

MIAMI BEACH HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

>>> Please Type All Information <<<

NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

Nominee's Name: Judy Nelson Drucker

Nominee's Occupation, Field of Achievement or Title:

Founder, Great Artist Series, Cultural Artist

Nominee's Category of Expertise (Select one from the options below):

☒ Artist/ Architect/ Designer/ Scientist

☐ Athlete

☐ Business Leader

☐ Civic Leader

☐ Family Legacy

Date of Death (if posthumous nomination): March 30, 2020

Questions 1 -5: Fully explain your answers for all questions. Please put the nominee's accomplishments in context; show how they are relevant and valuable to Miami Beach.

1. Enter a brief biography highlighting the nominee's personal history and connection to Miami Beach.

Judith Nelson Drucker (Drucker) was born in Brooklyn, New York, on June 20, 1928. Her mother, Lillian Levine was an opera singer and a classical pianist and inspired in Drucker a love of music. Her father, Isidore Nelson, was a Russian Jewish immigrant in the clothing business. As a child musical prodigy, Drucker studied piano at the New York College of Music and voice at the Juilliard School and the Curtis Institute of Music.

In 1941, she and her family moved to Miami Beach, Florida where Drucker attended Miami Beach High School (MBHS). In 1945, Drucker graduated from MBHS. Drucker was inducted into what is now known as Miami Beach Senior High School (MBSHS) Alumni Association Hall of Fame and her photograph is proudly displayed in the lobby to the MBSHS Auditorium. While at MBHS, Drucker befriended famed journalist and classmate Barbara Walters

In college, Drucker met David Drucker, a law school student and former Marine. The couple were married shortly before she graduated. Drucker had three children with David Drucker - Kathy Drucker, Vicki Drucker Schwartz and Andrew Drucker, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. As a young bride, Drucker studied voice at the University of Miami's School of Music. She sang coloratura soprano with the Coral Gables Philharmonic Symphony and performed on Broadway in New York City and with the Greater Miami Opera. Drucker also sang at the Latin Quarter nightclub in the ritzy area of Palm Island, just past the cruise ships moored at the Port of Miami, owned by Lou Walters, Barbara Walters' Father, Greater Miami Opera, and The Jackie Gleason Show.

2. Describe the nominee's lasting contributions to Miami Beach.

In 1967, Drucker launched the Great Artists Series at Temple Beth Shalom with the support of Rabbi Leon Kronish and a \$5,000 grant from the Temple. Drucker's concert series was so successful that within a year it outgrew Temple Beth Shalom and moved into the much larger Jackie Gleason Theater.

Drucker staged sellout performances at all of the major performance venues in South Florida including the Miami-Dade County Auditorium, Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, the New World Center, and the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Drucker brought the most talented and sought-after artists to Miami Beach including Luciano Pavarotti, Beverly Sills, Isaac Stern, Vladimir Horowitz, Yo-Yo Ma, Leonard Bernstein, Itzhak Perlman, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Evgeny Kissin, Richard Tucker, Twyla Tharp, Zubin Mehta, Pinchas Zukerman, Daniel Barenboim, Wynton Marsalis, Dmitri Hvorostovsky, Cecilia Bartoli and the Three Tenors, and conductors James Conlon, Michael Tilson Thomas, Ramon Tebar.

On January 22, 1995, Drucker produced Pavarotti on the Beach. Whether in tuxes, speedos or watching offshore, for the 120,000 people in attendance, it was the opportunity of a lifetime. Pavarotti was happy to do the concert for Drucker with whom Drucker had become friends. For decades he affectionately called her, "Judy beauty." Miami Beach Mayor Seymour Gelber called it "the greatest cultural event in the history of the beach."

Not only did Drucker culturally shine the worldwide spotlight on Miami Beach for over 40 years but Drucker was integral in bringing Soviet Jewish Refuseniks, who were persecuted in the former Soviet Union for their religious beliefs, to live and thrive in Miami Beach. In the 1970s, Drucker worked tirelessly with the Miami Beach Jewish Federation to help relocate Soviet Jews to Miami Beach to allow them the freedoms of a better life in the United States of America. Drucker also gifted the refuseniks with tickets to her cultural performance presentations so that the new immigrants can culturally integrate into their new lives.

