

Ms. Monica Colucci, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 26-010 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE FLORIDA GRAND OPERA

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

Florida Grand Opera (FGO) is the **oldest performing arts organization in Florida**: FGO traces its roots to 1941, making it the state's oldest continuous opera institution and one of the oldest in the United States. Originally founded as the *Opera Guild of Greater Miami*, it merged with the *Opera Guild, Inc.* of Fort Lauderdale in 1994 to form today's Florida Grand Opera.

Historically a cultural centerpiece of South Florida, FGO has presented countless classic and contemporary operas featuring internationally acclaimed artists. In recent years, FGO has undergone a renaissance under General Director and Chief Executive Officer Ms. Maria Todaro, who emphasizes both honoring the company's legacy and innovation for new audiences.

FGO recently launched a new in-house orchestra and features acclaimed vocalists and directors in its seasons. FGO is not just a mainstage opera, it features Studio Artist Programs: Training emerging talent, Education & Outreach: Initiatives for students, new audiences, community partners, Legacy and Innovation, and Wellness & Community Programs: through efforts like *Voices of Wellness* that connect music with veterans, first responders, and broader audiences.

FGO has premiered and produced works ranging from standard repertoire to new and regionally relevant opera, often incorporating cultural themes that reflect South Florida's diversity. The company has hosted legendary singers throughout its history and remains a vital artistic institution in the American opera landscape. but the core of FGO's advocacy is grounded in research-supported evidence that engagement with music and the arts enhances cognitive development, expands learning capacity, and helps children perform more successfully across all areas of study.

FGO has enriched the cultural life of students, educators, and families throughout South Florida by presenting world-class opera, concerts, and educational programming that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and appreciation for the arts;

Florida Grand Opera has demonstrated a strong commitment to arts education by partnering with schools and our school district to provide student matinees, in-school performances, professional development for educators, and outreach programs that support arts-integrated learning.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. MONICA COLUCCI:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 26-010 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Florida Grand Opera.

**REPLACEMENT
B-9**

**RESOLUTION NO. 26-010 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING FLORIDA GRAND OPERA**

WHEREAS, Florida Grand Opera (FGO) is the oldest performing arts organization in Florida: FGO traces its roots to 1941, making it the state's oldest continuous opera institution and one of the oldest in the United States;

WHEREAS, in recent years, FGO has undergone a renaissance under General Director and Chief Executive Officer Ms. Maria Todaro, who emphasizes both honoring the company's legacy and innovation for new audiences;

WHEREAS, FGO is not just a mainstage opera, it features Studio Artist Programs: Training emerging talent, Education & Outreach: Initiatives for students, new audiences, community partners, Legacy and Innovation, and Wellness & Community Programs: through efforts like *Voices of Wellness* that connect music with veterans, first responders, and broader audience;

WHEREAS, FGO has hosted legendary singers throughout its history and remains a vital artistic institution in the American opera landscape. but the core of FGO's advocacy is grounded in research-supported evidence that engagement with music and the arts enhances cognitive development, expands learning capacity, and helps children perform more successfully across all areas of study;

WHEREAS, FGO has enriched the cultural life of students, educators, and families throughout South Florida by presenting world-class opera, concerts, and educational programming that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and appreciation for the arts; and

WHEREAS, Florida Grand Opera has demonstrated a strong commitment to arts education by partnering with schools and the Miami-Dade County Public Schools district, to provide student matinees, in-school performances, professional development for educators, and outreach programs that support arts-integrated learning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 26-010 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Florida Grand Opera.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this eleventh day of February, A. D. 2026
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary