

Item # 113

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL
Regular Meeting
June 15, 2021

SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF

COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION



BERTHA W. HENRY, County Administrator

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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the Board of County Commissioners

From: Bertha Henry, County Administrator

Date: June 9, 2021

RE: **Item # 113**, Commission Meeting of June 15, 2021

At the request of multiple Commissioners, the following additional information regarding the County's plans to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the African American Research Library & Cultural Center is being provided.

African American Research Library and Cultural Center
20th Anniversary Year Long Programming
Events explained with descriptions

Schedule of 20th Anniversary Programs:

Signature AARLCC Programs that will be elevated in recognition of the 20th Anniversary

- **Friday, April 8, 2022 Cultural Conversations - Black Women in Librarianship Lecture** – Celebrating National Library Week in 2022. The African American Research Library and Cultural Center will host a special conversation on Black Women in Librarianship. Invited speakers include Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden, Director of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, Dr. Meredith Evans (**confirmed**), American Libraries Association Executive Director, Tracie Hall (**confirmed**), and Dr. Nicole Cooke, University of South Carolina, Augusta Baker Endowed Professor (**confirmed**). Tentative invitees include Dr. Louise Bernard, Director of Barack Obama Presidential Library and Christina Shutt, newly named director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.
 - Budget \$20,000
 - **Section Lead – Admin and Programs & Exhibitions**

- **Friday, June 17, 2022 BAM! It's Juneteenth – Be Alive through Music** is our annual celebration of Black Music Month, Caribbean Heritage Month, and Juneteenth. This celebration highlights the diversity and the historical intersections of people from the African Diaspora. Through live stage performances of music and storytelling, we will celebrate the significance of the month June to people of African descent.
 - Budget \$75,000
 - **Section Lead – Programs & Exhibitions**

- **Friday, July 15 & Saturday, July, 16, 2022 South Florida Book Festival** – South Florida Book Festival is a signature AARLCC event and we will be hosting authors from across genres as we celebrate our 20th anniversary. Working with publishers we will highlight 20th editions/anniversary of important books published in 2002 the year AARLCC opened. We also will feature authors published in 2022. We will host our Eat Drink Festivities with partner organization Destination Sistrunk. This is an intimate meet and greet event for guest and authors. We also feature a special cook book where guest will get to taste featured recipes.
 - Budget \$30,000
 - **Section Lead –AIS and Programs & Exhibitions**

- **Friday, September 23 & Saturday, September 24, 2022 Ashley Bryan Art Series** – Celebrating children's literature and awarding winning authors and illustrators. This event targets our local school children where they meet an author/illustrator, receive a signed book, and learn more about art/illustration and writing/storytelling. The second day is targeting educators highlighting the need for more diverse literature and teaching to incorporate more equity, diversity, and inclusion. Confirmed is past ABAS winner/speaker [Javaka Steptoe](#)
 - Budget \$30,000
 - **Section Lead – YS and Programs & Exhibitions**

- **Friday, December 30, 2022 Kwanzaa** – Kwanzaa Night Market. We will celebrate the 5th principal of Kwanzaa Nia and host a family friendly night market. Nia means purpose and as the African American Research Library and Cultural Center our purpose is to share and preserve history and culture of the Black Diaspora. This event celebrating purpose is our opportunity share more about this holiday and its seven principals.
 - Budget \$30,000
 - **Section Lead –AIS and Programs & Exhibitions**

- **Saturday, October 22, 2022– Gala Celebration on the Sixth**
 - Details TBD
 - Section Lead – Admin, Friends of AARLCC, and Programs & Exhibitions