Drucker has most definitely had a positive and long-lasting effect on the Miami Beach community.

3. Describe the significant impact of the nominee's achievements. Quantify the answer where possible.

Drucker established the Great Artist Series and founded the Concert Association of Florida. She was the Artistic Director of both the Colony Theatre and the Florida Grand Opera. Drucker developed the organization into the largest classical presenter in the southeastern U.S. and brought to South Florida a vast array of the world's most famous vocalists, opera singers, orchestras and dance companies. She loomed large over Florida's cultural orbit for almost a half-century. Not only did greatest names in the world of classical music perform in South Florida because of Drucker but a lot of the great names we know as the greats were discovered by Drucker. Drucker singlehandedly changed the cultural scene in South Florida and proved there could be more to the region than sun in the fun. She said it herself, "I taught the community to recognize great talent."

4. Present evidence that the nominee's achievements have (or will have) enduring value to Miami Beach. Where applicable, focus your comments on change that has been or will be created and how that change is expected to last over time.

Drucker established a rich cultural legacy in South Florida. Drucker was responsible for some of the area's most memorable music and dance performances. With her strong artistic instincts and eye for talent, Drucker's events were the must-see events of the season. With her determination and adherence to strong artistic values, Drucker made musical history in South Florida. Her contributions were so extensive that she was honored with extensive obituaries in both The New York Times on April 7, 2020 and The Miami Herald on March 31, 2020 amongst others. Miami now has a thriving cultural scene in the music and the arts because of her glass ceiling shattering contributions. In Drucker's The New York Times obituary Itzhak Perlman is quoted as saying that "I don't think of Judy as an impresario. I think of her as a friend."

"Judy Drucker was a true champion of music and musicians, said Michael Tilson Thomas, Artistic Director of the the New World Symphony." She referred to herself as an 'impresaria' and she really was. I am amongst the countless international musicians that she brought to Miami for the first time. "Back in those pioneering days it was her warmth, her love and knowledge of much and her super caring treatment that brought us all back again and again. She was tough, courageous, irreverent and always on the right side of things. I miss her greatly," - South Florida Classical Review, Judy Drucker Obituary, March 30, 2020 [Link to the 2016 Interview with Michael Tilson Thomas and Judy Drucker conducted by Angela Shlyakhov, former Executive Vice President of the Great Artists Series and writer for Mark Bryn, President of the Great Artists Series - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zsHmMWavdKo>]

"A lot of the great names we know as the greats were really discovered by Judy. She was aware of them long before they were household names," Mark Bryn, President of Drucker's Great Artists Series told the Miami Herald in November 2017 when the classical music community honored her with a tribute concert to celebrate the series' 50th anniversary.

5. Enter a list of the nominee's significant awards.

The Carbonell Awards prestigious George Abbott Award was awarded to Judy Drucker, Concert Impresaria for the foundation of the Concert Association of Florida as a cultural showcase for the world's premier artists, 1979.

Impressaria Judy Drucker, who graduated with a Bachelor of Music in 1948, was named as Distinguished Alumna by the University of Miami Frost School of Music, 1986.

Drucker awarded the Governor's Award for the Arts, 1986

Awarded a Distinguished Service Award by the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce, 1990.

Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2010 Arts Gala.

Citizen's Interested in the Arts awarded Drucker the Champion of the Arts Award, 2011.

Judy Drucker Boulevard dedicated near Arsht Center at Biscayne Boulevard near 12th and 13th Street, 2012.

Awarded Golden Baton by the Miami Symphony Orchestra, 2014.

