

Miami Book Fair/Miami Dade College
+ Sosyete Koukouy present / *ap prezante*

LITTLE HAITI BOOK FESTIVAL

Foli Liv Nan Ti Ayiti

Sunday, May 3, 2026

11 a.m. | Little Haiti Cultural Complex

Dimanch 3 me 2026, 11 a.m.

nan Sant Kiltirèl Little Haiti



Little Haiti Book Festival
ONLINE

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026

DIMANCH 17 ME 2026

MiamiBookFair.com/LittleHaiti
SosyeteKoukouy.org



LITTLE HAITI BOOK FESTIVAL IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY



Welcome to the 2026 Little Haiti Book Festival

DEAR FRIENDS,

Welcome to the 2026 Little Haiti Book Festival, a celebration of story, rhythm, and community rooted in Haitian culture and carried forward through generations. Each May, as we honor Haitian Heritage Month, we gather at the Little Haiti Cultural Complex to share space, stories, and time with one another. Co-presented by Miami Book Fair and Sosyete Koukouy of Miami, this festival continues to be a space shaped by Haitian creativity and community.

This year's program invites you into an experience of culture in motion. From the energy of the courtyard — where music, dance, and fashion fill the space — to the hands-on exploration of our Land & Sea Discovery Lab, the festival reflects the many ways Haitian identity is expressed, studied, and lived. Across every space, we move between tradition and change, holding what has been passed down while making room for what is still unfolding.

We are especially proud of how this year's festival engages young people. In Children's Alley, storytelling, art-making, rhythm, and play invite them into Haitian culture not as observers but as participants. Here, they're given space to create, to experiment, and to imagine their futures through workshops centered on voice, creativity, and entrepreneurship. Children, parents, and elders share these moments together, each carrying something forward. These spaces are where continuity and legacy begin.

Our in-person panels bring audiences together for conversations on history, language, and lived experience. From Haiti's role in shaping global movements for freedom to the enduring wisdom carried through proverbs, these discussions highlight the voices of historians, writers, and cultural leaders who speak from within the work. Held in Haitian Creole with English interpretation, these sessions create opportunities for reflection and connection across generations and communities.

At the center of it all is the marketplace and the gathering spaces that surround it, where language, food, books, and music come together. It is here that culture is lived. Haitian Creole, English, Spanish, and French exist side by side. Stories move between generations, and we are in community with one another.

The festival exists because of you. Our artists, authors, performers, educators, vendors, volunteers, partners, and audience members each shape what it becomes. Your presence and your work make it possible year after year, and as we look ahead we remain grounded and attentive about what comes next. Little Haiti Book Festival continues to connect past and future, homeland and diaspora, imagination and action. Thank you for being a part of it.

Warm regards,



Michele Jessica Fievre Logan ("M.J. Fievre")

Program Coordinator
ReadCaribbean & Little Haiti Book Festival
Miami Book Fair
Sosyete Koukouy of Miami



Lissette Mendez
Executive Director
Miami Book Fair

Welcome to the 2026 Little Haiti Book Festival

ATYABA POU NOU TOUT!

Se ak anpil plezi e ak kè kontan, nan non Sosyete Koukouy Miyami ak Biwo Santral Koukouy yo, mwen swete tout moun atyaba nan douzyèm ane Foli Liv Nan Ti Ayiti. Sosyete Koukouy, premye mouvman literè nan lang kreyòl ayisyen an, fonde an 1965, bay lebra ak Miami Book Fair ki gen plis pase 40 ane eksperyans, pou nou reyalize kokennchenn evennman literè sa a. Miami Book Fair se pi gwo aktivite lakilti nan peyi Etazini.

Nou renmèsye tout volontè yo, estaf ki travay san pran souf depi 6 mwa ak tout pwofesyonèl nan kominote a ki kore nou pandan onz ane sa yo e ki penmèt reyalizasyon bèl aktivite literè sa a. Yon renmèsiman espesyal bay M.J. Fievre, kowòdonatris Foli Liv Nan Ti Ayiti. Li travay maten-midi-swa pou rann evènman an posib. Yon gwo bravo pou lidèchip li.

Jodi a, se youn nan pi bèl okazyon pou ekriven pale, diskite epi pataje ak piblik la eksperyans ak kreyasyon literè yo.

Yon lòt fwa ankò Sosyete Koukouy di nou mèsi. Sonje byen, liv se rezèvwa lakonesans. Tanpri achte yon liv. Ankouraje otè yo. Mennen timoun yo.

Jan Mapou

Prezidan

Sosyete Koukouy



SPECIAL THANKS TO



**GREEN FAMILY
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**Kimberly Green
Latin American and
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**for their generous multiyear
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LITTLE HAITI
BOOK FESTIVAL
a vibrant part of our community.**

SEE YOU IN 2027!



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"Our collaboration with the Green Family Foundation is rooted in a shared belief that culture is not a luxury but a necessity. Its support empowers us to design programming that speaks to the mind and heart, centering Haitian voices, investing in local talent, and cultivating spaces where storytelling can move, educate, and inspire. Together, we're cultivating future thinkers, readers, and creators."

— Lissette Mendez
Executive Director, Miami Book Fair

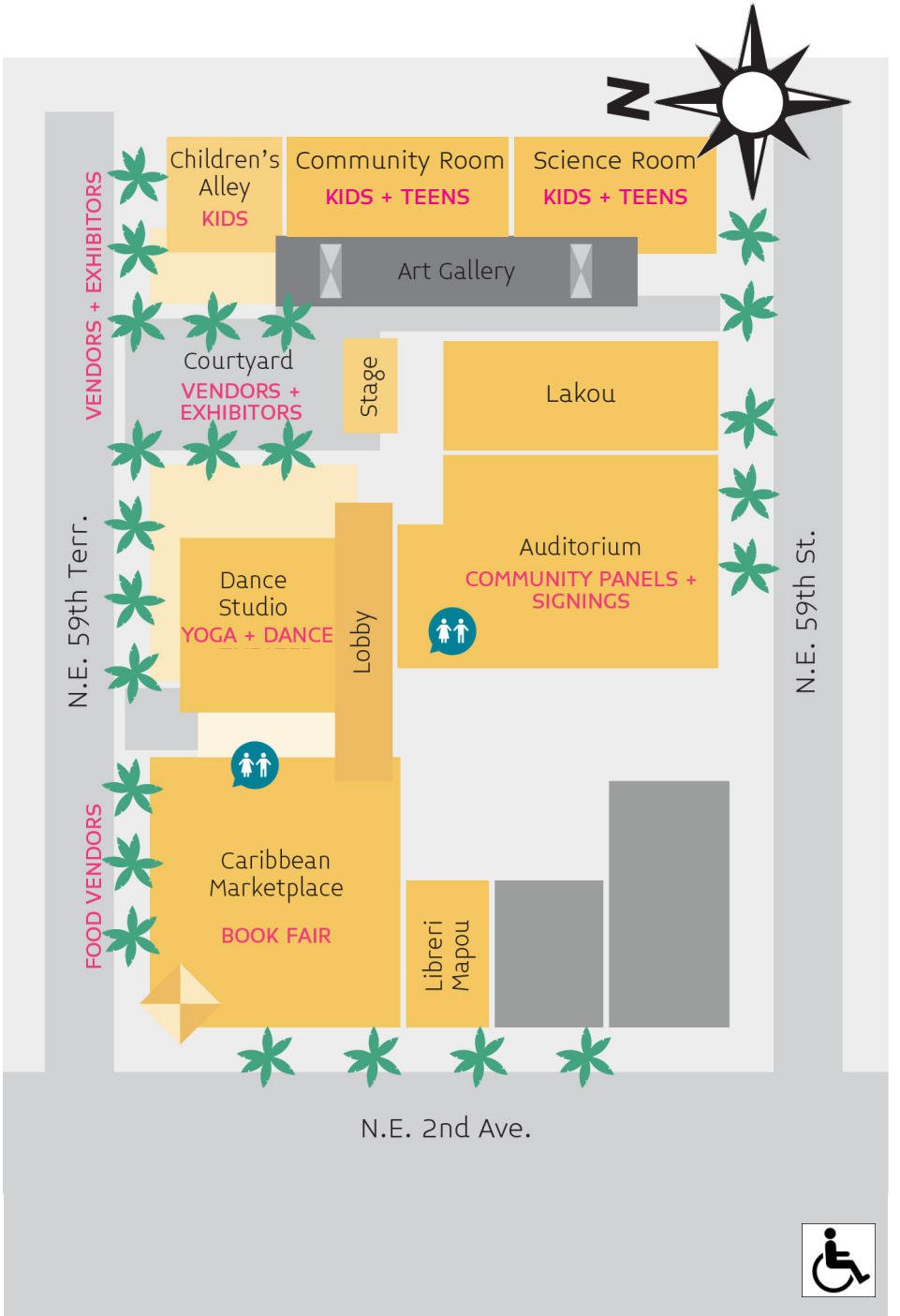
"The Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center helps us place Haiti exactly where it belongs: in conversation with the world. Its support strengthens our ability to highlight Haiti's role in shaping regional and global histories. Through this partnership, we're celebrating art and culture and deepening the conversation, asking better questions, and inviting the public to see Haiti not as an island apart, but as a vital voice in the chorus of the Americas."

— Jan Mapou
Sosyete Koukouy

"Libreri Mapou is a cultural anchor, a keeper of language, and a home for Haitian thought. Its continued presence at the festival affirms the centrality of literature in our collective identity. With every book on its tables and every conversation sparked between generations, Libreri Mapou reminds us that the written word is both a bridge and a mirror. We are proud to walk alongside this vital community stakeholder."

— Michèle Jessica Fièvre Logan ("M.J. Fievre")
Program Coordinator, ReadCaribbean & Little Haiti Book Festival, Miami Book Fair

FESTIVAL MAP



TIME	COURTYARD	CHILDREN'S ALLEY	MAIN BUILDING	DANCE STUDIO	AUTHORS & PANELS	IN THE LAKOU
ALL DAY	Haitian music with DJ Nickymix + Discover the Magic with emcee Mecca "Grimo" Marcelin	Create! Kids Art-Making Studio with GO GO MOAD and artist Mark Delmont + Historical Puzzles with Game Time Ayiti	Land & Sea Discovery Lab with Frost Science + HistoryMiami Museum		MARKETPLACE Book Fair COURTYARD Free Books for Kids, courtesy of the Miami Book Fair Children's Trust Books for Free program	Lakou Lounge & Community Gathering Meet festival VIPs, enjoy podcast interviews and games, and attend the after-party with food and drinks
11 A.M.		Haitian Storytelling with Liliane Nérette Louis	Teen Zine Workshop with EXILE Projects + Edny Jean Joseph	Meditation & Yoga for All Ages with Alexandra Jeanty-Leclerc		O, Miami: Poems on Demand
12 P.M.	Koukouy à la Mode: Fashion Show with Sosityete Koukouy	Storytelling, Rhythm & Drums with Yanui of Tradisyon Lakou Lakay			AUDITORIUM Haiti's Historical Contributions in the Making of America and the World with Philippe St. Louis, Ernst Julmeus, Alin Louis Hall, and Anthony Georges-Pierre	
1 P.M.		Storytime: <i>James and Marie Become Friends</i> with Annick Duvivier		Contemporary Haitian Dance with Nancy St. Léger of NSL Danse Ensemble		
2 P.M.		Storytime: I'll Make Tea: Haitian Stories with M. Ketsia Theodore-Pharel	Haitian Entrepreneurship for Teens: Phelicia Dell & Delphine Nephtalie Dauphin		AUDITORIUM Pawòl Granmoun: The Wisdom of Haitian Proverbs with Maybeline Dugué Despagne, Rosilia François Corneille, Miguel "Mingolove" Romain, and Wooly Saint Louis Jean	
3 P.M.	Performance: NSL Danse Ensemble	Storytime: <i>From the Classroom to City Hall</i> with North Miami Beach Commissioner Daniela Jean				
4 P.M.	Musical Performance: Ralph Caze					
5 P.M.					AUDITORIUM Theatrical Performance: <i>The Last Songs of My Mother and Tonton</i>	



MiamiBookFair.com/LittleHaiti
MiamiBookFair.com/ti-ayiti





DJ NICKYMIX



MECCA "GRIMO" MARCELIN

ALL DAY | TOUT LAJOUNEN

MARKETPLACE A bustling destination packed with exhibitors, food vendors, and a mini book fair featuring local authors and publishers with books in English, Haitian Creole, French, and Spanish.

