ELIZABETH CERIJDIO

Dr. Elizabeth Cerejido is a curator, art historian, educator and administrator whose professional and academic work has focused on modern and contemporary Latin American and Latinx art, with a specialization in the visual arts production and cultural politics of Cuba and its diaspora. Cerejido received her PhD in Art History from the University of Florida in Gainesville and earned her Masters of Arts in Latin American Studies at University of Miami. In 2018, Dr. Cerejido was named the Esperanza Bravo de Varona Chair of the Cuban Heritage Collection (CHC) of the University of Miami Libraries. In addition to her role as director of the CHC, Dr. Cerejido is currently working on a major exhibition she is curating for the Lowe Art Museum titled Radical Conventions: Cuban American Art from the 1980s, scheduled to open in March 2022.

DAVID CHANG

David Y. Chang, MFA, is Frost Professor of Art, a renowned artist and award-winning professor. Classically trained in the Beaux-Arts tradition, his education includes the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France, the Cambridge University, England, the Academy of Fine Arts, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China, and Florida International University. Since joining FIU in 1986, Professor Chang has been teaching visual arts education theories and practices, classical drawing and painting, as well as visual analysis for over three decades. He is the Founding Director of the Academy of Portrait and Figurative Art. His artworks have been collected internationally. He is the Chair of the Florida Artists Group (FLAG-Area1) – Florida’s oldest and most prestigious professional artists association which requires a juried membership. Professor Chang has been awarded the Florida Higher Education Art Educator Prize as well as the Florida Art Education Distinguished Service Award.
SANDY DORSAINVIL

Sandy Dorsainvil currently serves as the manager of the City of Miami, Little Haiti Cultural Complex. Sandy’s programs the theatre and fine art gallery, facilitates quality children’s activities, directs the Caribbean Marketplace, and launched several signature events. Sandy is also the principal of Maximillian Consultants Inc. (MCI) and the proud co-owner of Noire, an afrocentric gallery and lounge. Sandy produces Sounds of Little Haiti, a monthly music festival that celebrates Haitian culture and heritage in Little Haiti.

Sandy obtained a Bachelor of Arts in History from Howard University and has worked in the non-profit sector for over twenty years, facilitating cultural events. She is a board member of Black Professionals Network (BPN) and sits on Miami Dade County’s Art in Public Spaces Trust Professional Advisory Committee.

CARLA HILL

Carla Hill is an arts advocate. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and Secondary Education from Florida State University and taught for 10 years in the Miami-Dade County Public School System. After earning her Master of Science in Counseling from Barry University, she was able to serve the residents of South Miami-Dade and North Miami as a mental health therapist with Family Counseling Services of Greater Miami.

Her work has enabled her to promote the arts and support arts education initiatives on a national and local level. Carla worked for over 10 years as an arts administrator for the National YoungArts Foundation and later as Education and Outreach Manager for South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center. Carla is a proud graduate of Georgetown University’s executive certificate in Diversity and Inclusion and is currently an Admission Officer and DEI practitioner at Ransom Everglades School.
CAROLINA JAYARAM

Carolina García Jayaram has more than two decades of experience in leading national institutions and initiatives dedicated to enriching and shaping social-impact, philanthropic and cultural communities across the United States. As the Founding Executive Director of the new Elevate Prize Foundation, Carolina is leading the Foundation’s launch and distribution of $5M in funding and professional support to a group of 10 social entrepreneurs who are tackling the most challenging problems of our time.

She most recently served as CEO & President of the National YoungArts Foundation and, prior to that, as President & CEO of United States Artists. Carolina received her JD (with honors) from the University of Miami School of Law, where she is now an Adjunct Professor as well as a member of the Advisory Committee for the Law School’s Art + Sports Law LLM program. She has also studied not-for-profit management at Harvard Business School.