Awarded a State Historical Marker by the State of Florida, entitled Judy Nelson Drucker, Cultural Impresaria. (2017) Drucker's Historical Marker is housed in front of Temple Beth Shalom at 4144 Chase Avenue, Miami Beach. Out of over 1,000 Florida Historical Markers, at the time, less than 15 Historical Markers were dedicated to women's achievements. The Historical Marker was sponsored by Kristina and Mark Bryn and the Great Artists Series.

Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts awarded by the International Fine Arts College

Honorary Doctor of Music awarded by Florida International University

6. Provide two (2) letters of Recommendation. (Please attach this within the submission)

SUBMITTER INFORMATION

Nomination Submitted By: Dr. Lynette Long

Title/Occupation of Submitter:

Chair, Miami Beach Commission for Women

Relationship to the Nominee: Admirer

(Example: friends, colleague, student, employee, relative, etc.)

Address of Submitter: 650 West Avenue, Apt. 501, Miami Beach, FL 33139

(Street Address, City, State, Zip Code)

Telephone: 301-325-6976

Email Address: drlynettelong@gmail.com

Nomination Package Checklist:

Before submitting the City of Miami Beach Nomination Form, make sure you have done all the following.

☒ Completed the Nomination form. Please refrain from sending petitions, photographs, books, resumes, Curriculum Vitaes (CV), etc. in lieu of completing the nomination form.

☒ Included two (2) letters of recommendation. The letters of recommendation **must** be submitted in conjunction with the nomination form.

Signature of Submitter: Lynette Long Date: 03/13/2023

BRYN LAW GROUP

CONCIERGE ADVISORY SERVICES

ONE BISCAYNE TOWER, SUITE 2600
TWO SOUTH BISCAYNE BOULEVARD
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33131

TELEPHONE (305) 374-0501
FACSMILE (305) 372-8068
E-MAIL: Mark@BrynLaw.com

March 10, 2023

Miami Beach Hall of Fame Nominating Committee
Miami Beach Department of Tourism and Culture
1755 Meridian Avenue, 5th Floor
Miami, Beach, Florida 33139

Re: Judy Nelson Drucker 2023 City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame Nomination

Dear Miami Beach Hall of Fame Nominating Committee:

My name is Mark Bryn. I am the Founder of Bryn & Associates, P.A., d/b/a Bryn Law Group, a Miami-based law firm and, in 2016, I was designated by Judy to succeed her as the President of Judy Nelson Drucker's Great Artists Series. I am proud to nominate my dear long-time friend and the founder of the Great Artists Series Cultural Impresaria, the late, great Judy Nelson Drucker for the distinguished honor of being inducted into the Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

I first met Judy in the 1970s when I attended religious studies classes at Miami Beach's Temple Beth Sholom. At that time, Judy was presenting her cultural series at Temple Beth Sholom. I was always interested in the arts and culture. Judy and I became fast friends. I had the huge honor of picking up several world-renowned artists at the airport when they arrived for Judy's performance presentations. Judy's efforts in those early years to bring culture and art to the Miami & Miami Beach areas which were then a cultural wasteland. Judy instilled in me, and I dare say the entire South Florida community, a lifelong passion of the arts in me and for that I am grateful to her.

As the years went on, I had the privilege of being by her side and supported many of her musical ventures. Judy was never afraid that she did not have all of the pieces in the place at the same time. Judy figured that if she could get the artists, she would get the funding or if she got the funding, she would get the artists. Judy was truly a groundbreaking presenter and was millions of miles ahead of her time – a time when there were no women performance presenters.

The greatest performers in the world of classical music and dance performed in South Florida, and they performed, in large part, because of Judy's welcoming love and compassion for the artists and her savvy business sense. Judy presented Beverly, Sills, Cecilia Bartoli, Renee Fleming, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Winton Marsalis, James Galway, Yo-Yo Ma, Andre Watts,

March 10, 2023

Page 2 of 2

Roberta Peters, Joseph Kalichstein, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Mikhail Baryshnikov and Twyla Tharpe, among many others. Her concerts featured Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras and Luciano Pavarotti.