Se sa nou rele Foli Liv Nan Ti Ayiti. N ap jwenn liv nan plizyè lang: an kreyòl, an angle, an franse, e menm an panyòl!

COURTYARD Heart-pumping beats with DJ Nickymix, one of the most famous Haitian DJs of the diaspora and host at Radio Carnivale, the first Haitian radio station in the U.S. — spinning Haitian konpa, roots, and rara music!

DJ Nickymix pral mete bèl anbyans: mizik konpa, rasin, rara, rege! Se sa nèt! Ala bèl fèt la pral bèl!

COURTYARD Discover the magic with cultural ambassador and creative advocate Mecca "Grimo" Marcelin, who will entertain and guide you through the event as you enjoy DJ Nickymix's heart-pumping beats.

Bèl animasyon avèk Mecca "Grimo" Marcelin. Ayayay! Se pa ti kè kontan!

COURTYARD Free books for kids, courtesy of Miami Book Fair and The Children's Trust Books for Free program.

Liv gratis pou timoun, koutwazi "Books for Free," yon pwogram The Children's Trust mete sou pye an kolaborasyon avèk Miami Book Fair. Pase pran liv pa w ak ti lezanj yo!



CHILDREN'S ALLEY CREATE! Kids Art-Making Studio With GO GO MOAD Immerse your children in Haitian art and culture while fostering their creativity! Led by artist **Mark Delmont**, children will express stories of home, culture, and memory. Plus, enjoy engaging historical puzzles from **Game Time Ayiti** that spark fun and learning about Haiti's vibrant past.

Mennen timoun yo vin fè pèzèl ki reprezante moniman istorik nou genyen lakay.

M . O
 . A .
 D . . .
Miami Dade College

LAKOU LOUNGE & COMMUNITY

GATHERING A relaxed gathering space just steps from the Little Haiti Cultural Complex, where guests can meet festival VIPs, enjoy live podcast interviews, games, food, and drinks, and stay connected throughout the day. After the festival, join us for an after-party with DJ, food, and drinks.

LAKOU se kote pou poze, pran souf, epi jwenn moun. Vin rankontre envite espesyal yo, koute entèvyou podcast an dirèk, jwe jwèt, manje, bwè, epi pran plezi ansanm. Epi lè festival la fini, pa ale twò vit. Rete pou fèt la! DJ, manje, bwason... n ap kontinye fete ansanm!

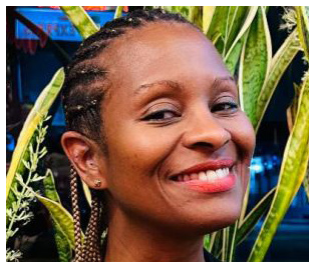
LAKOU



LILIANE NÉRETTE LOUIS



EDNY JEAN JOSEPH



ALEXANDRA JEANTY-LECLERC

11 A.M. CHILDREN'S ALLEY Haitian

Storytelling Through captivating tales, cultural ambassador **Liliane Nérette Louis** will guide children on a journey through Haiti's traditions, humor, and wisdom.

Mennen timoun yo vin koute kont ak lejann nou yo. Madam Liliane se yon mètkont estwòdinè!

11 A.M. IN THE BUILDING Teen Zine

Workshop Led by Haitian artist **Edny Jean Joseph** and presented by **EXILE Projects**, this hands-on workshop invites youth ages 12–18 to create their own zines using collage, drawing, and storytelling. Through cutting, pasting, and creative experimentation, participants explore self-expression, independent publishing, and the power of sharing their voices through art. Teens will leave with a handmade zine and a new appreciation for DIY creativity.

Jèn yo ap fè desen, kolaj, ak dekoupaj pou kreye yon liv pwezi.



11 A.M. DANCE STUDIO Meditation & Yoga for All Ages With Alexandra Jeanty-Leclerc,

Mindful Art educator and author of *Mindful Pokie*, who will share simple yet effective techniques to calm your mind, reduce stress, and increase focus. Suitable for all experience levels, this workshop offers a welcoming and inclusive space to explore the benefits of a mindful yoga practice.

Meditasyon ak yoga pou moun tout laj! Alexandra Jeanty-Leclerc pral pataje teknik senp men efikas pou kalme lespri ou, diminye estrès, e ogmante konsantrasyon. Atelye sa a adapte pou tout nivo eksperyans.



11 A.M. LAKOU O, Miami: Poems on Demand

Experience poetry created just for you! Stop by and receive a custom, typewritten poem inspired by your words, your story, or a moment you want to hold onto. A unique, intimate encounter with poetry in real time.

Pase nan pou w jwenn yon powèm yo ekri espesyalman pou ou. Di sa w santi, pataje yon lide, oswa yon moman, epi powèt la ap kreye yon tèks sou plas pou ou. Powèm sou demann se yon eksperyans espesyal kote pawòl pran fòm devan je w.



O,
Miami

LAKOU

12 P.M. COURTYARD Koukouy à la Mode:

Fashion Show With Sosyete Koukouy A dynamic fashion show featuring bold designs inspired by Haitian culture, modeled by children and blending tradition and contemporary style in a celebration of identity. Se timoun ki pral monte sou sèn nan pou yon defile mòd. Y ap prezante bèl rad ki enspire pa kilti ayisyen, kote tradisyon rankontre stil modèn. Yon selebrasyon idantite, kreyativite, ak fyète nou.

12 P.M. CHILDREN'S ALLEY Storytelling,

Rhythm & Drums With Yanui Embark on a journey through the stories, rhythms, and dances that define Haiti's spirited culture.

Yanui se fondatè ak prezidan Tradisyon Lakou Lakay, yon òganizasyon kominotè ki ede timoun dekouvri talan kache yo gras a pwogram edikatif tankou dans, tanbou, kreyasyon literè, enfòmasyon, prezantasyon sou sèn, ak kreyòl ayisyen, pami lòt bagay.

Tradisyon Lakou Lakay Inc. (TLL, Inc.) is a Miami-based nonprofit arts and culture organization focused on educating and enriching individuals through Haitian Folk arts. Its mission involves uplifting the mind, body, and spirit of its community through a variety of programs, including dance, drumming, creative writing, and photography. TLL offers seasonal camp programs such as Spring Fest and Summer Intensive Institute, which are designed to foster skills in



YANUI



PHILIPPE ST. LOUIS



DR. ERNST JULMEUS

arts and leadership among children and youth. TLL also conducts the Youth Engagement Study Circle (YES-C), a program aimed at developing communication and critical thinking skills among older youth. The organization's activities are rooted in Haitian cultural traditions, providing a space for community gathering and cultural expression.



12 P.M. AUDITORIUM Panel: Haiti's Historical Contributions in the Making of America & the World

A panel highlighting the tremendous role Haitians have played in the making of America and in shaping the wider world. From violent engagements such as the Battle of Savannah and key moments in U.S. history to Haiti's impact on independence movements in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, and global ideas of freedom and human rights, the discussion focuses on how Haitian courage, thought, and culture have influenced political struggles, social movements, and communities across continents. Journalist **Philippe St. Louis**, *Sosyete Koukouy's* **Ernst Julmeus**, and historians **Alin Louis Hall** and **Anthony Georges-Pierre** connect these past contributions to the present, illustrating how Haitian history continues to inspire and transform the globe today. *In Haitian Creole with English interpretation.*

Philippe St. Louis is a Haitian journalist, photographer, and cultural commentator whose work spans media, music, and the visual arts. Long recognized in Haiti as a radio and music personality, he began his career at Radio Nationale d'Haïti before returning to his early interests in photography and artistic documentation. Over the years, his photographs have been exhibited in Haiti, Montreal, Guadeloupe, Paris, and the United States, reflecting a practice founded on both observation and cultural memory. He later returned to radio and continued building a reputation as a thoughtful voice within Haitian cultural life. His work moves

between reporting, image-making, and public conversation, bringing together an ear for people's stories and an eye for the textures of everyday experience. At Little Haiti Book Festival, he brings a journalist's perspective shaped by decades of engagement with Haitian artistic life, cultural expression, and the conversations that continue to shape Haiti and its diaspora.

Dr. Ernst Julmeus is a respected cultural leader, educator, and advocate for the preservation of Haitian language and art in South Florida. A longtime figure within *Sosyete Koukouy* of Miami, he has helped sustain one of the community's most important institutions for the presentation and protection of Haitian culture, performance, and Kreyòl language. His work has included public scholarship, community education, and writing, all grounded in a deep commitment to cultural transmission across generations. He has been recognized as part of the leadership that helped strengthen *Sosyete Koukouy's* role in Miami as a home for Haitian thought, creativity, and collective memory. Julmeus' contributions reflect a life devoted to preserving tradition and keeping it active, visible, and meaningful in contemporary community life. At the festival, he brings longstanding knowledge of Haitian cultural expression and a clear understanding of how language, history, and artistic practice continue to shape identity in the diaspora.

Alin Louis Hall is a writer, researcher, and public thinker whose work examines Haitian history, Black identity, and the long psychological and social afterlives of colonialism. A frequent columnist for Haitian newspapers *Le Nouvelliste* and *Le National*, he has written extensively on post traumatic slave syndrome (PTSS) and the broader conditions affecting Afro-descendant communities. His research has also led to the widely noted *Ayiti-Exit* series and to the development of his transplantation syndrome



ALIN LOUIS HALL



ANTHONY GEORGES-PIERRE



ANNICK DUVIVIER

theory. Hall is the author of *La Péninsule Républicaine*, a historical essay centered on the contribution of Southern Haiti to the Haitian Revolution and to broader questions of Black self-determination in the Americas. In addition to his literary and historical work, he has had a substantial professional career in finance and development. His work brings together scholarship, analysis, and historical reflection, offering a perspective that is both critically informed by Haitian history and attentive to the forces that continue to shape Haiti's present.

Anthony Georges-Pierre is a teacher of literature and a political analyst, researcher, historian, and writer whose work is marked by rigor, historical depth, and a sustained engagement with Haiti's political past. He is especially known for his study of the Duvalier era, a subject he approaches with care, discipline, and a commitment to analysis over simplification. That method has earned him credibility as a thoughtful interpreter of Haitian political history and its ongoing consequences. His work reflects a broad intellectual range, bringing together literary study, historical inquiry, and political reflection in ways that illuminate both the past and its present-day echoes. Georges-Pierre has also been featured in public forums and

cultural programs focused on Haitian and Caribbean history, where his scholarship helps audiences better understand the forces that have shaped the region. At Little Haiti Book Festival, he brings a historian's perspective sharpened by research, teaching, and a committed investment in the work of historical understanding.

1 P.M. CHILDREN'S ALLEY Storytime With

Annick Duvivier Haitian American artist and author Annick Duvivier invites children into the colorful world of her bilingual book *James and Marie Become Friends*, a joyful story celebrating friendship, culture, and connection between Haiti and the United States. Through engaging storytelling and interactive moments, young readers discover the power of kindness, curiosity, and cultural pride.

Se yon bèl istwa sou lanmitye, kilti, ak koneksyon ant Ayiti ak Etazini. Timoun yo ap aprann sou jantiyès, kiryozi, ak fyète pou kilti yo.

Annick Duvivier is a Haitian American artist, illustrator, and children's book author whose work centers on culture, storytelling, and identity. Born and raised in the United States to Haitian parents, she draws inspiration from her heritage to create vibrant, accessible stories that help young readers

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NANCY ST. LÉGER



NSL DANSE ENSEMBLE

see themselves reflected in the worlds they read about. She is the author and illustrator of *James and Marie Become Friends*, a bilingual children's book that explores friendship, belonging, and the connections between Haiti and the U.S. Through her art and storytelling, Duvivier is committed to celebrating Haitian culture while creating bridges for children navigating multiple identities. Her work often blends visual storytelling with language, inviting families to engage across generations and cultures. In addition to her creative practice, she participates in community events, readings, and educational spaces that encourage literacy, cultural pride, and imagination among young readers.



