

Cultural Affairs

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MIAMI-DADE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 20, 2025

10:00 AM - 5:00PM

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEMBERS

Melissa Hunter Davis, Editor, Sugarcane Magazine Wanda Texon, New World School of the Arts Faculty, Independent Curator

PROJECT SITES, AUTHORITY, PHASE

WELLSPRING APARTMENTS, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PEOPLE AND INTERNAL OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT, ARTIST RECOMMENDATIONS

LOCATION

111 NW 1st Street, Miami FL 33128, 6th Floor, South Conference Room & Zoom Online Meeting

ATTENDEES

Rosa Arquelles People and Internal Operations Department

Maggie Hernandez APP Trust

Robert Mancito Modis Architects

Ana Meza APP

Patricia Romeu APP Chief

Amanda Sanfilippo Long APP

Marvin Wilmoth Integral Florida Development

Patricia Romeu, APP Program Chief, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM on Thursday, February 20, 2025.

WELLSPRING APARTMENTS

After a welcome and introductions of client team members, APP staff, and the Professional Advisory Committee members (PAC), Marvin Wilmoth representing the developer, Integral Florida, introduced the private-public partnership of Wellspring Apartments; a new housing facility on land owned by Miami-Dade County's People and Internal Operations Department



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and converted for use in conjunction with the Public Housing and Community Development Department. The development consists of a new 99-unit low-income senior housing with a surface parking lot in the City of Opa-locka at 14703 NW 27th Avenue, FL 33054. The multistory building consists of units with various floor plan options including studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom. The building's exterior is concrete block walls with painted stucco.

The development will include a fitness room, community room, computer room, package room, access-controlled perimeter, landscaping, pest control, and on-site leasing office. The exterior design takes cues from the historical architectural relevance of the City of Opa-locka, which has one of the largest collections of Moorish Revival architecture in America, and includes 20 buildings listed on the National Registry (Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau). The façade of the Wellspring Apartments is intended to echo this distinct style connected to Opalocka's rich history. It is envisioned that commissioned artworks will be inspired and or influenced by the design and architectural history of the site and local community.

Opportunities for public art included artist-designed tile or durable stencil applications for focal areas of the facility's exterior such as a decorative band at eye level in areas typically accessed by pedestrians, and the two large walls flanking the main entrance. Artwork may also impact the patio area and/or the underside of the covered concrete slab terrace. Interior opportunities include a large-scale installation or two-dimensional artwork for the ground floor lobby.

Subsequently, seven (7) artists shortlisted at an August 22, 2024 meeting of the PAC from a regional Call to Artists presented their proposals:

- 1. Marcus Blake
- 2. Regina Jestrow
- 3. Aramis O'Reilly
- 4. Gustavo Oviedo
- 5. Enma Saiz
- 6. Carolina Sardi
- 7. Carrington Ware

After careful discussion and thoughtful input from the client teams and APP staff, the PAC unanimously recommended commissioning Dania Beach, Florida-based artist Carrington Ware to pursue her concept of creating 15-20 unique designs that will be digitally printed onto ceramic tile and installed at key areas of the building including the walls flanking the entrance and the columns and walls surrounding the covered patio facing the facility's south facade. The tiles bring to life reimagining imagery with social relevance to the communities



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of Opa-locka, while embracing the geometric patterns of Moorish Revival design. The designs are inspired by everyday items such as Bamboo earrings, hair patterns, embellishments, food and historical elements, and local flora and fauna combined with Moorish shapes. The resulting pattern reflects the cultural background and demographics of the Opa-locka community. Additionally, the artist plans to use a color palate and approach that resembles very closely the design team's original vision for a façade decorative tile treatment removed from the project due to budgetary constraints.

Additionally, Miami-based artist Marcus Blake was recommended to pursue an artwork for a prominent wall within the lobby of the facility using his "Tapenology" geometric approach to add a contemporary design flair to the rich design history of Opa-locka. The PAC also recommended that the proposed aluminum artwork powder-coated in a golden metallic hue be backlit for a stunning welcoming effect into the building's lobby.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Sanfilippo Long
APP Curator and Artist Manager