Judy's good friend Luciano Pavarotti, whom she performed with in the early days, called her "Judy Beauty." Pavarotti performed for Judy many times in South Florida. Most notably was the January 1995 much heralded and unforgettable Pavarotti on the Beach performance on the sands of Miami Beach before over 110,000 people. Judy was truly an unforgettable glass-ceiling shattering cultural force!

Thank you for your consideration.



Mark Bryn

**Nomination of Judy Nelson Drucker
To 2023 Miami Beach Hall of Fame
“I need culture to live!”- Judy Nelson Drucker**

Nominee's Name: **Judy Nelson Drucker**

Nominee's Occupation, Field of Achievement or Title: **Cultural Presenter**

Nominee's Category of Expertise: **Cultural/Artist**

Date of Death (if posthumous nomination): **March 30, 2020**

1. Personal History. Connection to Miami Beach.

Judith Nelson Drucker (Drucker) was born in Brooklyn, New York, on June 20, 1928. Her mother, Lillian Levine was an opera singer and a classical pianist and inspired in Drucker a love of music. Her father, Isidore Nelson, was a Russian Jewish immigrant in the clothing business. As a child musical prodigy, Drucker studied piano at the New York College of Music and voice at the Juilliard School and the Curtis Institute of Music.

In 1941, she and her family moved to Miami Beach, Florida where Drucker attended Miami Beach High School (MBHS). In 1945, Drucker graduated from MBHS. Drucker was inducted into what is now known as Miami Beach Senior High School (MBSHS) Alumni Association Hall of Fame and her photograph is proudly displayed in the lobby to the MBSHS Auditorium. While at MBHS, Drucker befriended famed journalist and classmate Barbara Walters

In college, Drucker met David Drucker, a law school student and former Marine. The couple were married shortly before she graduated. Drucker had three children with David Drucker - Kathy Drucker, Vicki Drucker Schwartz and Andrew Drucker, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. As a young bride, Drucker studied voice at the University of Miami's School of Music. She sang coloratura soprano with the Coral Gables Philharmonic Symphony and performed on Broadway in New York City and with the Greater Miami Opera. Drucker also sang at the Latin Quarter nightclub in the ritzy area of Palm Island, just past the cruise ships moored at the Port of Miami, owned by Lou Walters, Barbara Walters' Father, Greater Miami Opera, and The Jackie Gleason Show.

2. Describe the nominee's lasting contributions to Miami Beach.

In 1967, Drucker launched the Great Artists Series at Temple Beth Shalom with the support of Rabbi Leon Kronish and a \$5,000 grant from the Temple. Drucker's concert series was so successful that within a year it outgrew Temple Beth Shalom and moved into the much larger Jackie Gleason Theater.

Drucker staged sellout performances at all of the major performance venues in South Florida including the Miami-Dade County Auditorium, Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, the New World Center, and the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Drucker brought the most talented and sought-after artists to Miami Beach including Luciano Pavarotti, Beverly Sills, Isaac Stern, Vladimir Horowitz, Yo-Yo Ma, Leonard Bernstein, Itzhak Perlman, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Evgeny Kissin, Richard Tucker, Twyla Tharp, Zubin Mehta, Pinchas Zukerman, Daniel Barenboim, Wynton Marsalis, Dmitri Hvorostovsky, Cecilia Bartoli and the Three Tenors, and conductors James Conlon, Michael Tilson Thomas, Ramon Tebar.

On January 22, 1995, Drucker produced *Pavarotti on the Beach*. Whether in tuxes, speedos or watching offshore, for the 120,000 people in attendance, it was the opportunity of a lifetime. Pavarotti was happy to do the concert for Drucker with whom Drucker had become friends. For decades he affectionately called her, "Judy beauty." Miami Beach Mayor Seymour Gelber called it "the greatest cultural event in the history of the beach."

