



# MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
NO. LTC # **198-2010**

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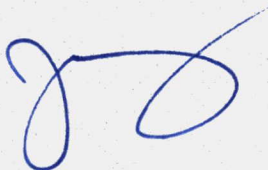
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**LETTER TO COMMISSION**  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: July 13, 2010

SUBJECT: July "Arts in the Parks" programs



I am pleased to inform you of two wonderful free programs that will wrap up this year's Arts in the Parks series. The first is a celebration of International Children's Day at North Shore Park and Youth Center on Sunday, July 18, from 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. It will be the first collaboration between the City of Miami Beach and Miami's famed International Hispanic Theatre Festival, and will include acting, dance and voice workshops for children, arts and crafts activities, carnival rides, food, and a play in Spanish by the Consejo Artistico de Puerto Rico called "Versado, El Andarinn Cuentero: De Como La Princesa Oma Acabo Con La Guerra." Travelling storyteller Versado, part human magician and part playful animal, presents a funny and entertaining tale that exposes children to world literature and promotes reading and love of culture. The full afternoon's program is presented by the Tourism & Cultural Development and Parks & Recreation Departments with support from Target and the Marlins Community Foundation.

The following week we are excited to present the Florida premiere of Sarruga, Barcelona's world-famous street theater group, with the show "Insects," which features giant, bicycle powered bugs (ants, spider, centipede and mantis) in a nonverbal show filled with music, lights and movement. We had planned to present Sarruga in the first Sleepless Night, but a visa problem forced them to cancel. For this engagement we are fortunate to piggyback on their shows in Chicago's Millennium Park the week prior. The Spanish government's Centro Cultural Espanol is paying half the artists' fee, and Catalina Hotel and Beach Club is providing hotel accommodations. Sarruga will present workshops for kids (with insect-themed arts & crafts activities coordinated by the Bass Museum) on Thursday and Friday, July 22 and 23, at 10:30 a.m., and complete shows of "Insects" on Saturday, July 24 at 3:00 p.m. and on Sunday, July 25 at 11:00 a.m. All activities and shows are free, and will be held in the air-conditioned Miami Beach Convention Center. I urge you to take advantage of this unique, not-to-be-missed family entertainment.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

  
JMG/HF/MAS/gf

c: Hilda Fernandez, Assistant City Manager  
Max A. Sklar, Tourism and Cultural Development Director  
Gary Farmer, Cultural Affairs Program Manager

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