

## Arts Decline - Largest in Ten Years May Reflect New Vision

Americans for the Arts released the first National Arts Index on January 20. It shows that the nation's arts businesses fell into their biggest slump in more than a decade in 2008. The Index looked at 76 unique indicators, including ticket sales, museum visits and philanthropy.

"The issues that arts organizations are facing right now aren't simply a function of the economic downturn," said Robert Lynch, Americans for the Arts president. "You can really see the arts have been losing market share in areas of private philanthropy fairly steadily for a decade now."

"This is a worrisome trend," notes Sheri Brown, vice president grants and initiatives at the Community Foundation of Broward. "Though we are ahead of most communities in the nation, many of our arts organizations were fragile before the economic downturn."

According to Mary A. Becht, director, Broward Cultural Division, "The National Arts Index reflects a period of change. The entire arts delivery system is shifting through new technology. Traditional art forms face new competition from internet-based media and personal arts participation such as making art, playing a musical instrument or performing choral arts."

There are some very bright spots. A new vision for the future of arts and culture in Broward County is being born in a *2020 Community Cultural Plan* that will be unveiled in the spring.

for more details visit [cfbroward.org/arts](http://cfbroward.org/arts)



Linda B. Carter

## A message from the President

# Haiti

Since a 7.0 magnitude earthquake wracked Port-au-Prince, Haiti, earlier this month, more than \$600 million has been raised worldwide for relief efforts. Now there is much debate on whether this money can address the underlying problem at the root of the unprecedented devastation – severe poverty.

An estimated 150,000 people are dead as of this writing. Yet when an earthquake of the same magnitude in 1989 struck San Francisco, 63 people were killed. The reasons for the disparity are all too obvious.

Along with efforts for relief and recovery, there is discussion about the potential impact and benefits of another Haitian diaspora. The Obama administration has extended Temporary Protective Status (TPS) to undocumented Haitians, and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has touted the benefits of a burgeoning Haitian business class in his city. Others, like Elliott Abrams in the January 24 edition of The Washington Post, commented that "a larger Haitian diaspora would be a far better base for the country's [Haiti's] economic future than aid pledges that may or may not be met."

Despite the huge amount of international charity that poured into Haiti before the earthquake, remittances by average hardworking Haitian families in Broward and elsewhere were the largest source of income flowing into the country. In 2004, the Haitian government estimated that Haitians living abroad wired back some \$930 million to their families every year. If the number of Haitians living in the US were to double or even triple, many agree that this would not only help Haiti recover from this disaster, but recover to greater heights than it has known in a century.

An influx of Haitian people does have local implications. In the first ten days since the earthquake, more than 600 Haitian children have enrolled in South Florida schools. That number is expected to more than double according to officials from all three districts. And it could grow much higher depending on how immigration policy plays out.

Demand will not only be on our schools; hospitals and social service agencies will be widely affected, too.

This is the task also facing the Community Foundation.

Together with the Dade and Palm Beach community foundations, we are analyzing the need throughout South Florida in an effort to determine where our resources can best be used.

Armed with the very latest data, we can help put systems and additional supports and resources into place today, so that we are better prepared to help traumatized earthquake survivors painlessly adapt as they arrive.

The work in Haiti will take years. The fact that New Orleans is still recovering from Hurricane Katrina is proof enough of that. There will be posturing and politics, but the very definition of philanthropy is to take care of those around us.

## Broward Haiti Relief Task Force

a collaborative effort

The Broward Haiti Relief Task Force was formed hours after the earthquake struck. The group of more than 40 local government offices, nonprofits and businesses have been meeting weekly to coordinate response.

### Task Force Work in Progress

- Continue to expand awareness that immediate focus is for financial support, not for goods
- Broward 211 is adding to its database organizations and what resources and services they provide
- Preparations are being made for the arrival of children
  - Many families who are willing to take in youth have been identified
  - Mental health services are being readied – including peer support groups for youth
  - Under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act, Haitian youth in Broward will have immediate access to education
  - Health community ready to provide physicals and immunizations
- Information Centers planned to provide Temporary Protective Status (TPS) information

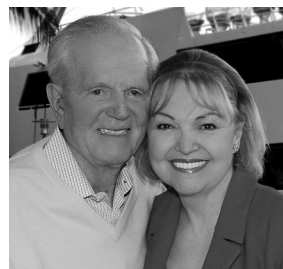
### How can you help?

- Creole speakers: Register with Volunteer Broward
- Lawyers: contact Legal Aide to provide TPS application support
- Available Housing: keep Broward Haiti Relief Task Force aware of beds and units

for the most current information visit [cfbroward.org/Haiti](http://cfbroward.org/Haiti)

## August Urbanek Fund an Enduring Solution

The earthquake in Haiti reminds us that it is philanthropy that provides enduring solutions to community needs.



August and Melba Urbanek

After the devastation of the 2005 hurricane season, when the storms Katrina and Wilma brought unprecedented destruction, Melba and Augie Urbanek established The August Urbanek endowed Fund to help disaster victims forever. They knew we would always be faced with hurricanes and wanted our community to be prepared for the next devastating storm or disaster.

Their Fund is an efficient way to care for community today and into the future. It earned the Urbaneks the maximum tax deduction in the year it was created. Now, the minute the Community Foundation receives an urgent request, it can distribute their help where it is needed most. And, it preserves the Urbanek name and giving power... *For Good. For Ever.*

for information on how you can preserve your giving power, go to [cfbroward.org/fund](http://cfbroward.org/fund)

**Just in:** President Obama has just signed a bill allowing donations made between January 11 and February 28, 2010 to be deducted on your 2009 tax return if they are made for Haitian earthquake relief.



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## Dates to Remember

**March 24**

**Legacy Luncheon**

Celebrating those who have designated a gift to the Community Foundation in their estate

**April 22**

**Taping of the Nightly Business Report  
Behind the Scenes at WPBT**

Community Builders and  
Signature Fundholders Only

**May 13**

**Impact Broward**

Foster Youth to Super Star

**June 17**

**Impact Broward**

Florida Legislative Update

for more information on these dates visit  
our website at [cfbroward.org](http://cfbroward.org)



## Haiti: Broward's Coordinated Response

South Florida has long been a home to many Haitian families and Broward is estimated to have more than 96,000 Haitian residents. The Haitian people, their culture and language are an integral part of the diversity that brings vibrancy to our community.

Local experts and politicians agree that an influx of Haitian people affected by the earthquake will likely be arriving in Broward to heal, physically and emotionally, with family members here. To prepare, Broward County organizations and residents have mobilized a task force "to serve as a collaborative in assisting with the aftermath of Haiti's earthquake while eliminating duplication of efforts and services."

The Community Foundation is actively involved in the Broward Haiti Relief Task Force. Through this involvement, combined with additional research, Foundation staff will determine the critical issues that need to be addressed and identify programs that will provide short and long-term relief to Haitians as they arrive in Broward.

Task Force members include: Minority Development & Empowerment, Children's Services Council, United Way, Broward 211, Legal Aid Services, Broward County School District and the Community Foundation of Broward. The group is meeting weekly to keep each other abreast of progress and information. Look inside to read about their work to date.

for the most current information visit [cfbroward.org/Haiti](http://cfbroward.org/Haiti)