Not only did Drucker culturally shine the worldwide spotlight on Miami Beach for over 40 years but Drucker was integral in bringing Soviet Jewish Refuseniks, who were persecuted in the former Soviet Union for their religious beliefs, to live and thrive in Miami Beach. In the 1970s, Drucker worked tirelessly with the Miami Beach Jewish Federation to help relocate Soviet Jews to Miami Beach to allow them the freedoms of a better life in the United States of America. Drucker also gifted the refuseniks with tickets to her cultural performance presentations so that the new immigrants can culturally integrate into their new lives.

Drucker has most definitely had a positive and long-lasting effect on the Miami Beach community.

3. Describe the significant impact of the nominee's achievements. Quantify the answer where possible.

Drucker established the Great Artist Series and founded the Concert Association of Florida. She was the Artistic Director of both the Colony Theatre and the Florida Grand Opera. Drucker developed the organization into the largest classical presenter in the southeastern U.S. and brought to South Florida a vast array of the world's most famous vocalists, opera singers, orchestras and dance companies. She loomed large over Florida's cultural orbit for almost a half-century. Not only did greatest

names in the world of classical music perform in South Florida because of Drucker but a lot of the great names we know as the greats were discovered by Drucker. Drucker singlehandedly changed the cultural scene in South Florida and proved there could be more to the region than sun in the fun. She said it herself, "I taught the community to recognize great talent."

4. Present evidence that the nominee's achievements have (or will have) enduring value to Miami Beach. Where applicable, focus your comments on change that has been or will be created and how that change is expected to last over time.

Drucker established a rich cultural legacy in South Florida. Drucker was responsible for some of the area's most memorable music and dance performances. With her strong artistic instincts and eye for talent, Drucker's events were the must-see events of the season. With her determination and adherence to strong artistic values, Drucker made musical history in South Florida. Her contributions were so extensive that she was honored with extensive obituaries in both *The New York Times* on April 7, 2020 and *The Miami Herald* on March 31, 2020 amongst others. Miami now has a thriving cultural scene in the music and the arts because of her glass ceiling shattering contributions. In Drucker's *The New York Times* obituary Itzhak Perlman is quoted as saying that "I don't think of Judy as an impresario. I think of her as a friend."

"Judy Drucker was a true champion of music and musicians, said Michael Tilson Thomas, Artistic Director of the the New World Symphony." She referred to herself as an 'impresaria' and she really was. I am amongst the countless international musicians that she brought to Miami for the first time. "Back in those pioneering days it was her warmth, her love and knowledge of much and her super caring treatment that brought us all back again and again. She was tough, courageous, irreverent and always on the right side of things. I miss her greatly," – *South Florida Classical Review*, Judy Drucker Obituary, March 30, 2020 [Link to the 2016 Interview with Michael Tilson Thomas and Judy Drucker conducted by Angela Shlyakhov, former Executive Vice President of the Great Artists Series and writer for Mark Bryn, President of the Great Artists Series – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zsHmMWavdKo>]

"A lot of the great names we know as the greats were really discovered by Judy. She was aware of them long before they were household names," Mark Bryn, President of Drucker's Great Artists Series told the *Miami Herald* in November 2017 when the classical music community honored her with a tribute concert to celebrate the series' 50th anniversary.

5. Enter a list of the nominee's significant awards (In Chronological Order)

The Carbonell Awards prestigious *George Abbott Award* was awarded to Judy Drucker, Concert Impresaria for the foundation of the Concert Association of Florida as a cultural showcase for the world's premier artists, 1979.

Impresaria Judy Drucker, who graduated with a Bachelor of Music in 1948, was named as *Distinguished Alumna* by the University of Miami Frost School of Music, 1986.

Drucker awarded the Governor's Award for the Arts, 1986

Awarded a *Distinguished Service Award* by the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce, 1990.

Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2010 Arts Gala.

Citizen's Interested in the Arts awarded Drucker the Champion of the Arts Award, 2011.

Judy Drucker Boulevard dedicated near Arsht Center at Biscayne Boulevard near 12th and 13th Street, 2012.

Awarded Golden Baton by the Miami Symphony Orchestra, 2014.

