



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACTS

Suzette Espinosa Fuentes
786-468-2221
sespinosa@arshtcenter.org

Alexandra Medina
786-468-2234
amedina@arshtcenter.org

PHOTOS AND BROLL AVAILABLE [HERE](#).



**Arsht
Impact**
Community + Education

**The Arsht Opens Its Doors to Miami with a Season of Free
and Pay-What-You-Can Cultural Celebrations**

**More than a dozen Arsht Impact events will bring gospel, hip-hop, Haitian
culture, Dia de Muertos, Pride, wellness and family-friendly performances to
audiences across Miami-Dade**

Miami, FL – August 3, 2026 – The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County ([@arshtcenter](https://www.arshtcenter.org)) expands access to the arts with a new season of free and [Pay What You Can](#) community events. The 2026-27 [Arsht Impact](#) season features more than a dozen community engagement activities throughout the year, including Dia de Muertos and gospel celebrations; a hip-hop performance by Miami breakdance pioneers; a tribute to Haitian dance and music during Haitian Heritage Month, wellness-focused arts experiences and all-ages events across Miami-Dade County.

A part of the Arsht from its inception, Arsht Impact education and community programs offer free access to more than 42,000 people each season, 80,000 students each year and have connected with well over one million community members since the Arsht opened in 2006.

The following events are free and open to the public:

RHYTHM & ROOTS AT THE ARSHT

Free and Open to the Public



The Arsht invites the community to a free, weeklong celebration for all ages, inspired by the South Florida premiere of Buena Vista Social Club™ during Hispanic Heritage Month. From September 29 through October 4, guests can wander through a lively plaza filled with live music, DJs and dancing, domino games, local artisans and pop-up vendors, plus free performances by internationally recognized artists and beloved local ensembles that will highlight the city's rich cultural landscape and its deep connections to Cuban and Latin American music. Featured artists include internationally acclaimed Cuban drummer Yissy García, Latin GRAMMY®-nominated DJ and producer Mr. Pauer, two-time Latin GRAMMY®-nominated singer-songwriter Leslie Cartaya, Miami favorites Cortadito and Sonlokos, the JUNO Award-winning duo OKAN and many more.

Everyone is invited to step inside the Arsht to explore exhibitions, artifacts and photography that bring Cuban culture and stories to life as part of collaborations with community partners, including Conecta Miami Arts, Miami-Dade College Freedom Tower, and the Public Humanities Lab at Florida International University, among others. Visitors will also have the chance to contribute memories to a living oral history project. No ticket is required.

As part of the initiative, the Arsht is working with Miami-Dade County Public Schools to equip teachers with lesson plans that connect to the show and explore the power of music as a tool for understanding history, memory and migration. Up to 200 students will attend the show for free as part of their learning experience.

JOURNEY TO DIA DE MUERTOS FEATURING CALPULLI MEXICAN DANCE COMPANY

An Arsht for Miami presentation

November 1, 2026 at 3 p.m.

Knight Concert Hall

Pay What You Can: Free; \$10 suggested

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

The event begins on Thomson Plaza with a Día de Muertos-inspired gathering featuring live music, calavera-making (sugar skulls), hands-on art activities and performances. The journey continues inside Knight Concert Hall with Calpulli Mexican Dance Company, whose vibrant production follows a small town in Mexico as residents joyfully welcome the spirits of departed loved ones. Through dance, storytelling and cultural traditions, audiences will discover the beauty, history and meaning behind Dia de Muertos.

SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS: A SOUTH FLORIDA GOSPEL CELEBRATION

An Arsht for Miami presentation

December 12, 2026 at 7 p.m.

Knight Concert Hall

Pay What You Can: Free; \$10 suggested

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)



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Celebrate the Christmas holiday with an unforgettable evening of gospel music, holiday joy and inspirational performances by Pastor Marc Cooper, Gospel Fest Miami artistic advisor, together with some of South Florida's favorite gospel voices to the stage. This special concert brings the spirit of Christmas to life through powerful songs of faith, hope and celebration.

GOSPEL FEST MIAMI: ARSHT GOSPEL CHOIR INVITATIONAL

February 7, 2027 at 6 p.m.

Knight Concert Hall

Pay What You Can: Free, \$10 suggested

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

Back for its third year, the Arsht Gospel Choir Invitational welcomes choirs and ensembles from all backgrounds to compete for a cash grand prize and the opportunity to perform at Gospel Fest Miami. The invitational will showcase choirs from three categories: church, community and collegiate. Choirs will perform at the Knight Concert Hall, highlighting their vocal skills with originality, creativity and showmanship for a panel of judges and a live audience. Applications will open September 14, 2026.

HERITAGE FEST

February 20, 2027 at 12 p.m.

Ziff Ballet Opera House

Free or Pay What You Can

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

In celebration of Black History Month, the Arsht's 8th annual Heritage Fest invites the community to a free, all-ages day honoring the rich traditions, creativity and contributions of pan-African artists. Guests can come for part of the festivities or stay for the full celebration, enjoying food vendors, live performances, family-friendly activities and dancing. Designed to spotlight, celebrate and amplify pan-African artists in our community, Heritage Fest will begin with free family fun in the afternoon and culminate with an evening concert on Thomson Plaza.

THE GROUND ZERO EXPERIENCE: MIAMI AND HIP-HOP CULTURE

An Arsht for Miami presentation

April 17, 2027 at 7 p.m.

