

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD & ARTS ADVISORY PANEL

Annual Report

Fiscal Year: 10/2024 – 10/2025

PURPOSE

The Cultural Development Board (CDB, and formerly called the Cultural Affairs Advisory Board) was established to help the City administer its cultural grants program and to provide recommendations regarding cultural issues and initiatives including the Art in Public Places program. The Board is assisted by the Arts Advisory Panel (AAP), a group of appointed art professionals and two additional residents whose purpose is to evaluate the merit of art proposed for display in the City's municipal buildings, publicly accessible areas and surrounding green spaces.

The Arts Advisory Panel was established for the purpose of making recommendations to the Cultural Development Board regarding the selection, creation, and acceptance of works of art. In addition, the AAP is called upon by the CDB to act as an artist selection committee, and to provide other artistic guidance as the Board determines is necessary.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2024-2025, the CDB reviewed, processed, and administered 41 (forty-one) Cultural Grants to non-profit cultural organizations to produce high-quality art events in FY25 within the City of Coral Gables. The Board's recommendation of funding these organizations was approved by the City Commission and programs were completed as stated.

In addition, the CDB reviewed, processed, and administered 52 (fifty-two) Cultural Grants to non-profit cultural organizations to produce high-quality art events in FY26 within the City of Coral Gables. The Board's recommendation of funding these organizations was approved by the City Commission. Programs will proceed in FY26.

The CDB recommended establishing a Cultural Grant Category in FY26 for Coral Gables Youth Arts Programs (CGYAP) with dedicated funding of \$50,000, in addition to maintaining the grant funding from the previous year.

The CDB continues to refine the Cultural Grant application process and implementation to align with the City's budget process and cultural arts season.

The CDB and AAP celebrated artist Janine Antoni for Miami Art Week with an Art Basel event where the artist spoke and screened a documentary about her related work. The CDB and AAP celebrated the installation of the public art sculpture "Whispering Through a Stone" by Janine Antoni the following spring with an artist talk and a repeat screening of the film at the Coral Gables Art Cinema.

The CDB and AAP recommended to the City Commission development of a new temporary public art exhibition, “Intervals”, to open during Miami Art Week and extend through January. The exhibition will feature five locations with five artists who are represented by galleries exhibiting at Art Basel Miami Beach. The exhibition will be celebrated as a recognized Art Basel Miami Beach event.

The CDB and AAP recommended to the City Commission the long-term loan of five large-scale sculptures by the artist Jean Ward for installation within The Underline.

The CDB and AAP recommended to the City Commission the acquisition of a sculpture by artist Frank Stella, “Puffed and Inverted Star II”.

The CDB recommended to the City Commission the development of an Extended Reality (XR) experience titled “Gables Go!” in celebration of the city’s centennial.

The CDB recommended to the City Commission a partnership with the University of Miami’s Frost School of Music to commission a score by composer Carlos Rafael Rivera in celebration of the city’s centennial for use within the XR experience “Gables Go!”.

The CDB and AAP recommended to the City Commission approval of the mural “Frank Sinatra and Tom Jobin” by artist Kobra on private property at The Plaza development.

The CDB and AAP recommended to the City Commission approval of the sculpture “Power Tower” by artist Lynda Benglis at Regency Parc, 2601 Salzedo St.

The CDB and AAP recommended to the City Commission approval of the sculpture “Minna” by artist Jaume Plensa at the 4241 Aurora Street development.

The CDB and AAP recommended to the City Commission approval of the sculpture “Aurelia” by artist Michele Oka Doner at The Aurelian development.

The CDB and AAP supported public art tours in partnership with the Economic Development Department.

ORDINANCE CHANGES

The CDB and AAP supported an amendment to the Art in Public Places (AiPP) Zoning Code to address updates in management and process, including clarification for when AiPP fees are collected and addressing temporary public art installations and installations of artwork on private property that is publicly accessible.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT CHANGES

There are no recommendations to change the membership requirements.

COST OF MAINTAINING BOARD



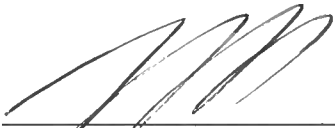
Staff Time*: Director	\$ 5,000.00
Arts & Culture Specialist	\$ 20,000.00
Admin. Asst.	\$ 5,000.00

*Staff time is approximate and includes meeting preparation (preparation of agendas, public notices, advertisements, Board packet items), meeting attendance, filing of minutes and City Commission items, and research.

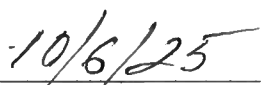
FUNDRAISING / BANK ACCOUNTS / GRANT APPLICATIONS / APPROVALS

The Unassigned Art Fund Balance, based on the most recently available Art Fund Analysis dated 3/3/2025* is \$6,019,436. Significant projects passed by the City Commission since that time total \$2,185,000 for acquisition of a Frank Stella sculpture, the annual Art Week/ Art Basel program, and matching funds toward a FL Department of State Grant. Deducting these projects results in an approximate total of:
\$3,834,436 as of 10/6/2025

*Note: this includes certain, but may not be all, FY2024-25 City budget recommendations and does not include revenue received into the fund since the time of this report.



José Valdés-Fauli
Chairperson, Cultural Development Board



Date