Awarded a *State Historical Marker by the State of Florida*, entitled *Judy Nelson Drucker, Cultural Impresaria*. (2017) Drucker's Historical Marker is housed in front of Temple Beth Shalom at 4144 Chase Avenue, Miami Beach. Out of over 1,000 Florida Historical Markers, at the time, less than 15 Historical Markers were dedicated to women's achievements. The Historical Marker was sponsored by Kristina and Mark Bryn and the Great Artists Series.

Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts awarded by the International Fine Arts College

Honorary Doctor of Music awarded by Florida International University

CANTOR RACHELLE NELSON

March 13, 2023

Miami Beach Hall of Fame Nominating Committee
Department of Tourism and Culture
1755 Meridian Avenue, 5th Floor
Miami Beach, Florida 33139

Re: 2023 Miami Beach Hall of Fame Nomination for Judy Nelson Drucker

Dear Miami Beach Hall of Fame Nominating Committee:

My name is Cantor /Rabbi Rachelle Nelson, and I am the very proud niece of Judith Nelson Drucker. I am the Emerita Cantor of Temple Beth Am in Pinecrest, and the Cantor in Residence at Temple Israel of Greater Miami. It is both an honor and a privilege to share some of my thoughts and memories of my Aunt Judy in support of her nomination into the Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

Miami Beach was a cultural desert until Empresario Judith Drucker came along. With her endless energy, her fortitude, her talent, and her vision, the Great Artist Series on Miami Beach was born in the late 1960's.

Very often I was invited to my aunt's home to dine in the company of some of the most brilliant opera singers, ballerina's, instrumentalists, pianists, and conductors the world had ever heard and seen. For me, it was just another delicious dinner party with my family and if I was lucky, my aunt also did some of the cooking!

My fondest memory occurred during my third year of Cantorial School in New York City. I received a call from my aunt who asked me if I would like to go with her to the apartment of Luciano Pavarotti for dinner. She told me that he had just flown into New York with his own pasta and pesto's from Italy. I was excited to meet him but after joining my aunt, we had to first make one more stop, a bakery. Judy chose a delicious looking cheesecake and told the young man behind the counter that it was for Pavarotti. He became elated and carved his name and phone number on the side of the cake, letting us both know that he was an opera student at Julliard School. That was a fabulous moment!

When we finally arrived at his home, Luciano opened the door and with a big, strong, voice, called our "Judkala"! The evening was fantastic, and I ended up at the piano playing all the Broadway showtunes by ear while he sang each one of them. Of the many incredible moments I shared with my Aunt Judy, this one topped them all.

Judith Drucker was a dynamo in every way, and her gifts to Miami will continue to keep giving. She was an inspiration to me, and a very generous and giving human-being.

May the memory of my aunt, Judith Drucker, continue to inspire and influence the greatest talents in the arts today and her name will surely shine amongst the many stars in the Miami Beach Hall of fame.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cantor Rachelle Nelson
Dacantor84@gmail.com



Cantor Nelson began her career with Temple Israel as a Cantorial Soloist when the South Dade location was still open. Then, as she was completing her studies to become a Cantor, she would spend her weekends traveling from school in New York to Miami in order to serve as a student Cantor.

