

Centennial Commemorative Public Artwork
Round 1: public feedback

Nbr	Name	CG Resident	Address	Feedback
1	Angela Bolaños	Yes	235 Majorca Apt 8	Absolutely loved the proposals. I am leaning towards Morel Doucet's proposal, I would love to see the birds and butterflies from his personal work included on the heads and faces of the three subjects of this public art work. I think that addition would incorporate an element of magical realism that would foster meaningful discussions and would add another layer of aesthetic beauty to this magnificent monument of the black experience in Coral Gables.
2	Wendy Francois	No		<p>Hi! I encourage you to please vote for Morel Doucet. He is a fantastic person and has made a tremendous impact on the art scene in Miami through as an arts educator in our public schools and as a mentor of young artists. His inclusive storytelling tells the story of Miami, of the Caribbean, of immigrants, and of all hard-working people.</p> <p>His proposal is not only beautiful, but emblematic of the contributions of the city's Bahamian and Black residents.</p>
3	Molly Sydnor	No		Morel Doucet's Secrets that the wind carried away will be so impactful for the community. Though I am not a resident, I am in town 2+ times a year. Morel's work is not only stunning and powerful, it's intellectual and always brilliantly considered. His concepts blow me away and I always walk away learning something. I would be thrilled to see his work when I visit.
4		No		I love the story that Morel is telling. The migrant Haitian experience is integral to the cultural landscape of the city of Miami!
5	Azeez Bakare	No		Morel Doucet vote
6	James Jones	No		Voting for Morel Doucet's Project

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7	Cornelius Tulloch	No		I think it is important to not only address this important history, but to also render it visible within this space. I think Morel Doucet's project does an incredible job of honoring this history in a tasteful and figurative way that allows these stories to be memorialized. It is important to not just hear the stories of black peoples but to see their bodies and elements of black culture visibly represented in the art work and I think Morel's proposal does that so well. Chris Friday's sculpture also is an exciting interpretation that I think is tangible but also give you a little bit of storytelling. It could be a great addition especially as the grove grows as a significant food hub in Miami. Such a rich culinary history and environment growing.
8	Basil Kincaid	No		Hello I am a globally renowned contemporary artist. Morels proposal with the boat and the flowers is truly breathtaking and so poignant. It will be uplifting to the local heritage of the community. It will be emotionally engrossing to all viewers. I was deeply moved just seeing the proposal I would love to see this actualize and would definitely travel to see it in person.
9	Shawn Clybor	No		I really like the proposals from Tavares Strachen and Morel Doucet. For me, a monument should interact with its environment/context in a meaningful and organic way, and it should have a meaning that is not immediate, and yet can be "decoded" through meaningful engagement that does not require a plaque to explain it. I think both of these pieces accomplish this.
10	Shawna Moulton	No		As child a child of the Caribbean Diaspora, Morel Doucet "Secrets That The Wind Carry Away" proposals art a beautiful reminder of my families journey to America for a better life. The boat signifies the journey, the flowers to me symbolize new beginnings, new growth in a new place. I would love to see this work in Coral Gables, it would be a wonderful celebration of the past and the teacher to come.

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11	Beatriz	No		<p>I believe that the strongest contender is Morel Doucet because of his healing and inter generational approach to his piece.</p> <p>It strikes me as a powerful comment on community resilience and restorative energy - a wonderful way of commemorating coral gables 100 yrs and the acknowledgment of African and Bahamian immigrants that so beautifully shaped this city</p>
12	Karelia Martinez Carbonell	Yes	532 Altara Avenue	<p>Highest rated is proposal is Charles Hume's "The Men of the Mystical Isles" sculpture. It is the most aligned with the Centennial narrative. It is elegant in style and uses unique materials and features that match Coral Gables heritage.</p>
13	Alba Biondi	Yes	1700 Costado Street	<p>The work of Onajide Shabaka will blend seamlessly into the Coral Gables scene.</p>
14	Bruce Fitzgerald	Yes	122 Sevilla Ave., #1020	<p>Yanira Collado: "Ancestral Geometries". The totemic, reverential qualities of this submission distinguish it as a serious permanent tribute to our Bahamian settlers.</p> <p>William Onsorio: "Dwelling". This abstract sculpture dutifully & creatively honors the buildings where the builders of the City actually lived.</p>
15		Yes	126 Mendoza Avenue	<p>Morel Doucet's boat submittal is quality, long-lasting public art that is compatible with the aesthetics of Coral Gables' original public art. It looks to be that high quality public art that you can see in cities like NYC and Chicago, and that we lack here in Coral Gables. Tavares Strachen's submittal could also be a nice addition to the City's public landscape, if done right.</p>

