearly 140,000 guests, commission 18 world premieres and greatly enhance our ever-expanding community network of summer arts camps for children, master classes, theater and dance workshops, artists' residencies, training for arts teachers, and much more.

I know Adrienne and Tony join me in thanking our Gala Committee, the Boards of Directors of the Adrienne Arsht Center Foundation and the Performing Arts Center Trust, the evening's illustrious stars, and all our generous donors, supporters, staff, and volunteers who are making this evening possible. I know they are as proud as we are that through these exceptional arts education and community outreach programs, the Adrienne Arsht Center has become a beacon that inspires arts institutions and their communities throughout our nation.

Thank you for being with us today. I look forward to see seeing your smiling faces at the Gala and throughout the season.

Sincerely,

M. John Richard  
President & CEO

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