1 P.M. DANCE STUDIO Contemporary Haitian Dance With Nancy St. Léger The founder of NSL Danse Ensemble will guide you through a series of movements and choreography designed to help you connect with the rhythm and spirit of Haiti, providing you with a deeper understanding of the art form.

NSL Danse Ensemble, se yon twoup dans k ap travay pou prezantasyon dans fòlklorik ayisyen

toutbon an. Dansè NSL yo danse tout kalite dans tradisyonèl ki esprime espri endepandan, fyète, ak richès kiltirèl Ayiti.

NSL Danse Ensemble is a vibrant Haitian folkloric dance company based in Miami. Founded in 1998 by Nancy St. Léger, an accomplished Haitian American dancer and choreographer, the ensemble is dedicated to preserving and promoting Haitian culture through dance. Celebrated for their dynamic performances, the NSL dancers showcase a wide variety of authentic Haitian folk dances, which embody the nation's rich history of independence and cultural pride. The ensemble performs at various events and festivals across South Florida, bringing the spirited and profound essence of Haitian folklore to life.



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M. KETSIA THEODORE-PHAREL



PHELICIA DELL



DELPHINE NEPHTALIE DAUPHIN

2 P.M. CHILDREN'S ALLEY I'll Make Tea:

Haitian Stories With M. Ketsia Theodore-Pharel

Unique narratives showcase Haiti's vibrant essence and heritage, offering listeners a journey through its rich traditions and imaginative stories.

M. Ketsia Theodore-Pharel pral rakonte timoun yo bèl istwa yo p ap janm bliye. Tim-tim? Bwa-sèch!

M. Ketsia Theodore-Pharel is a Haitian storyteller, educator, and children's author whose work centers on imagination, language, and cultural connection. Deeply rooted in Haitian traditions, she creates spaces where stories become a bridge between generations, inviting young audiences to listen, participate, and see themselves reflected in what they hear. Her storytelling blends warmth, rhythm, and interaction, drawing from everyday life as well as the richness of Haitian oral tradition. Through her work, she encourages children to engage their curiosity, build confidence, and develop a lasting relationship with language and story. In addition to her work with children, she is committed to fostering literacy and cultural pride within the community, using storytelling as a tool for connection and learning. Whether in classrooms, libraries, or community gatherings, Theodore-Pharel brings a thoughtful, engaging presence that centers both joy and cultural continuity.

2-3:30 P.M. COMMUNITY ROOM Haitian Entrepreneurship for Teens With Phelicia Dell & Delphine Nephtalie Dauphin

Internationally recognized designer and entrepreneur **Phelicia Dell**, founder of **Vèvè Collections**, shares how she built a brand based on Haitian culture, craftsmanship, and identity. Joining the conversation is a returning favorite, **Delphine Nephtalie Dauphin**, CEO of **Joy's Yummy Cupcakes** and **Born Ready Cosmetics**. Together, they offer teens inspiration and practical insight into turning creativity, culture, and passion

into real business opportunities. **Phelicia Dell** is an internationally recognized fashion designer, entrepreneur, and founder of **Vèvè Collections**, a brand entrenched in artistic heritage, cultural influence, and refined craftsmanship. Born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Dell grew up surrounded by textiles and design, later developing her own voice in fashion that blends contemporary aesthetics with Haitian cultural symbolism. She launched **Vèvè Collections** in 2006 with an initial line of intricately beaded gowns and has since expanded her work to include couture, bags, and accessories celebrated for their elegance, originality, and soulful expression. Her designs draw inspiration from music, movement, sacred imagery, and the vibrant rhythms of Caribbean life, reflecting a synthesis of bold creativity and artisanal integrity. Over the years, Dell's work has been showcased on runways and in boutiques around the world, earning her recognition for promoting Haitian craftsmanship on global platforms while mentoring and creating opportunities for artisans. Her presence at Little Haiti Book Festival underscores the intersection of culture, creativity, and entrepreneurship.



Delphine Nephtalie Dauphin is a young entrepreneur, author, speaker, and creative leader whose work inspires youth engagement in business, innovation, and personal growth. Starting Joy's Yummy Cupcakes by Delphine at a young age, she turned weekend baking and local sales into a thriving enterprise that has catered events, expanded into a commercial kitchen, and fueled her passion for entrepreneurship. Dauphin is also a two-time published author, including the business guide *I Am a Kid-trepreneur*, written to empower

other young creators to imagine and build their own ventures. In addition to her business success, she is an inspirational speaker who has led workshops, shared stages at community events, and volunteered with organizations that support youth empowerment and education. Her leadership reflects a blend of creativity, confidence, and a commitment to giving back, using her platform to encourage other young people to explore their potential. At Little Haiti Book Festival, she offers teens insight into how passion, culture, and business can come together in meaningful and impactful ways.



2 P.M. AUDITORIUM **Pawòl Granmoun: The Wisdom of Haitian Proverbs** Join historians, sociologists, and cultural experts for a conversation on the rich tradition of Haitian proverbs — and the role they play in everyday life, education, and identity. Learn how proverbs condense collective wisdom; shape how Haitians talk about love, work, politics, and survival; and transmit values across generations. Akademi Kreyòl Ayisyen's **Rosilia François Corneille**, poet **Miguel "Mingolove" Romain**, and lyricist/artist **Wooly Saint Louis Jean** will also highlight how proverbs have evolved over time, how they are used in songs, storytelling, and daily conversations, and what they reveal about Haiti's history and worldview. Moderated by advocate for Haitian Creole language and culture **Maybeline Dugué-Despaigne**. *In Haitian Creole with English interpretation.*

Maybeline Dugué-Despaigne is a Haitian cultural advocate, photographer, and community leader whose work centers on language, identity, and representation. Through her photography, she documents Haitian life in the diaspora with attention to detail, presence, and everyday dignity, creating images that reflect both continuity and change. Alongside her visual work, she is deeply engaged in promoting Haitian Creole as a language of education, expression, and cultural pride. She has been active in community-based initiatives that support language access, cultural programming, and intergenerational connection. Known for her thoughtful facilitation, Dugué-Despaigne often brings together artists, scholars, and community members in conversations that are both accessible and grounded in lived

experience. Her work moves between image and language, both serving as tools for preservation and transmission. At Little Haiti Book Festival, she brings a multidisciplinary perspective shaped by visual storytelling, cultural advocacy, and community engagement.

Rosilia François Corneille is a Haitian linguist, educator, and cultural leader dedicated to the advancement of Haitian Creole. She serves as a prominent member of Akademi Kreyòl Ayisyen, the institution responsible for promoting and standardizing the language at a national level. With a background in education and language development, her work focuses on strengthening Kreyòl as a language of instruction, research, and public life. She has contributed to national and international conversations on literacy, translation, and the role of language in shaping identity and access. Corneille is also deeply engaged in preserving oral traditions while supporting the continued growth of written Kreyòl as a dynamic and evolving form of expression. Through her work, she advocates for linguistic equity and the recognition of Kreyòl as central to Haitian intellectual and cultural life. At the festival, she brings a scholar's depth and a lifelong commitment to language as a foundation of culture.



Miguel "Mingolove" Romain is a Haitian poet, performer, and cultural voice whose work is rooted in Haitian Creole and the rhythms of everyday life. Known for his expressive style and strong connection to oral tradition, he blends poetry and performance to create work that resonates across generations. His writing draws from proverbs, storytelling, and the layered meanings embedded in Kreyòl, offering both reflection and commentary on identity, memory, and belonging. Mingolove's work moves fluidly between the page and the stage, where his delivery brings language to life in immediate and powerful ways. He has participated in cultural programs and literary events that highlight the richness of Haitian expression and the continued relevance of oral forms in contemporary spaces. Through his work, he contributes to the visibility and evolution of Haitian literary culture. At the festival, he brings a poet's perspective to language, tradition, and collective knowledge.

Wooly Saint Louis Jean is a Haitian songwriter, lyricist, and cultural figure best known as a founding member of the band Zafèm, alongside singer Belo. Through his music, he blends poetic language with social reflection, drawing on Haitian proverbs, storytelling traditions, and the expressive power of Kreyòl. His songwriting is marked by emotional depth and cultural resonance, addressing themes of love, resilience, migration, and everyday life. Saint Louis Jean's work connects generations, carrying traditional forms into contemporary music while maintaining their meaning and integrity. As both a writer and performer, he has contributed to shaping the sound and message of modern Haitian music, creating work that speaks to audiences in Haiti and across the diaspora. His lyrics often function as a form of storytelling, preserving cultural memory while engaging with present realities. At Little Haiti Book Festival, he brings a musician's insight into language, rhythm, and the wisdom carried through words.

3 P.M. COURTYARD A Performance From NSL Danse Ensemble featuring vibrant and authentic Haitian folk dances that will transport you to another time and place.

Twoup lan pral fè dans folklorik ayisyen ki vivan ak otantik pou mennen w tounen nan yon lòt epòk, tan lontan nan peyi Ayiti.



3 P.M. CHILDREN'S ALLEY *Storytime: From the Classroom to City Hall With North Miami Beach Commissioner Daniela Jean* Commissioner Daniela Jean invites young readers and families to a special storytime featuring her children's book. Through reading and conversation, she shares a story that encourages imagination, learning, and a sense of possibility, while offering a glimpse into her journey from educator to public servant.

Vin tande eksperyans Komisè Daniela Jean sou lidèchip, sèvis piblik, ak chemen ki mennen soti nan edikasyon rive nan angajman sivik.

North Miami Beach Commissioner Daniela Jean is a public servant, educator, and community advocate. With a background in education, she has dedicated her career to supporting young people, families, and underserved communities through teaching, mentorship, and civic engagement. Before entering public office, she worked in the classroom, where she developed a strong

commitment to literacy, access, and student empowerment. That foundation continues to shape her approach to leadership, where she focuses on community-driven solutions, youth development, and expanding opportunities for future generations. In addition to her work in government, Jean is the author of a children's book that reflects her passion for storytelling and education, using narrative as a way to inspire confidence, imagination, and a sense of possibility in young readers. Her work bridges education and public service, grounded in a belief that representation and access matter at every level.



Special thanks to Miami-Dade County Commissioner **Marleine Bastien** for her generous contribution to the 2026 Little Haiti Book Festival!

Miami-Dade County Commissioner Marleine Bastien is the current representative for District 2. Born in Jérémie, Haiti, she later migrated to the United States, where she became a passionate advocate for immigrants, women, and children. Bastien holds degrees in social work from Miami Dade Community College and Florida International University. She is the founder and executive director of Family Action Network Movement (FANM), formerly known as Haitian Women of Miami, an organization renowned for its advocacy on immigration, housing, and health access. Bastien's significant contributions to social justice have been recognized with numerous awards, including being listed as one of the "35 Most Remarkable Women in the World" by *Essence* magazine in 2005.

4 P.M. COURTYARD Live Music With Ralph Caze

Experience an unforgettable live performance with Ralph Caze, blending jazz, funk, and Haitian rhythms into a dynamic and high-energy set. With masterful musicianship and a deep connection to Caribbean sound, Caze brings together traditional influences and contemporary styles, creating music that moves between groove, improvisation, and storytelling. From vibrant horn lines to rich rhythmic layers, each moment builds an atmosphere that is both celebratory and immersive. This performance invites the audience to feel the music, move with it, and experience the depth and versatility of Haitian and Caribbean musical traditions in a live setting that is as powerful as it is joyful.

Ralph Caze melanje jazz, funk, ak ritm ayisyen pou jwe mizik ki cho tankou solèy Ayiti.

Ralph Caze is a Haitian-born composer, singer, guitarist, and performer known for his vibrant contributions to Caribbean music and his dynamic presence on stage. Born and raised in Haiti, Caze first gained recognition as a member of the band Fokus, where his songwriting, guitar work, and expressive performances helped define the group's energetic sound. Since moving into a solo career, he has continued to blend jazz, funk, and Haitian rhythmic influences, crafting music that is both defined by tradition and forward-leaning in style. His work as a composer and interpreter reflects a rich musical upbringing and a commitment to celebrating the versatility of Caribbean sound through electrifying live sets. Performing with passion and technical skill, Caze delights audiences with his rhythmic flair, soulful grooves, and infectious energy. At Little Haiti Book Festival, his set promises an immersive musical experience that highlights the breadth of his artistry and the cultural richness that shapes his sound.