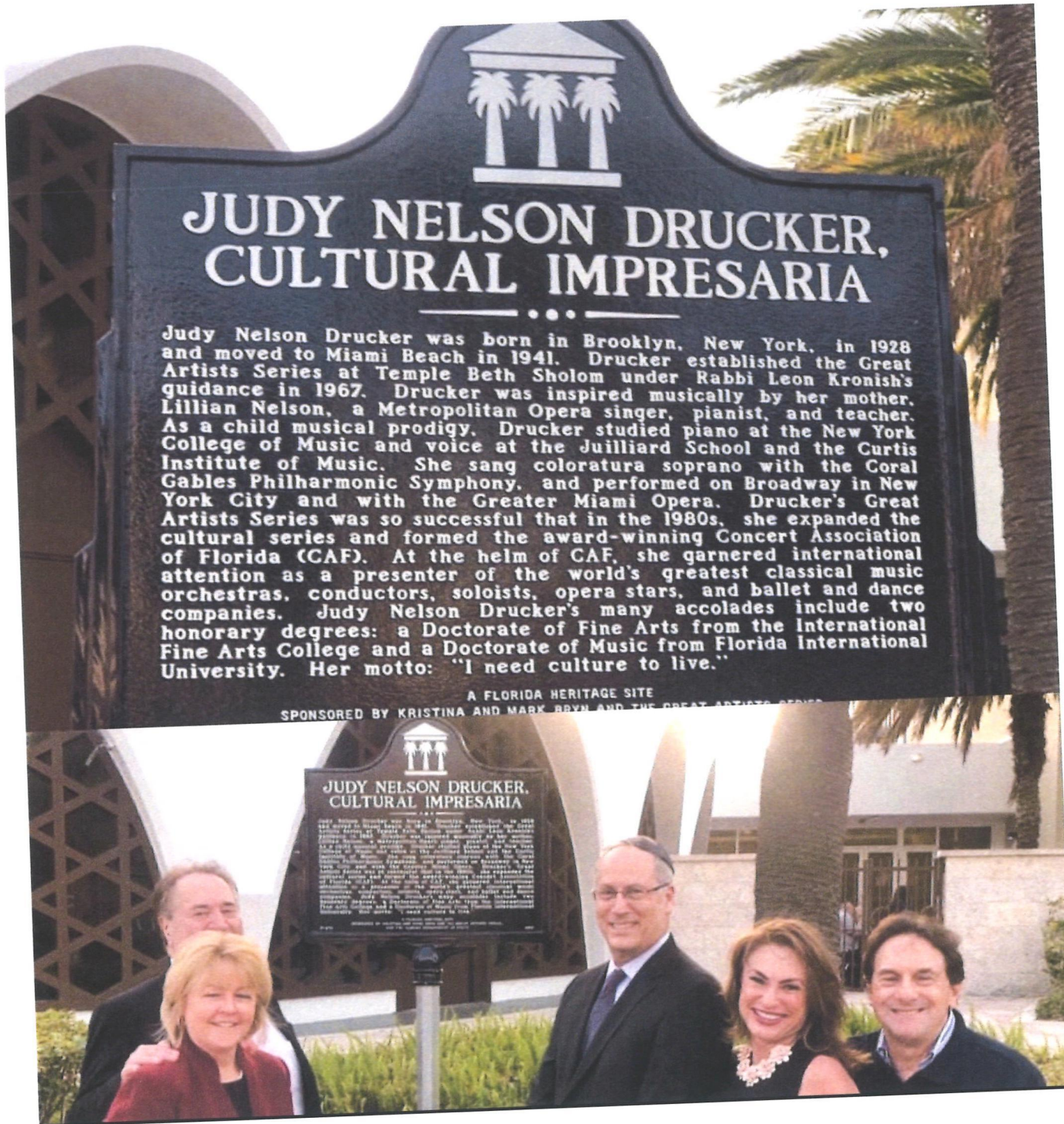
Cantor Nelson has the honor of being the very first female Cantor and graduate of Hebrew Union College/School of Sacred Music to serve in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. Recently concluding an awe-inspiring 29 years of service at Temple Beth Am, we are so fortunate to have Cantor Nelson join us while we prepare to celebrate our upcoming centennial. She will no doubt add depth and history to a highly anticipated year of celebrations.

Cantor Nelson is highly recognized and regarded throughout the world as a composer of Jewish music, with several compositions published by Transcontinental Music in New York City. She is skilled in several instruments: voice, piano, flute, and guitar. She has performed in concerts and workshops throughout the United States and Europe and has taught Jewish Music history at the University of Miami. In addition, she has helped lead services for Shabbat evening, Shabbat morning, and Havdalah services at URJ Biennials. Currently, Cantor Nelson hosts The Jewish Voice, a live streaming show on Thursdays at 7 pm, where she features leading artists in the world of contemporary Jewish music.