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16	Mary E. Burke	Yes	1243 Asturia Avenue	<p>"Bahamia" wins hands down in my opinion. Mr. Humes has captured the story of, "Men of the Mystical Isles", by founder George Merrick. The sculpture is perfect with the inlaid mosaics featuring symbols, and historical images of early Bahamian settlers, builders, and landmarks. The fact that it specifically pays homage to the established family icons of early Coral Gables is a bonus. The use of natural stone, including our "Coral Rock" or oolite limestone fits in to the original style of the city plan keeping it cultural and historically accurate. Please consider the work by Mr. Humes as our tribute to our Black founders.</p>
17	Joanne Meagher	Yes	1225 Valencia Avenue	<p>Top two are Doucet & Humes. A monument (as opposed to an art piece) should present a concept that is immediately clear and accessible. The viewer should be able to tell in a moment who/what the monument is commemorating. These designs do just that. The others, although interesting and eye-catching are pieces of art, and do not fit Merrick's call for a "fitting monument." Humes' design in particular reflects the wishes expressed by community members in the planning meeting--recognizing families and individuals who have made contributions in the last 100 years. One important note: Title of Merrick's stories is "Men of the Magical Isles." Not "Mystical" Isles. I do feel that Doucet's design is beautiful and compelling. Would require flower upkeep though</p>
18	Dariel	No		<p>Does not fit with the city. Not Mediterranean. Not fitting for the Bahamian men who taught George Merrick how to build. How to work. The men who showed him the way. We can do better!</p>
19	Candy Kakouris	No		<p>I think a beautiful commemorative piece honoring the Bahamians who contributed so much to the building of Coral Gables, is long overdue. I like them all but my favorite would be "The Bahamia" By Mr. Charles Humes.</p>

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20	John Meagher	Yes	1225 Valencia Ave.	I can't think of a more appropriate group to be honored by the proposed monument than the "Way-Showers," those who worked so hard to fashion the beautiful community we all are now fortunate enough to enjoy. The monument also would serve a dual purpose - recognizing George Merrick's admirable appreciation for the Black Bahamians at a time when such recognition was far from commonplace.
21	Sara Tillett	Yes	1243 Asturia Avenue	After reviewing all the proposals I feel that the innovative design of "Bahamia" is the best one to blend with the existing architecture and history of Coral Gables. It brings narratives and history to the forefront with its base design and would be a beautiful and impactful work of art.
22	Alexis Ehrenhaft	Yes	2221 Country Club Prado	My choice is "Secrets that the Wind carried Away" with the men in the boat. It brings to life the Bahamian people! By: M. Ducet
23	Gay Bondurant	Yes	446 Alcazar Ave	It is clear that these artists have put a great deal of effort and thought into their proposals. This project needs to tell a story. It should be clearly presented in a way that the observer can see the honor being brought to the (as George Merrick called them) Wayshowers. Elegant simplicity, honest, relevant, earthy materials.
24	Carl L Prime	Yes	141 Florida Avenue	Proposal #2 by Morel Doucet comes closest to what the residents and descendants would like to see. Proposal #6 by Chire Regans with some tweaking may be an alternative.
25	Dolly MacIntyre	No		Was a resident for 19 years, just moved to the Grove three months ago but I am well aware of the McFarlane district and the Bahamian history. Served on the Gables HEPB for 8 years. I tend to favor the Charles Humes project though I wish it were a little less costly. I think it does a good job of telling the history and recognizing the contributors to that history.

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26	Leona Cooper Baker	Yes	Received via phone	Expressed interest in the proposals that include the family names and pieces with the image of Mrs. Fances Tucker and the Rev. Sampson. She also mentioned the proposal by Morel Ducet.
27	Dr. Raul E Hernandez			I just learned that the City of Coral Gables is considering proposals for the monument to the "Black Bahamans". This is great news. The recognition to the extraordinary contribution of the hard-working Bahamians in the creation of the City of Coral Gables is long overdue. As a docent of both, the Coral Gables Museum and the Merrick House I have learned first hand how important their role was and how influential their work ethics was to the young George Merrick. George Merrick famously wrote, "When the true pioneers are fittingly monumented, there should surely be an inspired one for the Black Bahamans (sic)" It is time this becomes a reality.
28	Jose Riera Jr.	Yes	425 Sevilla Ave.	This email serves to confirm, the city of Coral Gables should pick art that is in line with Mr. Merricks wishes and something that depicts the Bahamian's in a correct way. It will be outdoors so it should be art work that can last and matches with the Coral Gables Mediterranean design. The two art works to pick from do not represent Bahamian's. Nor do they match our style nor do they look to withstand the outdoor elements.
29	Mayra Joli	Yes	Received via email	It is insulting the push for "something with blacks" just to pretend. Did the pushers ask the "Bahamians"? Enough with the patronizing! This will be another deblacle like the monstrosity of the metal flowers' monuments "adorning" CG roundabouts. Now people will be hating on the other monstrosity, only this time it will be no flowers, will be the blacks depicted, which will remind us the money that costs us residents! Congratulations to all involved!☐

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29	Debbie Swain	Yes		I had a chance to look at the art proposals which should be image(s) that show Coral Gables connection to the Bahamian settlers who were such a significant part of the onset and development of Coral Gables. None of them did that for me. I was disappointed to see that none of them captured the close tie the Bahamians had to our founder. Certainly there is an artist who can do that.