5 P.M. AUDITORIUM The Last Songs of My Mother and Tonton With Celeste Landeros

Written and produced by Celeste Landeros, *The Last Songs of My Mother and Tonton* is a moving theatrical tribute inspired by the intertwined final year in the lives of Landeros' mother, Jean Fraser, a retired Miami-Dade educator, and revered Haitian percussionist Catelus "Tonton" Laguerre. Sharing a home during their final months, these two influential elders embodied cultural connection, caregiving, and resilience. Through music, storytelling, and collective memory, Landeros explores themes of loss, belonging, and intergenerational bonds. Blending Haitian, Scottish, Cuban, and Irish musical traditions, the performance invites audience participation, creating a communal experience of remembrance. This deeply personal and culturally resonant work transforms family memory and lived experience into a shared artistic journey, highlighting music's enduring power to preserve identity, resist loss, and celebrate the lives that shape us.

"Dènye Chante Manman Mwen ak Tonton" ak

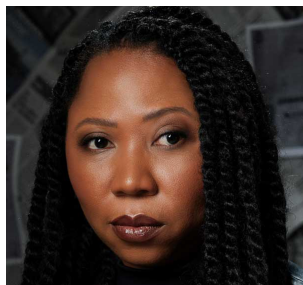
Celeste Landeros *Yon pèfòmans teyatral ki gen anpil emosyon, ekri epi prezante pa Celeste Landeros, ki baze sou dènye ane lavi manman li, Jean Fraser, yon pwofesè nan Miami-Dade, ak Catelus "Tonton" Laguerre, yon gwo tanbouye ayisyen ki te respekte anpil nan kominote a. Pandan yo t ap viv ansanm nan dènye mwaa lavi yo, de granmoun sa yo te vin senbòl lanmou, swen, ak lyen kiltirèl ki mare jenerasyon ansanm.*



This play was developed through the Playwright Development Program with the support of the South Florida Theatre League and the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor, and Board of County Commissioners.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS GUARDIANS





FABIENNE JOSAPHAT



EDWIDGE DANTICAT



GEOFFREY PHILP

ONLINE PROGRAM/PVVOGRAM SOU ENTÈNÈT

MiamiBookFair.com + Streaming on Facebook through the pages of Miami Book Fair and Sosyete Koukouy of Miami.

11 A.M. Cross Currents: Haiti, Jamaica & the Caribbean Imagination, with **Edwidge Danticat** (*Watch Out for Falling Iguanas*), **Fabienne Josaphat** (*Kingdom of No Tomorrow: A Novel*), **Diana McCaulay** (*A House for Miss Pauline: A Novel*), and **Dwight Thompson** (*My Own Dear People*). This conversation explores literary dialogue across the Caribbean, examining identity, migration, and belonging through fiction and storytelling. Moderated by journalist **Fabian Lyon**. *In English*.

12 P.M. Haitian Health: Mind, Body & Community, with **Dr. Judite Blanc**, **Dr. Jean-Baptiste Charlot**, and **Dr. Angelo Gousse**. A discussion on mental wellness, physical health, and the cultural factors shaping healing and resilience in Haitian communities. Moderated by **Carel Pedre**, host of *Chokarella*. *In English and Haitian Creole*.

1 P.M. Vodou in the Diaspora: Keeping the Spirit Alive, with **Carole Demesmin** and **Dr. Jerry M. Gilles**. A reflection on Vodou as a living cultural and spiritual tradition sustaining Haitian identity across generations and borders. Moderated by **Carel Pedre**, host of *Chokarella*. *In English and Haitian Creole*.

2 P.M. Across Waters, Across Generations: Caribbean Becoming, with **Edwidge Danticat** (*Watch Out for Falling Iguanas*), **Ryan Bachoo** (*An Unending Search*), and **Dwight Thompson** (*My Own Dear People*). This panel explores how Caribbean identity evolves across time, geography, and generations through literature. Moderated by journalist **Anjanette Delgado**. *In English*.

3 P.M. Reclaiming History: Power, Resistance & Cultural Memory, with **Marlene Daut** (*The First and Last King of Haiti: The Rise and Fall of Henry Christophe*), **Julia Gaffield** (*I Have Avenged*

America: Jean-Jacques Dessalines and Haiti's Fight for Freedom), and **Olive Senior** (*Paradise Once: A Novel*). A conversation on revolutionary history, cultural memory, and the voices that reshape how Haiti's past is understood. Moderated by **Chantalle F. Verna**, associate professor of politics and international relations at Florida International University and author of *Haiti and the Uses of America: Post U.S.-Occupation Promises*. *In English*.

4 P.M. Roots & reckonings: Family, Memory & Caribbean Identity, with **Camille U. Adams** (*How to Be Unmothered*), **Geoffrey Philp** (*Unstoppable You: 50 Quotes from Marcus Garvey to Inspire Greatness*), and **Monique Clesca** (*Silence and Resistance: Memoir of a Girlhood in Haiti*). Writers reflect on family, trauma, survival, and the shaping of Caribbean identity through memoir. Moderated by **Chantalle F. Verna**, associate professor of politics and international relations at Florida International University and author of *Haiti and the Uses of America: Post U.S.-Occupation Promises*. *In English*.

5 P.M. Haiti's Historical Contributions in the Making of America & the World, a discussion highlighting the role Haitians have played in shaping the United States and global movements for freedom — from the Battle of Savannah to Haiti's influence on independence movements across Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa. *In Haitian Creole*.

6 P.M. Pawòl Granmoun: The Wisdom of Haitian Proverbs Historians and cultural experts explore the rich tradition of Haitian proverbs and how they transmit collective wisdom across generations, shaping conversations about love, work, politics, and survival in everyday life. *In Haitian Creole*.

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PRESTIGE PATRONS

The **Green Family Foundation (GFF)** is a private, Miami-based philanthropic organization that supports social programs in global health, education, and community development. Under the leadership of its president, Dr. Kimberly Green, the foundation has spearheaded numerous initiatives in Haiti and in Miami's Little Haiti, reflecting a deep commitment to empowering the Haitian community through cultural preservation and educational outreach. GFF's generous sponsorship of Little Haiti Book Festival helps celebrate Haitian literature and heritage in South Florida.

The **Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center (LACC)** is a leading academic center at Florida International University dedicated to the study and promotion of Latin American and Caribbean cultures. As a federally designated National Resource Center, LACC engages in extensive outreach, hosting more than 100 events each year related to the region and its diaspora communities. The center has a long-standing commitment to Haiti through its Haitian Studies Program and Haitian Summer Institute, and it proudly supports Haitian cultural initiatives, such as Little Haiti Book Festival, to foster education and cultural exchange.

Miami-Dade County regularly supports cultural events that celebrate the region's diversity, including Haitian Heritage Month activities. Through its Department of Cultural Affairs and

other agencies, the county provides funding and venues for festivals like Little Haiti Book Festival. This support reflects Miami-Dade's commitment to honoring Haitian contributions and enriching the cultural life of all residents. One of the key avenues for this support is the Community Grants (CG) Program, administered by the county's Department of Cultural Affairs. This program offers quarterly funding to nonprofit organizations developing community-based cultural programs, events, and publications with a strong artistic component. It emphasizes projects that promote community involvement, outreach, and the preservation of heritage, traditions, and culture. The program is particularly attentive to the needs of Indigenous cultural neighborhood activities and encourages collaborations between social service organizations and cultural groups using the arts as a means of intervention. By providing financial assistance and resources, CG plays a vital role in sustaining and enhancing the county's vibrant cultural landscape.

Libreri Mapou is a beloved Haitian-owned bookstore and cultural hub in the heart of Little Haiti. Founded in 1990 by author, playwright, and activist Jan Mapou, Libreri Mapou has become a Miami institution dedicated to Haitian literature and culture. Housing thousands of titles by Haitian authors in Kreyòl, French, and English, the bookstore serves as a gathering place for scholars and the community alike. Libreri Mapou is a founding partner of Little Haiti Book Festival (originally the Haitian-American Book Fair),

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Family Action Network Movement

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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
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LEVINE CAVA

CITY OF MIAMI MAYOR
EILEEN HIGGINS

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
COMMISSIONER
MARLEINE BASTIEN

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
COMMISSIONER
KEON HARDEMON

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
COMMISSIONER
MICKY STEINBERG

MIAMI CITY
COMMISSIONER
CHRISTINE KING

continuing its mission to promote Haitian storytelling and heritage.

LITERARY LUMINARIES

The **City of Miami** is the municipal government of Miami, which includes the Little Haiti neighborhood within its boundaries. The city actively celebrates Haitian Heritage Cultural Month with events featuring Haitian art, music, and literature. It partners with local organizations to host community festivals and provides facilities such as the Little Haiti Cultural Complex for cultural gatherings. By co-sponsoring LHBF, Miami demonstrates its dedication to preserving the city's Haitian roots and supporting multicultural education for its citizens.

Little Haiti Cultural Complex (LHCC) is a multidisciplinary cultural complex in Little Haiti that serves as a vibrant home for Afro-Caribbean arts and community programs. LHCC hosts art galleries, theater performances, classes, and festivals celebrating Haiti's rich cultural legacy. It is the longtime venue for Little Haiti Book Festival, offering space for literary panels, children's activities, dance, and more. By fostering cultural exchange and youth engagement, LHCC plays an integral role in preserving Haitian culture in Miami and makes the festival possible.

City of Miami Mayor Eileen Higgins is the first woman elected to serve as the city's mayor and the first Democrat to fill the role in nearly three decades. Before becoming mayor, she served as a county commissioner for District 5, where she focused on affordable housing, transit, small

business support, and neighborhood investment. A former diplomat, Peace Corps volunteer, and engineer, Higgins has built her public service around practical problem-solving and inclusive civic leadership. Her support of Little Haiti Book Festival reflects the Miami's commitment to culture, literacy, and the communities that shape the city's identity.

Miami City Commissioner Christine King serves as chair of the Miami City Commission and is the commissioner for District 5, which includes Little Haiti. She is the first woman to chair the commission and has focused on uplifting underserved neighborhoods through economic initiatives and cultural programs. King frequently engages with Little Haiti's residents and has celebrated Haitian heritage, from hosting cultural events at City Hall to supporting local arts in the district. Her support of Little Haiti Book Festival aligns with her mission to enhance community vibrancy and ensure that the rich traditions of Little Haiti continue to thrive for future generations.

Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava is known for her inclusive leadership and support of the county's diverse communities. She has championed programs for economic empowerment, arts, and youth education across all cultural groups. She recognizes the importance of Haitian Heritage Month and lends her office's support to Haitian cultural celebrations. As a "Literary Luminary" sponsor of Little Haiti Book Festival, Levine Cava underscores the county's commitment to uplifting the Haitian community through literacy and culture.

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The **Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners**, comprising 13 elected officials, governs policy and funding for the county. The board has demonstrated strong support for cultural diversity and educational initiatives, passing resolutions to honor Haitian Heritage Month and fund community programs. Its collective sponsorship of Little Haiti Book Festival — alongside the mayor — reaffirms the commission's commitment to celebrating the Haitian American heritage that enriches our region.

Miami-Dade County Commissioner Marleine Bastien represents District 2 on the Miami-Dade County Commission, which includes portions of Little Haiti. A Haitian American community leader and longtime social justice advocate, Bastien is the founder of Family Action Network Movement (FANM) and has spent decades fighting for immigrants' rights, affordable housing, and women's empowerment. Now, as an elected official, she continues to champion the needs of the Haitian community. Bastien's support of Little Haiti Book Festival highlights her dedication to education, culture, and the arts as tools of empowerment in her district.

Miami-Dade County Commissioner Keon Hardemon serves District 3 on the Miami-Dade County Commission and formerly represented the area (including Little Haiti) on the Miami City Commission. Throughout his public service, Hardemon has been a strong proponent of neighborhood revitalization and cultural programming in historically underserved communities. He has supported initiatives like the Little Haiti Cultural Center and Haitian Heritage Month celebrations. By sponsoring Little Haiti Book Festival, Hardemon helps ensure the preservation of Haitian culture and supports youth literacy and community pride in District 3.