EDSON JEAN

Edson Jean (Filmmaker/Founder - Bantufy Films) is a Haitian-American actor/writer/director and IFP/Gotham Narrative Lab alum, who’s debut feature film Ludi premiered at SXSW (2021). He most recently was nominated for a Streamy and Mipcom award for directing all eight (23 minute) episodes of his dramedy, Grown, for Complex Networks. Edson also wrote, directed, and starred in “The Adventures of Edson Jean,” which aired on HBO. As an actor, he was most recently seen in A24’s “Moonlight,” Warner Bros. Pictures’ “War Dogs,” HBO’s “Ballers” and Netflix’s “Bloodline.”
NERISSA MANELA

Nerissa Manela is a violinist, music teacher, and board-certified music therapist in Miami, Florida. She teaches elementary general music, chorus, and strings in Miami-Dade County Public Schools and works with the Visual and Performing Arts department as a Curriculum Support Specialist. Outside of school, she conducts the Young Mozarts orchestra with Greater Miami Youth Symphony and runs Miami Jam Sessions, a free music therapy socialization group and mentoring program for teens and young adults with special needs. She also volunteers as Chair of Practicing Musician’s Professional Development Roundtable, coordinating a summer symposium and ongoing professional development on educational technology tools and resources for concert band and orchestra teachers. Nerissa was recognized by the Florida Music Educators Association as a 2020 Emerging Leader and is the 2021 Rookie Teacher of the Year for Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

DEBBIE MARGOL

Deborah Bookspan Margol is an independent arts consultant with more than 35 years of experience in the arts industry. Deborah was a leader and senior executive of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs from 1986-2018, serving as Deputy Director and chief financial officer. Deborah helped set the strategic direction for Miami-Dade’s cultural evolution, building the Department over three decades into a national model for leading local arts and community development, work that has positioned Greater Miami among the fastest growing and most transformed cultural capitals in the country, constituting a more than $1.4 billion local industry annually. Deborah was the architect of the Department’s portfolio of 20 competitive grants programs, renowned for its equitability, accessibility and accountability in grant making, catalyzing growth in the arts and community at every level, from individual artists and neighborhoods to major cultural, museum and performing arts institutions.
CHIRE REGANS

Chire “VantaBlack” Regans believes that her role as an artist is to allow pertinent societal concerns to inform her practice and to amplify the voices of those she engages with through her work. Over the past decade VantaBlack has become immersed in community advocacy and social narratives depicted without distortion, in a variety of mediums. As a Saint Louis native, the birth of the Black Lives Matter movement triggered a sense of urgency in her practice and it has continued to expand, allowing for a wider range of accessibility and scale. Locally, VantaBlack continues to pair her artistic practice with community led activism with a variety of goals including prioritizing the art of story-telling informed by unfiltered interactions amongst the community.

JOHN RICHARD

M. John Richard served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County since December 2008. Now entering its second decade, the Arsht Center has cemented its role as Miami’s New Town Square through Mr. Richard’s leadership. The Center is a presenter of world-class performances, an openly-accessible community resource, a source of education for children and adults, and a catalyst for economic growth in downtown Miami. Mr. Richard retired from the Arsht Center on Jan 1, 2019 after a decade of service.

Mr. Richard is engaged as a member of the Board of Directors for Miami Jewish Health Systems, one of South Florida’s largest and most innovative healthcare providers.

Mr. Richard and his wife, Dr. Lynne Richard, have a daughter, Rachel, and son, Aaron, pursuing their professional careers.
CHRISTINA TASSY-BEAUVOIR

Christina Tassy-Beauvoir is the Cultural Projects Administrator with the Department of Cultural Affairs of Miami-Dade County. She co-manages Culture Shock Miami, a major audience development initiative dedicated to building future audiences. As a member of the Florida Professional Presenters Consortium, Christina chairs the organization’s Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee. Additionally, she serves as liaison to the Haitian-Creole and French speaking community of Miami-Dade County, and served on the City of Miami’s Little Haiti Park Planning Committee, and the Miami-Haiti Bicentennial Committee. A native of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Christina is fluent in French and Haitian-Creole. She has received formal dance training in Haitian-folklore, Classical Ballet, Jazz, Modern, and Afro-Caribbean dance.

MARIE VICKLES

Marie Vickles is the Director of Education at the Pérez Art Museum Miami and has worked in various roles within the museum’s Education department since October 2013. In her work as the Director of Education, she administers programs that directly serve over 100,000 youth and adults annually.

Marie has organized arts educational programs, workshops and exhibitions across the United States and the Caribbean for over 15 years and maintains an active practice as an independent curator producing over 30 exhibitions and curatorial projects. Marie is currently the Curator-in-Residence at the Little Haiti Cultural Complex.

Marie completed her studies at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City, and Florida State University, which includes degrees in both Visual Arts and Public Administration. Marie currently serves the City of Miami as a board member of the Arts and Entertainment Council.