New Programs for 20th Anniversary

- **Saturday January 29, 2022 Time: Taste of Africa** – Taste of Africa is AARLCC’s tour through the continent of Africa’s diverse cultures and terrains. Family friendly event will offer a variety of food and cultural experience of selected African countries like music and arts/crafts. This will highlight our use of VR tours, 3D African Artifacts from [Virtual AARLCC exhibit](#), and tours related to the Walking Sticks Public Art installation.
 - Budget \$7,500
 - Section Lead – YS and Programs & Exhibitions
- **Thursday February 10, 2022 Archives After Dark** – Archives After Dark is an exclusive access party to the special collections vault at the African American Research Library and Cultural Center. For this special event we have guest music educator and dj [Lamar Harris](#) curating the Eric Rawlins Record Collection for a nostalgic night of cocktails, light bites with the dj spinning vinyl LPs taking us on a musical expedition. Eric Rawlins Record Collection contain nearly 6,000 albums covering jazz, rhythm & blues, hip hop, Latino and gospel music genres. As a special preview, guests of Archives After Dark will get an exclusive tour of the new exhibition celebrating two luminaries in libraries and archives history, Dorothy Porter Wesley who is responsible for building Moorland-Spingarn Collection, one the best Black library collections in the world at Howard University and Vivian Hewitt the first Black woman to lead the Special Libraries Association. This event is a fundraising effort to offset costs related purchasing new archival acquisitions.
 - Budget \$30,000
 - Section Lead – Admin, Special Collections, Programs, and Friends of AARLCC
- **Friday, February 11, 2022 Grand Opening of Dorothy Porter Wesley Exhibit** – Dorothy Porter Wesley and Vivian Hewitt Exhibition. [Dorothy Porter Wesley](#), librarian, bibliographer, scholar, historian and archivist, was for 43 years (1930-1973) the curator of the Moorland-Spingarn Collection at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Under her guidance, a small special collection grew into a world-renowned research library. Today the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center is considered by many to be one of the world's most comprehensive repositories of information on the history and culture of people of African descent. [The Hewitt Haitian Art Collection](#), one of the largest of the special collections housed at African-American Research Library and Cultural Center, contains a wealth of items, many of them highly valued for their artistic merit and rarity.
 - Budget \$10,000
 - Section Lead – Special Collections and Programs & Exhibitions
- **February 25 & 26, 2022 1st South Florida Biennial Black Film Festival** – AARLCC’s first ever film festival will highlight filmmakers and content about the Black Diaspora. This 2-day festival will pay homage to local and independent filmmakers of African descent. Host workshops about television and film industry. This will be a juried film festival with prize money for specific categories. We will activate partner spaces along Sistrunk to host smaller screenings. The festival will conclude with awards party for winners.
 - Budget \$50,000
 - Section Lead – AIS and Programs & Exhibitions
- **Friday March 11 & 12 2022 Let The Good Times Rolle** – Let Good Times Rolle is an original play inspired by Broward native and leading lady of stage and screen, Esther Rolle. This play will be a homecoming given that we were unable to bring this production to stage in our theatre. For the 20th we will produce this play fully exploiting our theatre space to produce a spectacular theatre experience!
 - Budget \$100,000
 - Section Lead – Admin and Programs & Exhibitions

- **Saturday April 30, 2022 Biennial Art & Activism Festival** – The Art and Activism Festival is the culmination of the Community Foundation of Broward’s Art of Community grant. The Art Residency with 5 fellows will showcase their creations from their tenure as AARLCC Art and Activism Resident Artist. Speakers, art, food, performance is all on deck for the festival.
 - Budget \$27,000
 - **Section Lead – Admin, AIS, and Programs & Exhibitions**

- **Monday, October 4, 2022 20th Anniversary Oral History Project** – Debut of oral histories from community members responsible for helping to get AARLCC built. Reflections from community member and staff (current and former) about the impact AARLCC
 - Budget Funded by FIU Community Data Curation Grant
 - **Section Lead – Special Collections and AIS**

- **October 26, 2022 12-4PM Community Party/Event** – Go AARLCC it’s your Birthday!! Community open house celebrating the 20th Anniversary of AARLCC. The entire building will be activated with fun for the entire family. Entertainment and refreshments.
 - Budget \$15,000
 - **Section Lead – All Sections**