Miami-Dade County Commissioner Micky Steinberg serves District 4, representing the northeastern corner of the county including portions of 13 municipalities and unincorporated areas. Elected in 2022, she previously served on the Miami Beach City Commission, where she focused on neighborhood quality of life,

resilience, and public education. Raised in Miami Beach, Steinberg has built her public service around local engagement, infrastructure, and community well-being. Her support of Little Haiti Book Festival reflects a broader commitment to cultural life, literacy, and public investment in the communities that make Miami-Dade vibrant and distinct.

Miami-Dade County Office of the Tax Collector, led by Tax Collector Daniel Fernandez, serves as the county's constitutional office responsible for collecting a range of taxes and fees and providing state-mandated licensing and identification services to residents. Elected November 5, 2024, Fernandez has said he is committed to modernizing services, reducing bureaucracy, and serving the community with transparency and efficiency. The office also plays an important role in connecting residents to essential county services. Its support of Little Haiti Book Festival reflects a broader commitment to community engagement and to the diverse neighborhoods that shape Miami-Dade County.

Little Haiti Revitalization Trust is a community-driven initiative devoted to investing in the future of Little Haiti while honoring its rich cultural legacy. Established in partnership with the city of Miami, the fund channels resources into projects that uplift local residents — from supporting small businesses and affordable housing to funding arts, education, and cultural programs that celebrate Haitian heritage. By ensuring that redevelopment in Little Haiti benefits the people who call it home, the Revitalization Trust serves as a guardian of the neighborhood's identity, helping to preserve Haitian Creole traditions, language, and pride for the next generation. Its outreach includes grants and sponsorships that have bolstered everything from youth workshops to Haitian Heritage Month events, all with the goal of strengthening this vibrant community. As a proud sponsor of Little Haiti Book Festival, Little Haiti Revitalization Trust reinforces the festival's mission by empowering community storytelling and literacy, making certain that Haitian culture continues to flourish in Miami.

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The **Miami-Dade County Goodwill**

Ambassadors are a volunteer corps dedicated to assisting at public events and fostering positive relationships between county government and the community. This program's volunteers represent the county at cultural festivals, parades, and civic activities, offering help and information to attendees. At Little Haiti Book Festival, Goodwill Ambassadors can be seen greeting guests and supporting organizers, ensuring a welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere. Their presence exemplifies community spirit and the county's motto of "One Miami-Dade" by bridging cultures and making everyone feel included.

Supervisor of Elections Alina Garcia is the first constitutionally elected supervisor of elections for Miami-Dade County, elected in 2024. Before taking office, she served as the state representative for District 115 in the Florida House from 2022 to 2024. Raised in Miami by Cuban immigrant parents, Garcia is a product of Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Miami Dade College, and she brings more than 30 years of public service experience to the role. As supervisor of elections, she has emphasized fairness, transparency, integrity, and public confidence in the electoral process. Her support of Little Haiti Book Festival reflects a broader commitment to civic engagement and community connection across the county.

A neighboring city of the largest Haitian American populations in South Florida, the **City of North Miami** actively honors Haitian heritage. Each May it hosts Haitian Heritage Month celebrations featuring art exhibitions, music, and storytelling for the community. The city's leadership includes Haitian American elected officials who prioritize cultural inclusion. By partnering with Little Haiti Book Festival, **North Miami Mayor Alix Desulme** extends the city's support for Haitian arts and education beyond its limits, demonstrating solidarity with Little Haiti and a shared commitment to Haitian cultural preservation and literacy.

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Books for Free is a literacy initiative spearheaded by The Children's Trust in

collaboration with Miami Book Fair at Miami Dade College. The program aims to place free, high-quality books into the hands of children who need them most, fostering a lifelong love of reading. Through a network of nearly 80 public bookshelves located in clinics, parks, and community centers across Miami-Dade County, Books for Free has to date distributed more than 1.5 million new and gently used books, ensuring that children, many from under-resourced neighborhoods, have access to engaging literature they can take home and share with their families. The program extends its reach at events like Little Haiti Book Festival, nurturing a culture of reading within the community. By eliminating cost barriers, Books for Free plays a vital role in promoting early literacy, educational equity, and community involvement throughout the county.

Read to Learn Book Club is a cherished early literacy initiative from The Children's Trust that brings the joy of reading directly into the homes of Miami-Dade's youngest learners. Launched in 2015, the program provides a free monthly book — delivered by mail — to children from birth through age 4 1/2, ensuring that every child can begin building their own library. With more than 1.6 million books distributed to date, the program offers titles in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, reflecting the rich diversity of the community it serves. By empowering parents and caregivers to read aloud in their home languages, including Haitian Kreyòl, the book club supports early brain development, school readiness, and a lifelong love of reading. At Little Haiti Book Festival, The Children's Trust shares this impactful resource with Haitian American families, reinforcing the message that reading starts at birth and every child deserves stories of their own.

Family Action Network Movement (FANM), formerly known as Haitian Women of Miami, is a powerful Haitian-led nonprofit organization based in Miami, founded in 1991 by Miami-Dade County Commissioner Marleine Bastien. With a mission to uplift and empower Haitian American families, FANM provides a wide range of wraparound services, including immigration assistance, domestic violence intervention, health care access, counseling, job training, civic

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education, and after-school programs. Beyond direct services, FANM is a force in advocacy, championing causes such as affordable housing, immigration reform, and climate justice, while ensuring that the voices of low-income and immigrant communities are heard in policy debates. Through leadership development, cultural programming, and grassroots activism, FANM continues to strengthen the Haitian American community in South Florida. As a 2026 sponsor of Little Haiti Book Festival, the organization will be on-site offering valuable information about its programs and furthering its commitment to education, empowerment, and community connection.

Sant La (Haitian Neighborhood Center) is a cornerstone nonprofit serving the Haitian American community of South Florida. Its mission is to empower, strengthen, and uplift Haitian families, providing a lifeline of support in education, employment, and social services. Since opening its doors in 2001, Sant La has offered free programs, including financial counseling, English and citizenship classes, youth mentorship, and access to health and immigration resources. By addressing the needs of immigrants and first-generation Haitian Americans, the organization helps ensure their success and stability in the diaspora. Warm and welcoming, Sant La is a place where Haitians can find guidance, celebrate their heritage, and build a brighter future together.

KLOTA (Konscious Leaders of Ti Ayiti/ Concerned Leaders of Little Haiti) is a grassroots leadership initiative based in Miami's Little Haiti neighborhood, dedicated to empowering residents — especially youth — and preserving the community's cultural and economic future. Co-founded by Haitian American social entrepreneur François Alexandre, KLOTA works to "bridge community to better government" by engaging in civic advocacy, youth leadership training, and cultural preservation. The coalition organizes public forums, service projects, and creative partnerships with organizations like TAPARI and Future of Cities, all aimed at strengthening community identity amidst rapid change. As a proud partner of Little Haiti Book Festival, KLOTA helps shape

inclusive programming, uplifts young voices, and embodies the spirit of konbit, working together for the good of all.

MOAD (MUSEUM OF ART AND DESIGN), the flagship art museum of Miami Dade College, is dedicated to contemporary art and design exhibitions and educational outreach. Located in the historic Freedom Tower, MOAD strives to be a catalyst for community dialogue and empowerment through the arts. The museum extends its reach beyond its walls with programs like the GO GO MOAD mobile art studio for kids, which brings hands-on art activities to community events. At Little Haiti Book Festival, MOAD's education team hosts creative art-making sessions for children through "Create! With GO GO MOAD", incorporating Haitian themes and encouraging youth to express themselves artistically. MOAD's partnership in the festival connects visual art with literary culture, inspiring the next generation of artists and readers in Little Haiti.

Iris Photo Collective is a group of accomplished photographers of color — including Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Carl Juste — committed to documenting the experiences of communities of color in their own voices. Based in Little Haiti at the IPC ArtSpace gallery, the collective creates exhibitions and programs that bridge Haitian, Caribbean, and African diaspora stories with the wider community. Its location in Little Haiti is a gallery and event space dedicated to nurturing connections between Haitian and Latin American artists and the public. By joining Little Haiti Book Festival, Iris Photo Collective enriches the event with visual storytelling, displaying powerful images of Haitian life and offering workshops that encourage creative self-expression through photography.

Logan Masterworks is a Miami-based "arts and letters" company providing writing, translation, and publishing services at loganmasterworks.com. Founded by Haitian-born author and editor Michèle Jessica (M.J.) Fièvre and artist Thomas Logan, Logan Masterworks functions as a guild of professionals — including writers, translators, and illustrators — dedicated to helping diverse voices tell their stories with

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quality and authenticity. The firm offers coaching for authors, ghostwriting, editing, Haitian Creole translation, and even interpreter training, bridging language and culture in literature. As a sponsor of Little Haiti Book Festival, Logan Masterworks amplifies Haitian American storytelling, supporting local writers and ensuring that Haitian Creole language and narratives are well represented in Miami's literary scene.

EXILE Projects is a Miami-based nonprofit and artist-centered publishing space rooted in Little Haiti. Originally launched as EXILE Books, the organization evolved in 2024 into EXILE Projects, a 501(c)(3) focused on creating and promoting experimental publications by artists. Its work includes independent and self-published artists' books, monographs, periodicals, zines, ephemera, editions, and public programs such as workshops, talks, fairs, and exhibitions. Through this work, EXILE has helped build a stronger print culture in Miami while creating space for independent publishing that reflects the city's cultural diversity.

Mindful Art Education (MAE) is a community-based organization founded by Alexandra Jeanty-Leclerc that brings together mindfulness, yoga, and art as tools for healing, learning, and well-being. Based in Miami, MAE offers programming centered on mindfulness, holistic education, and creative expression, with a focus on children and families. Its work encourages emotional awareness, stress reduction, resilience, and environmental care through breathing, meditation, expressive art, and movement. Under Jeanty-Leclerc's leadership, MAE has developed workshops, camps, and community events that connect wellness practices with arts education in Little Haiti and beyond.

HistoryMiami Museum is one of Miami's leading cultural institutions, dedicated to preserving and sharing the stories that have shaped the city and its many communities. Founded in 1940 and affiliated with the Smithsonian, it brings Miami's past and present to life through exhibitions, public programs, tours, and educational initiatives that help people connect more deeply to place, identity, and local history.

Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science ("Frost Science") is a major science museum in downtown Miami that inspires people of all ages to engage with science, technology, and discovery. Through exhibitions, education programs, conservation work, and immersive experiences, Frost Science helps visitors better understand themselves, the natural world, and the wider universe while promoting curiosity, innovation, and access to STEM learning.

Akademikreyòl Ayisyen is Haiti's official language academy for Haitian Creole, created to strengthen the status, development, and public use of Kreyòl in Haiti and beyond. Its mission includes encouraging the production of official documents in Kreyòl, supporting the development of linguistic tools such as dictionaries, grammar guides, and terminology, and helping advance the language in education, communication, and national life. As a cultural and intellectual institution, it plays a central role in affirming Kreyòl as a language of knowledge, identity, and public dignity.

GENEROUS GUARDIANS

Dr. Angelo Gousse is a Haitian-born, board-certified urologist and reconstructive urology specialist known for his work in pelvic health, incontinence, and complex urologic care. A Yale-trained physician with a long-standing clinical and academic career, he is recognized for combining advanced medical expertise with a strong commitment to patient education, innovation, and service. His professional profile reflects both medical leadership and a deep connection to the Haitian and South Florida communities.

Dr. Judite Blanc is a multilingual assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and head of community outreach at the Center for Translational Sleep and Circadian Sciences. An international behavioral scientist trained in Haiti, France, and the United States, she has academic preparation in clinical psychology, developmental psychology, health psychology, and psychopathology. Her work focuses on stress, sleep, mental health, and community-centered approaches to behavioral science, particularly among underserved and

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historically marginalized populations. In addition to her academic work, she has developed broader public-facing work around stress reduction and organizational wellness.

Dr. Jean-Baptiste Charlot is an obstetrician-gynecologist in Miami with more than 40 years of experience in patient care, education, and leadership. He studied medicine at the Université d'État d'Haïti and later became certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Based in Miami, he has been affiliated with local hospitals including Baptist Hospital of Miami and North Shore Medical Center. Nearing retirement, he continues to study human biology, with a particular interest in cellular biology. His long career reflects a sustained commitment to women's health and to serving South Florida's diverse communities, including Haitian and Haitian American patients.