Knight Concert Hall

Pay What You Can: Free; \$10 suggested

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

Experience the energy, creativity and cultural impact of hip-hop featuring Ground Zero Crew, Miami's first and most renowned world champion breakdancing crew. The evening will begin with a pre-show activation on Thomson Plaza, inviting guests to connect with the sights, sounds and spirit of hip-hop before the performance. Established in 1996, Ground Zero Crew transformed



the local breaking scene and earned international recognition for representing Miami on the global stage. Joined by other Miami hip-hop artists, this electrifying production will showcase the core elements of hip-hop through breaking, music, DJing, emceeing and artistic expression.

SOUNDS AND SPIRIT OF HAITI FEATURING TRADISYON LAKOU LAKAY

An Arsht for Miami presentation

May 22, 2027 at 3 p.m.

Knight Concert Hall

Pay What You Can: Free; \$10 suggested

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

In celebration of Haitian culture, Miami-based dance company Tradisyon Lakou Lakay will captivate audiences with colorful choreography, live music and storytelling that showcase the history, resilience and creativity of the Haitian community. This uplifting performance honors Haiti's enduring legacy while highlighting the cultural contributions that continue to enrich South Florida.

COMMUNITEA DANCE

June 6, 2027 at 4 p.m.

Ziff Ballet Opera House

Free or Pay What You Can

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

The tenth annual LGBTQ+ Pride event at the Arsht offers a day filled with live entertainment, fun and community spirit. Previous CommuniTEA festivals included national recording artists, drag stars and local DJs.

GOSPEL FEST MIAMI

June 19-20, 2027

Knight Concert Hall

Pay What You Can: Free; \$10 suggested

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

The third annual edition of this weekend-long Arsht festival will feature national recording artists, Miami gospel musicians and the winner of the Arsht Gospel Choir Invitational. Expect discussions about the culture and history of gospel music, as well. Monitor [ArshtCenter.org](https://www.ArshtCenter.org) for Gospel Fest Miami announcements.

AILEYCAMP MIAMI FINAL PERFORMANCE

July 24, 2027 at 7 p.m.

Knight Concert Hall



Free or Pay What You Can
PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

Join AileyCamp Miami as it celebrates its 19th anniversary season with a culminating presentation featuring ballet, jazz, modern and West African dance and spoken word performed by AileyCampers as the grand finale to their summer experience at the Arsht. AileyCamp Miami is a free, six-week, full-scholarship summer day camp program for students ages 11 to 14 currently enrolled in a Miami-Dade County Public Middle School. Using dance as a vehicle for developing self-esteem, creative expression and imagination, AileyCamp Miami at the Arsht is offered in partnership with the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation. Applications for AileyCamp Miami 2027 will open January 4, 2027. Info [here](#).

[ART + MIND DAY](#)

An Arsht for Miami presentation

August 7, 2027 at 11 a.m.

Ziff Ballet Opera House and Knight Concert Hall

Free or Pay What You Can

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

This annual Arsht event offers music, theater, dance, poetry and immersive experiences that connect mind, body and soul. The day will feature performances, presentations and hands-on workshops led by Miami artists and arts therapists. Guests will be encouraged to connect, self-express, meditate and practice joy through the power of the performing arts.

[ARSHT PLUS](#)

10 performances throughout the season

Free with performance ticket purchase

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

Arsht Plus is offered free to ticket holders at select Broadway in Miami, classical music and dance performances, inviting audiences to arrive early for themed interactive experiences that extend the performance beyond the stage. Beginning one hour before curtain, these experiences are designed to deepen audiences' connection to the art, artists and ideas behind the performance and have included dance lessons, cooking demonstrations, live music and family activities. To learn more about which performances include Arsht Plus, visit [here](#).

[ARSHT ON THE ROAD](#)

Dates to be announced

Free admission

PHOTOS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)



The Arsht brings free performances by local musicians, dancers and other artists to public venues throughout Miami-Dade County. Visit [ArshtCenter.org](https://www.arshtcenter.org) and Arsht social media accounts ([@arshtcenter](https://www.instagram.com/arshtcenter)) for news on dates and locations for season.

Pay What You Can

Select [Arsht Impact](#) performances this season are offered as [Pay What You Can](#). Tickets are free, and guests are invited to give the suggested ticket price to help sustain live arts experiences in Miami. Guests who give the listed minimum receive priority seating in prime locations. As a nonprofit organization, the Adrienne Arsht Center invests every dollar directly into Arsht Impact education and community outreach programs that annually serve more than 100,000 people of all ages.

PHOTOS AND BROLL AVAILABLE [HERE](#).

The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is made possible by the public support of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council and the City of Miami Omni Community Redevelopment Agency, and the state of Florida through the Division of Arts and Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts. The Adrienne Arsht Center also receives generous support from individuals, corporations and local, state and national foundations.

*All programs, artists, ticket prices, availability, dates and times are subject to change without notice. Visit [arshtcenter.org](https://www.arshtcenter.org) for up-to-date information.

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

Since opening in 2006 in the heart of downtown, the Arsht proudly serves as the cultural pulse of Miami – the heart of magical live arts experiences that spark the imagination and connect people to one another. Whether on our stages or in your neighborhood, the Arsht is alive year-round with international artists, innovative programming from [resident companies](#) and local arts partners, free community events that reflect Miami's unique identity and more than 100 culturally diverse and impactful learning experiences for 80,000 children every year.

The Arsht, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has been recognized as a leader in the Miami's cultural transformation, producing more than 400 annual events that generate 11,500 local jobs and \$125 million in economic impact. The Arsht is home to a robust series of touring Broadway musicals, star-studded jazz and classical music concerts curated for South Florida, an award-



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winning Miami-based theater program and numerous historic and televised events. Free annual Arsht events, such as Gospel Fest Miami, Art + Mind Day, Heritage Fest and our LGBTQ+ Pride celebration bring together people from all corners of our community. For more information, visit [ArshtCenter.org](https://www.ArshtCenter.org).