Columbus Clinical Services LLC is a dynamic Miami-based medical facility dedicated to advancing health care through clinical research, education, and community engagement. Specializing in Phase I-IV clinical trials across multiple specialties, the center partners with pharmaceutical and biotech companies, medical device manufacturers, and CROs to bring cutting-edge treatments to diverse patient populations. By prioritizing representation and expanding access to research, Columbus Clinical Services helps accelerate innovation while improving community health outcomes. Beyond trials, it offers health services for children, adolescents, and adults, and regularly provides wellness screenings, educational resources, and outreach to underserved communities. Its participation in Little Haiti Book Festival highlights a commitment to health equity and empowerment, offering festival attendees a chance to learn more about its services and how clinical research can benefit the Haitian community and beyond.

The Center for Haitian Studies (CHS) is a Florida nonprofit founded in 1988 to provide health and social services to disenfranchised Haitian communities in Miami's Little Haiti and surrounding areas. In keeping with its mission, CHS offers free primary and specialty medical care — including mental health, pediatrics,

and OB/GYN — to uninsured patients, and it supports new immigrants with health education and cultural integration programs. Over the decades, CHS became renowned as Miami's main provider of HIV/AIDS-related services for Haitian Americans, and it continues to lead culturally sensitive public health initiatives such as COVID-19 education and vaccination campaigns in the community. Through these efforts, the center has greatly impacted the well-being of South Florida's Haitian population by delivering accessible care and advocacy tailored to its needs.

The Center for Self-Sufficiency (CFSS) is a Miami nonprofit organization founded in 2006 to help immigrants and low-income individuals achieve economic and social self-reliance. Led by executive director Edeline B. Mondestin, RN, a Haitian American community advocate, CFSS empowers families by offering programs such as job training, financial literacy, family counseling, and youth mentorship. CFSS has been particularly active in the Haitian community, connecting residents to resources and organizing leadership initiatives in Little Haiti. By supporting Little Haiti Book Festival, the center reinforces its mission to educate and uplift, encouraging self-sufficiency through knowledge, culture, and community engagement.

A nonprofit organization devoted to supporting individuals facing personal crises or hardships, **You Are Not Alone** provides counseling, support groups, and advocacy to people dealing with issues such as domestic violence, mental health struggles, and other family challenges. By reassuring community members that help is available and no one has to struggle in isolation, the organization fosters hope and healing. As a partner in Little Haiti Book Festival, You Are Not Alone spreads its empowering message to attendees, reminding families and especially youth that the community cares, resources exist for those in need, and together we can overcome difficulties.

Rose May Anglade is a Haitian American real estate professional with more than a decade of experience helping families achieve the dream of homeownership. An agent with eXp

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Realty, Anglade has served both the South Florida and Atlanta communities, guiding many first-time homebuyers through the process and helping them build generational wealth. She remains actively involved in Haitian diaspora events, often hosting homebuyer workshops in Kreyòl and volunteering in local charities. By sponsoring Little Haiti Book Festival, Anglade is giving back to the community, encouraging Haitian American families to plant roots in Miami, and supporting the educational growth of the neighborhood she loves.

Midgard Little Haiti Holdings LLC, a subsidiary of South Florida's Midgard Group and part of an international real estate conglomerate, plays a pivotal role in the revitalization of Little Haiti through community-minded development. Known for its investments in emerging Miami neighborhoods, Midgard emphasizes partnership with residents and cultural preservation, ensuring that growth benefits the people who live and work in the area. Through community meetings, support for small businesses, and projects like the upcoming Lakou cultural hub, the company strives to align development with neighborhood needs and values. Midgard's sponsorship of Little Haiti Book Festival reflects its commitment to cultural enrichment and educational equity, serving as a gesture of corporate social responsibility and a sincere effort to be a good neighbor in shaping the future of Little Haiti.

Lakou is a welcoming community space in Little Haiti whose name means "courtyard" or "shared yard" in Haitian Creole. True to its name, Lakou serves as a gathering place for people, ideas, and experiences at the heart of Little Haiti. This multifunctional cultural hub hosts a range of events, from food vendors and art exhibitions to live music and family activities, all celebrating the neighborhood's vibrant Afro-Caribbean heritage. Lakou embraces the spirit of togetherness: it's "the beat of Little Haiti," where neighbors and visitors alike come to enjoy Haitian cuisine, storytelling, and community warmth in an open-air setting.

Little Haiti Village is a nonprofit community garden and cultural hub in the heart of Little Haiti that is cultivating more than just plants

— it's growing community. Through its vibrant urban garden, local families and volunteers come together to grow fresh fruits and vegetables while reconnecting with the land and Haitian agricultural traditions. This green oasis serves as a gathering place where neighbors swap stories, children learn about their roots, and everyone finds nourishment for body and soul. By promoting sustainability and self-sufficiency, Little Haiti Village helps preserve a cherished part of Haitian heritage — the spirit of konbit, or working together — in a modern urban setting. The result is a stronger, healthier neighborhood that blossoms with pride and unity. As a sponsor, Little Haiti Village brings its nurturing spirit to Little Haiti Book Festival, helping to sow the seeds of knowledge, cultural pride, and community celebration for all to enjoy.

Elio's Kitchen is a local catering company founded during the COVID-19 pandemic with a mission of community service. Entrepreneur Cristina Lama-Evensky started Elio's Kitchen to cook and deliver meals to frontline health care workers, a mission that has since expanded beyond the pandemic. Known for its delicious homemade cuisine and generosity, Elio's Kitchen continues to partner with charities to feed those in need across Miami. As a food sponsor of Little Haiti Book Festival, Elio's Kitchen brings that same spirit of care, nourishing festival volunteers and attendees with wholesome meals. Its involvement adds a literal flavor of goodwill to the festivities, reminding everyone that community support and great food go hand in hand.

Chalè Lakay is a family-owned business rooted in South Florida, co-founded by Karoll-Ann Fanfan, her sister Djenane Fanfan, and their cousins. The enterprise is dedicated to bringing the authentic taste of Haiti to the diaspora and beyond through a curated selection of traditional Haitian products. Its offerings include kremas in various flavors, manba (peanut butter), konfiti (fruit preserves), akasan (a cornmeal-based beverage), and aromatic essences like star anise and vanilla. Each product is crafted with premium ingredients, celebrating Haiti's rich culinary heritage. Chalè Lakay's commitment to quality and tradition makes it a cherished brand among

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those seeking genuine Haitian flavors. As a participant in Little Haiti Book Festival, Chale Lakay offers attendees a delightful opportunity to experience the warmth and richness of Haitian culture through its beloved culinary creations.

Kingston 3 Consulting is a media and consulting platform led by journalist and podcast host Fabian Lyon. The brand's public materials describe its work as talent management and strategic media consulting, drawing on Lyon's two decades-plus as a journalist with the *Miami Herald* and his work as host of *Game Changers* with Fabian Lyon. Through interviews, media strategy, and public-facing cultural programming, Kingston 3 Productions helps amplify stories at the intersection of leadership, culture, and community. Its work reflects a commitment to thoughtful conversation, strong presentation, and meaningful audience engagement across South Florida and the Caribbean diaspora.

Cano Snacks is a local food business centered on convenient, flavorful snack products made for everyday indulgence and community events. Built around small-business creativity and approachable food service, the brand brings a casual, welcoming presence to neighborhood markets, gatherings, and shared community spaces. Its identity reflects local entrepreneurship, accessibility, and the simple appeal of good snacks made to be enjoyed and shared.

MEDIA PARTNERS

L'Union Suite is a Haitian American media platform based in South Florida dedicated to highlighting Haiti's culture, lifestyle, and diaspora achievements. Founded as a blog in 2011, it has grown into a popular hub that shares positive and uplifting stories about Haiti and its global community. Through its active social media presence and online content, L'Union Suite connects Haitian Americans with their heritage and current events. A proud supporter of Little Haiti Book Festival, L'Union Suite helps amplify Haitian voices and celebrate the community's storytelling traditions.

Chokarella, led by renowned media personality Carel Pedre, began as Haiti's No. 1 morning radio show and has evolved into a dynamic multimedia platform. Broadcasting music, interviews, and cultural programming, Chokarella serves as a bridge connecting Haitian audiences at home and abroad with the latest in music and community stories. Its engaging content — from on-air radio segments to digital videos — keeps the Haitian diaspora connected to its roots and informed about creative initiatives. As a media partner of the festival, Chokarella brings added energy and reach, sharing the festival's celebration of Haitian culture with listeners everywhere.

The **Haitian Ladies Network** is a global platform connecting and empowering tens of thousands of women of Haitian descent worldwide. Based in Washington, D.C., this vibrant group builds community through year-round programs, an annual Haitian Ladies Weekend, and daily online engagement that celebrates Haitian culture and history. By providing a space for Haitian women to share their stories, mentor each other, and honor their heritage, the network plays a vital role in community storytelling and cultural preservation. Haitian Ladies Network's enthusiastic support of Little Haiti Book Festival reflects its mission to uplift Haitian voices — especially women's voices — and inspire the next generation of leaders and storytellers.

Pikliz.com is an online Haitian cultural hub that showcases the richness of Haiti's diaspora through media and photography. Over the years, Pikliz has documented countless Haitian events, concerts, and community celebrations — from Big Night in Little Haiti music shows to cultural festivals — preserving these moments in extensive photo galleries. In addition to event coverage, the site shares news links and stories relevant to Haitian communities, serving as a digital scrapbook of Haitian life at home and abroad. By capturing the energy of gatherings like Little Haiti Book Festival, Pikliz.com supports the festival's mission to celebrate Haitian art and culture, allowing those memories to be shared globally.

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Imaginart Media Productions is a marketing and production company specializing in reaching Haitian and Caribbean audiences. Based in South Florida, Imaginart uses creative media — from video and radio to online campaigns — to amplify Haitian culture and client projects in the community. The company has been instrumental in promoting cultural events and stories, ensuring they “rise above the noise” in a crowded media landscape. By leveraging its expertise in storytelling and outreach, Imaginart helps bring Haitian art, literature, and businesses to the spotlight. As a media partner for Little Haiti Book Festival, it plays a key role in spreading the festival’s message, handling production and publicity efforts that connect the event with a wide audience and showcase Haitian stories.

Island TV is a 24-hour television network with a Caribbean heartbeat, dedicated to sharing Caribbean culture — and notably, Haitian culture — with viewers in South Florida and beyond. Founded in 1996, this Miami-based TV channel offers distinctive programming in English, French, and Haitian Creole, from news magazines to talk shows and live cultural events. It serves as a premier platform for the global dissemination of Caribbean experiences, with a particular focus on Haitian community content through its Creole-language shows and dedicated Island TV channel for Haiti programming. By broadcasting community news, Haitian music, and original shows featuring local talent, Island TV keeps the diaspora connected and informed about issues that matter. Its support of Little Haiti Book Festival includes coverage and promotions that bring the festival’s literary celebrations into viewers’ homes, further uniting the community through shared culture.

Radjo Lekòl (“School Radio”) is an educational radio program broadcast in Haitian Creole that has served the Miami community for decades. Established by Miami-Dade County Public Schools, it was the city’s first radio program aired entirely in Haitian Creole, created to enhance communication with Haitian families. Each week, Radjo Lekòl delivers school news, community updates, and learning resources, ensuring non-English-speaking Haitian parents

stay informed and engaged. This commitment to inclusive storytelling and education preserves language and culture while empowering listeners with knowledge. As a festival partner, Radjo Lekòl helps spread the word about Little Haiti Book Festival events, encouraging families to participate in celebrating Haitian literature and heritage.

WSRF is a Haitian American radio station in South Florida that has become a cornerstone of the Haitian community. Notably the first and only Haitian-owned radio station in the United States, WSRF broadcasts a full mix of news, talk, music, and community programming primarily in Haitian Creole and French. From early morning talk shows to late-night kompa music, the station’s 10,000-watt signal carries the sounds and stories of Haiti across the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area. WSRF’s dedication to serving Haitian listeners through both traditional radio and online streaming helps keep Haitian culture alive and thriving in the diaspora. Its partnership with Little Haiti Book Festival underscores a shared commitment to informing, entertaining, and uniting the community around its rich cultural heritage.

Radjo FANM — known on-air as “Vwa FANM” — is a beloved Haitian radio program in Miami that has been uplifting women and families in the community for 28 years. Hosted by the nonprofit Family Action Network Movement (FANM) every Sunday on local station WLQY 1320 AM, this Haitian Creole-language show addresses issues ranging from health and economic empowerment to domestic violence and cultural celebration. With community advocates like Miami-Dade County Commissioner Marleine Bastien as key voices, Radjo FANM provides information and advocacy, interwoven with Haitian music and open dialogue, to improve the quality of life of its listeners. The show’s long-running presence has nurtured a sense of unity and awareness in Miami’s Haitian community, particularly among women. As a media partner of the festival, Radjo FANM shares news of Little Haiti Book Festival with its audience and echoes the festival’s emphasis on community, culture, and the importance of sharing our stories.

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Radio Veye Yo (meaning “keep watch” in Haitian Creole) is a pioneering Haitian community radio program that has been a steadfast voice for Miami’s Haitian diaspora since the late 1970s. Born from the grassroots movement led by Father Gérard Jean-Juste to support Haitian refugees, this Haitian Creole-language broadcast became a lifeline of news, advocacy, and cultural storytelling for new arrivals and longtime residents alike. Each week, Radio Veye Yo delivers lively talk shows on social justice, community news from here and Haiti, and traditional Haitian music, all aimed at uplifting listeners and preserving a spirit of vigilance and hope. Decades on, it remains a pillar of the community, keeping Haitian heritage alive on the airwaves. As a media partner of Little Haiti Book Festival, Radio Veye Yo extends its mission by spreading the word about festival events and inspiring pride in Haitian culture, ensuring the community’s stories are heard loud and clear.

Haïti en Marche is a long-running weekly newspaper that has been the voice of the Haitian diaspora in Miami since the late 1980s. Published primarily in French (with some content in Kreyòl), it delivers in-depth news stories about Haiti alongside coverage of diaspora events and culture. For decades, Haïti en Marche has kept Haitians abroad connected to developments in their homeland, from politics and economy to arts and community news. Its pages often highlight local Haitian American achievements and important cultural happenings, thereby acting as a chronicle of the diaspora’s story. As a media partner, Haïti en Marche supports Little Haiti Book Festival by informing readers about festival activities and reinforcing the importance of literature and cultural exchange in the Haitian community.

Le Floridien is a Miami-based bilingual newspaper (English and French) that serves the Haitian American community across South Florida. Founded in 2001, it has since become an important daily resource for Haitian diaspora readers, delivering responsible and informative content that reflects their lives and concerns. Le Floridien covers a broad range of topics — from Haiti’s latest news and local community updates to cultural events, editorials, and

youth achievements — bridging the language gap by publishing in both French and English. Through its print edition and online platform, Le Floridien keeps the community connected and engaged with thoughtful journalism. By partnering with Little Haiti Book Festival, the newspaper helps publicize the festival’s programs and underscores its commitment to educating and uniting the Haitian community through storytelling and literature.

The Haitian Times is an award-winning news publication dedicated to covering Haiti and its global diaspora. Established in 1999 in New York City, it has long been a trusted source of news, analysis, and culture for Haitian Americans and English-speaking audiences interested in Haiti. The outlet publishes in English, offering diaspora readers insightful reporting on Haitian politics, economy, arts, and community issues that might otherwise go untold in mainstream media. Through its website and social media channels, The Haitian Times connects Haitians around the world with stories that matter — from profiles of Haitian creatives to investigations that hold institutions accountable — all while celebrating Haitian resilience and achievements. At Little Haiti Book Festival, The Haitian Times lends its voice as a media partner by highlighting the festival’s literary highlights and emphasizing the power of journalism and storytelling in strengthening cultural identity.

Game Changers With Fabian Lyon is a podcast and interview platform hosted by journalist Fabian Lyon that highlights thought leaders, innovators, entertainers, and community figures making an impact locally and globally. Through long-form conversations and live interviews, the platform explores leadership, culture, media, sports, and public life, with guests ranging from global public figures to voices from the Caribbean diaspora. Public descriptions of the show emphasize its mission to shine a light on “game changers” in the community and to create space for stories that deserve to be heard. The platform has also expanded into related community programming, including youth leadership initiatives.

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SPOTLIGHT

Carole Demesmin is a celebrated Haitian singer, storyteller, and visual artist born in Léogâne, Haiti. She began her music career with the group Haïti Culturelle and later studied at Berklee College of Music and the Massachusetts College of Art in Boston. Over a career spanning more than four decades, Demesmin has become known for blending Haitian folk traditions, poetry, and social consciousness in work that centers language, memory, and cultural identity. She is a performer and mambo whose work embodies Vodou's living legacy through ritual, song, and spiritual counsel.

Dr. Jerry M. Gilles is the author of *Remembrance: Roots, Rituals, and Reverence in Vodou* and its Haitian Creole counterpart, *Sèvis Ginen*. His formal training is in medicine, and he is a graduate of Columbia University and SUNY Stony Brook, as well as an associate professor who has published in peer-reviewed journals such as *The New England Journal of Medicine*. His writing and public presentations explore Vodou as a cultural, spiritual, and historical archive rooted in African inheritance and Haitian tradition.

AUTHORS

5678Colors is a children's publishing and empowerment brand created by Ashley Kiara. The project combines coloring books, reflection prompts, and dance- and movement-inspired storytelling to help children build confidence, identity, and voice.

A Better Path.Online is a wellness platform built around yoga, meditation, breathwork, and books. The site promotes *Marriage Is a Trap* by Charlynn Sona Fortune Williams, a 2025 book that challenges conventional ideas of marriage and self-worth.

Alin Louis Hall is a Haitian writer and columnist whose work explores Haitian history, Black identity, and social thought. He writes for *Le Nouvelliste* and *Le National* and is associated with the *Ayiti-Exit* series and *Le Syndrome du Transplanté*.

Annick Duvivier is a Haitian-born, Miami-based artist known for mixed-media work focused on nature, memory, and femininity. She also wrote and illustrated the bilingual English-Kreyòl children's book *James and Marie Become Friends/James ak Marie vin zanmi*.

Daniel J.D. Bayard is the author of the historical fiction series *Triumph to Tragedy* and the children's book *Adventures of the Indiantown Cousins: Zapped to the Past*. His work centers especially on Haitian history and the Haitian Revolution.

Castro Desroches is a Haitian American author known for satirical and historical writing about Haiti. His books include *Tales from the Island of Papa Doc*, *Les Enfants Malades de Papa Doc*, and other works that use humor and political commentary to reflect on Haitian public life.

Chela's Books and Things is a children's book and gift brand founded by Michele Jeanmarie. It publishes illustrated books and educational materials centered on culture, language, and learning, including titles such as *The Story of the Piñata*, *A Partridge in a Pear Tree*, and *Brown Girl, Brown Girl, Hasn't Anyone?*

Christian G (Christian Guerrier) is a Haiti-born author and founder of the Millennials Project. He is the author of *Dreams From My Mother: A Story of Race, Cultures, and Hope*.

North Miami Beach Commissioner Daniela Jean is an author and public servant whose writing centers on empowerment, leadership, purpose, and personal growth. As a commissioner, she brings that same community-minded spirit to her books, which encourage readers, including young people, to build confidence, recognize their value, and live with intention. Her work reflects a blend of civic commitment and uplifting guidance, using affirming, accessible messages to inspire growth both personally and collectively.

Deux Mondes is a French-language book by Ronald C. Joseph, published in 2025.

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Eugenise (Dr. Eugenise Mompremier) is a Miami-based author, presenter, and advocate. Her books include *Molded* and *Education Is the Passport to the Cemetery*, works centered on faith, encouragement, and youth uplift.

Frantz "Kiki" Wainwright is a poet, playwright, singer, dancer, and comedian based in Miami. He founded the band Ayabonmbé and serves as vice president of Sosyete Koukouy of Miami.

Henri R. Chaumin is an author and entrepreneur whose published work includes *Simplicism/Le Simplicisme: Eradication of Unemployment and Poverty*. He is an international business and finance professional.

History of Haiti Esther Rose Alexandra Verne's *History of Haiti: A Land of Hope and Freedom* is a nonfiction children's book created to help young readers and families reconnect with Haiti's history and revolutionary legacy.

Iboni Rootz Raconteur is an artist and storyteller whose online work includes picture book-style images, visual art, and story-based video playlists. Her brand is centered on art and writing for the next generation.

Illustrated Children's Books Michele Jeanmarie's books are designed to support learning through story, illustration, and multicultural content. Her published titles include *The Story of the Piñata*, *A Partridge in a Pear Tree*, and *Brown Girl, Brown Girl, Hasn't Anyone?*

Illustrator Jeana Lindo is a Miami- and Jamaica-connected multimedia artist and photographer. A Parsons graduate, she works across photography, painting, design, and illustrated projects, including an Ananse-inspired visual storytelling series.

Irsa Vieux is a Haitian novelist best known for her Baptême de feu series. Her work has been featured in Haitian literary coverage and at Little Haiti Book Festival in Miami.

Isabelle Camille is an educator and author of *Sole's Mom: A Transgender Journey of*

Love, Loss, and Letting Go. Her book reflects on family, acceptance, and identity, and her background includes more than three decades in Miami-Dade County Public Schools and teaching at Miami Dade College.

Dr. Jean Baptiste L. Charlot is a Miami obstetrician-gynecologist with more than four decades in patient care, education, and leadership. A graduate of the Université d'État d'Haïti, he has also written and spoken publicly on science, medicine, and reflection.

Jean Yves Hakime is the author of *En Toute Conscience: Comment vivre la plénitude de sa vie*, a French-language reflective work published in 2025.

Jean Venel Casséus is a French-language writer whose books include *Il suffit ton regard...*, *Never Play With Music*, and *Ogou — Yahweh deux noms, même esprit*. His work spans poetry, reflection, and cultural commentary.

Jonel Juste is a Haitian journalist, writer, publisher, and author whose work spans reporting, literature, and cultural commentary across Haiti and the United States. In addition to his journalism, he has published several books available on Amazon in French, Haitian Creole, and English, reflecting a body of work rooted in storytelling, language, and Haitian cultural expression. His writing brings together literary creativity and cultural advocacy, with a voice shaped by both journalism and the arts.

KidsLoveAdventures.com is the publishing platform of Haiti-born children's author Marie M. Pierre. Her books include *The Adventure of Being a Kid*, and her site presents her work as imaginative children's literature rooted in storytelling and adventure.

Liliane Nérette Louis is a renowned Haitian storyteller, folk artist, and cultural ambassador based in Miami. A Florida Folk Heritage Award honoree, she is the author of *When Night Falls, Kric! Krac!: Haitian Folktales*, *Pumpkin Soup Is for Sunday*, and other books preserving Haitian oral tradition.

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Loudrige Jean-Philippe is the author of the children's book *Chosen, So Rise*, an uplifting title centered on self-worth, courage, and purpose for young readers.

Lyonel Gerdes is a Haitian American author, journalist, poet, and educator whose memoir trilogy traces his life from Haiti to the United States. His books include *Les Cayes, Haiti: A Memoir*, *Port-au-Prince, Haiti: Duvaliers' Pax Haitiana* Dynasty and *My Coming of Age*, and *Miami, Florida: A Sunshine State's Unauthorized and Unredacted Journey*.

M. Ketsia Theodore-Pharel is a Haitian writer whose work spans children's literature and short fiction. She is the author of *A Fish Called Tanga* and other titles rooted in Haitian culture and storytelling.

Magalie Stephen-Saint Victor is a Haitian author whose children's book *Anticipation!* celebrates family life, sibling joy, and the beauty of childhood in Haiti.

Manouchka Clermont and Charles Jno-Lewis are the authors of *CJ! CJ! Bad Behavior!* and its companion activity book, early-reader titles published through Without Wax Media in 2026.

Marissa Germain is the author of *It's Always Mango Season*, a 2026 debut novel published through Keeping It Germain, LLC. Her author pages describe the book as a contemporary romance rooted in Haitian identity and set in Orlando, Florida.

Micki Berthelot Morency is a Haitian American author whose debut novel, *The Island Sisters*, follows four women from Haiti, St. Thomas, and Guam whose lives are bound by friendship and survival. She is also the author of *I Shall Find You*.

Miguel "Mingolove" Romain is a Haitian poet, writer, philanthropist, and cultural figure whose work bridges literature and community engagement. In addition to his public and nonprofit work, he is also a published author, with *Aveux des Lampes* (C3 Editions). He blends artistic expression and service, shaped by a commitment to Haitian culture, language, and youth empowerment.

Miu Haiti is the stage name of Murielle Augustin, a multilingual singer-songwriter whose music blends pop, R&B, hip-hop, and Caribbean influences. Her work includes the album *Unphased* and songs released in English, Haitian Creole, French, and Spanish.

Mister Figg is the pen name of Pedro Figueroa, a South Florida children's author. His books include *Orange Orangutan*, *A World of Candy*, and *Papete's Backyard: Food Chain Adventure*.

M.J. Fievre is a Haitian American author whose books for children, teens, and adults include *Badass Black Girl*, *Happy, Okay?*, and *The Ocean Lives There*. She writes in both English and French and is based in Miami.

Monique Clesca is a Haitian author, writer, journalist, and feminist democracy advocate. Her memoir *Silence and Resistance: Memoir of a Girlhood in Haiti* reflects on dictatorship, family secrecy, and political resistance; her career has also included work with the United Nations and international advocacy on women's and children's rights.

Nadege Delinois-Jean is a Haitian singer-songwriter and performer associated with Tisoul Samba. Her work centers on live musical performance and original songs rooted in Haitian and Caribbean expression.

Olivia Rae is an author brand currently promoting the novel *Rumors & Betrayal* through OliviaRaeAuthor.com and related social media channels. The project is a debut fiction release under the Olivia Rae name.

Dr. Sandra Moreau is a South Florida educator with an Ed.D. from Florida International University. She is a school principal, a licensed real estate agent, and a published author.

Shivam Gupta is a young author credited as the author, editor, and illustrator of *Night Wolves: Devil Slayer*, a 2026 fiction title. He published the 129-page book at age 12.

Socialist Workers is the literature table associated with the Socialist Workers Party, whose publications include pamphlets, books, and the socialist newsweekly *The Militant*.

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Tabitha Azor, LMFT, is a licensed marriage and family therapist, speaker, and founder of NYC Healing Center. Her work focuses on healing, resilience, holistic mental health, and relationship support.

Where are you from?/Moun ki kote ou ye? is a trilingual book by Edel Vincent Pierre, written in English, French, and Haitian Creole.

Women Breathe Again Co. is a Miami-based wellness brand led by Dr. Margareth Reed. This botanicals, books, and wellness business offers products and programming rooted in holistic healing, self-care, and women's well-being.

You Don't Look Haitian: A Journey of Self Discovery is a children's book by Velouse Smith that encourages pride in Haitian identity and culture.

Yvette Israel Leroy is a Haitian-born poet and performer, also known in literary circles as Wanègès. She is the author of *Nostalji: Kont ak Pwezi Ayisyen (1992-2013)* and has appeared in Haitian poetry programming at Miami Book Fair.

PUBLISHERS & LITERACY ORGANIZATIONS

Akademi Kreyòl Ayisyen is Haiti's official language academy for Haitian Creole, created to strengthen the status, development, and public use of Kreyòl in Haiti and beyond. Its mission includes encouraging the production of official documents in Kreyòl, supporting the development of linguistic tools such as dictionaries, grammar guides, and terminology, and helping advance the language in education, communication, and national life. As a cultural and intellectual institution, it plays a central role in affirming Kreyòl as a language of knowledge, identity, and public dignity.

Bookleggers — Miami's First and Only Free Bookstore is a Miami nonprofit that expands access to books through its free bookstore, mobile outreach, and the Traveling Book Trailer.

Books for Free is a literacy initiative of The Children's Trust in partnership with Miami Book Fair at Miami Dade College. The program distributes free books to children and families

in underserved through community bookshelves, giveaways, and public events across Miami-Dade County.

Educa Vision is a Florida-based multilingual publisher that began by focusing on the needs of Haitian students and grew into a broader multicultural and multilingual educational press. Its catalog includes Haitian Creole materials, teacher's guides, translations, and Caribbean studies resources.

EXILE Projects is a Miami-based nonprofit that creates and promotes experimental publications by artists. Headquartered in Little Haiti, it produces artists' books, zines, periodicals, and public programs that strengthen independent print culture in Miami.

Game Time Ayiti creates educational games and puzzles designed to help children learn Haitian history, culture, and landmarks through play.

Miami-Dade Public Library System is the countywide public library network serving Miami-Dade through branches, digital collections, public programs, and educational services. Its mission is to provide services, spaces, and experiences that promote literacy, learning, personal growth, and opportunity.

Sosyete Koukouy Connecticut Pascale Millien-Faustin is a dancer, choreographer, community activist, and author. She is a founding member of Sosyete Koukouy Connecticut and the author of *Tim Tim Jaden Kreyasyon: Istwa Kout an Kreyòl Ayisyen*.

ARTISTS & CREATIVE ENTREPRENEURS

Delphine Nephtalie Dauphin is a young Haitian American entrepreneur, author, speaker, and creative leader who began building businesses and publishing books at an early age. Known for ventures such as Joy's Yummy Cupcakes and for encouraging other young people through workshops and public speaking, she has built a profile rooted in youth empowerment, ambition, and service. Her work highlights the power of early leadership, showing how creativity, business, and community engagement can come together in one voice.

Face Painting: Jivana P. Condak, Tribal Princess

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Jiviana P. Condak is a face painter creating colorful designs for children and families. She is also the founder/director of Fort Greene Music Scene and the Koolkidz music program.

Phelicia Dell is a Haitian fashion designer, artist, and creative entrepreneur known as the founder and creative force behind Vèvè Collections. Born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, she draws deeply from Haitian culture, textile traditions, and personal resilience, creating work that blends elegance, symbolism, and cultural pride. Her designs reflect both artistry and storytelling, with a vision shaped by heritage, loss, and a determination to celebrate Haiti through fashion.

Vintage1804 by Roe Michel is a South Florida creative brand led by Roe Michel, a Haitian American photographer and designer. The brand connects photography, fashion, and youth empowerment.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The **American Red Cross** is a nonprofit humanitarian organization that provides disaster relief, preparedness education, health and safety training, support for military families, and related community services. In South Florida, the organization serves nearly 8.6 million people across 18 counties through five chapters.

The Center for Self-Sufficiency is a South Florida community organization focused on helping individuals and families build stability, independence, and long-term opportunity. Its work appears rooted in practical support, advocacy, and empowerment, particularly within underserved communities, with an emphasis on helping people move toward greater economic and personal self-reliance. In community settings, the organization is presented as a service-driven resource committed to dignity, access, and uplift.

FANM (Family Action Network Movement) is a longtime Miami nonprofit rooted in the Haitian community and dedicated to strengthening low-to moderate-income families through advocacy, education, and wraparound support services. Originally founded as Fanm Ayisyen Nan Miyami

to empower Haitian women and help families adjust to life in South Florida, it has grown into a broad community organization offering programs in areas such as mental health, crisis intervention, health care access, job training, financial literacy, adult education, and after-school support. Its work is grounded in the belief that stronger families build stronger communities.

FHACI (Fondation Haïtienne Anti-Cancer Infantile) is a nonprofit founded in 2014 to support children with cancer in Haiti. Created by physicians and other professionals, it focuses on bringing hope, treatment support, and greater awareness to pediatric cancer care, while working to strengthen access for young patients and their families. Its mission is rooted in compassion, medical advocacy, and the belief that Haitian children facing serious illness deserve specialized care and sustained support.

GSCC is a Haiti-based nonprofit, known as **Groupe de Support Contre le Cancer**, that works to raise cancer awareness, encourage early detection, and support patients and families navigating diagnosis and treatment. Founded in 1999, the organization grew out of a commitment to breast cancer education and has become an important source of advocacy, outreach, and assistance in a healthcare landscape where access can be difficult. Its work centers on dignity, information, and practical support for people affected by cancer in Haiti.

Lakou is a Little Haiti gathering space whose name comes from the Haitian Creole word for a shared yard or courtyard. It describes itself as a place for food, art, music, ideas, and community experience rooted in Little Haiti.

Mindful Art Education (MAE) is a Miami-based nonprofit that blends art, mindfulness, yoga, and education to support the well-being of children and families. Founded by Alexandra Jeanty-Leclerc, the organization is centered on the idea that creative expression and mindful practice can help foster healing, emotional balance, and personal growth while also strengthening community connection. Through classes, events, and outreach, Mindful Art Education promotes inclusive, holistic learning experiences rooted in self-discovery, wellness,

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and care for the broader world.

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Dr. Angelo Gousse is a Haitian-born, board-certified urologist and reconstructive urology specialist known for his work in pelvic health, incontinence, and complex urologic care. A Yale-trained physician with a long-standing clinical and academic career, he is recognized for combining advanced medical expertise with a strong commitment to patient education, innovation, and service. His professional profile reflects both medical leadership and a deep connection to the Haitian and South Florida communities.

Anglade Consulting, affiliated with exp Realty, is a real estate and consulting business serving South Florida with a focus on helping clients navigate property decisions with professionalism and local market knowledge. Public materials describe Anglade as an exp Realty agent who has served both the South Florida and Haitian communities, suggesting a practice rooted in service, trust, and strong community ties. The brand presents itself as both client-focused and community-minded, combining real estate guidance with a broader consulting identity.

Discount Beauty Supplies is a community-focused beauty retailer serving local customers with products that support personal care, style, and self-expression. As a neighborhood business, it reflects the important role beauty supply stores play in everyday life by offering accessible products, practical essentials, and a familiar point of connection within the community.

CULINARY DELIGHTS

Cano Snacks is a local food business centered on convenient, flavorful snack products made for everyday enjoyment and community events. Built around small-business creativity and approachable food service, the brand brings a casual, welcoming presence to neighborhood markets, gatherings, and shared community spaces. Its identity reflects local entrepreneurship, accessibility, and the simple appeal of good snacks made to be enjoyed and shared.

Chalè Lakay is a family-owned South Florida

business rooted in Haitian flavor, tradition, and hospitality. Co-founded by Karoll-Ann Fanfan, her sister, Djenane Fanfan, and their cousins, the brand is known for sharing authentic Haitian products such as kremas, konfiti, and esans, with an emphasis on taste, heritage, and the feeling of home. Its identity is centered on celebrating Haitian culture through food, offering handcrafted products that bring warmth, memory, and pride to the community.

Khai Chiktay is a Haitian American food brand created by entrepreneur Khainna “Khai” Sejour, centered on bringing the bold, spicy flavors of Haitian chiktay to a wider audience. Built on family tradition and a deep love of Haitian cuisine, the brand offers handcrafted varieties that reflect both cultural heritage and contemporary food entrepreneurship. Khai Chiktay stands out as a flavorful expression of Haitian culinary identity, introducing more people to a beloved classic through small-business creativity and pride.

Lexx Food Truck is a local business known for serving flavorful, crowd-pleasing meals in a casual, community-centered setting. With the flexibility and energy that food trucks bring to neighborhood events, pop-ups, and public gatherings, it offers an approachable dining experience built around convenience, freshness, and connection. Its presence reflects the spirit of small-business entrepreneurship, bringing people together through good food and familiar service.

Tigògòt is a food and drink brand centered on “bon produit lakay,” offering products inspired by the tastes and comforts of home.

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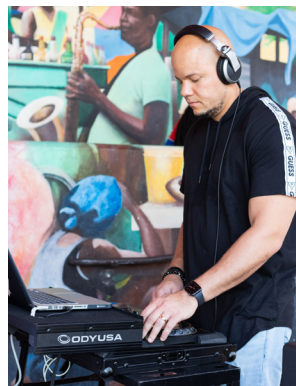
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ReadCaribbean is a series of readings, discussions, writing workshops, and more highlighting the vibrant and diverse literary culture of the Caribbean. It is a Miami Book Fair program created with the support of the Green Family Foundation and the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center.



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