MIAMI BEACH HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

>>> Please Type All Information <<<

NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

Nominee's Name: Michael Tilson Thomas

Nominee's Occupation, Field of Achievement or Title:

Co-Founder and Artistic Director Laureate of the New World Symphony

Nominee's Category of Expertise (Select one from the options below):

- ☒ **Artist/ Architect/ Designer/ Scientist**
- ☐ **Athlete**
- ☐ **Business Leader**
- ☐ **Civic Leader**
- ☐ **Family Legacy**

Date of Death (if posthumous nomination): _____

Questions 1 -5: Fully explain your answers for all questions. Please put the nominee's accomplishments in context; show how they are relevant and valuable to Miami Beach.

1. Enter a brief biography highlighting the nominee's personal history and connection to Miami Beach.

Michael Tilson Thomas is Artistic Director Laureate of the Miami Beach-based New World Symphony (NWS), as well as Music Director Laureate of the San Francisco Symphony and Conductor Laureate of the London Symphony Orchestra. With a career spanning nearly six decades, he is one of the most renowned and respected conductors in the history of orchestral music. Mr. Tilson Thomas co-founded the New World Symphony in 1987, choosing Miami Beach for its potential for growth and its embrace of the arts. A postgraduate orchestral academy dedicated to preparing young musicians of diverse backgrounds for leadership roles in classical music, NWS has long been at the forefront of developments in the arts and in education. As Artistic Director Laureate he works with NWS Fellows to further their performance abilities and to expand their understanding of professional responsibilities in our ever-changing musical environment. In its 35 years, NWS has produced more than 1,200 alumni, 90% maintain careers in music working in over 30 countries across the globe. Since 2011, the campus of the New World Symphony has been the technologically advanced, Frank Gehry-designed New World Center in the heart of Miami Beach. The New World Center was built at the intersection of technology, music and education, and is Frank Gehry's first South Florida commission. Mr. Tilson Thomas's vision for the New World Center was with Miami Beach in mind – a cultural hub where the Miami Beach community could enjoy free concerts by watching in SoundScape Park outside the concert hall. When not in use for live performances, he committed to the City that NWS will show visual art on the wall for all to enjoy. For years, Mr. Tilson Thomas has called Miami home and has brought the world's most revered guest artists to perform as soloists for Miami Beach audiences.

2. Describe the nominee's lasting contributions to Miami Beach.

Though Michael Tilson Thomas's career is international, he often says his legacy lies in Miami Beach through the New World Symphony. For 35 years, he has brought the world's most talented young musicians to Miami Beach to hone their craft. While here, they perform over 60 concerts each season, over one third of those performances are free for the Miami Beach community. Mr. Tilson Thomas has also crafted community engagement activities that place NWS Fellows into schools, hospitals and community centers to provide educational performances and lectures. After their three-year fellowship ends, many NWS alumni have stayed in Miami Beach to continue the community connections sparked while they were a Fellow. An example would be alumnus Sam Hyken, who co-founded Nu Deco Ensemble, a thriving chamber ensemble based in Miami Beach. Michael Tilson Thomas is at the heart of the Fellows' entrepreneurial spirit and connection to community. He has inspired the talented youth of South Florida through NWS's annual Side-by-Side Concerts, where local young musicians perform alongside NWS Fellows and Mr. Tilson Thomas at the New World Center; and has led the creation of Project 305, where NWS sourced materials from Miami and Miami Beach residents to create Miami in Movements, a symphonic documentary and an authentic representation of our city, that embraces issues of race, class, ethnicity, wealth disbursement, sea level rise, natural disasters and community well-being. With the New World Center campus and NWS's WALLCAST® concerts, he has revitalized the Beach's culture offerings for locals and tourists alike. Our outdoor audiences are frequently a melting pot of ages, cultures, languages – a glimpse at the vibrancy of our Miami Beach community. He is also memorialized forever as the only human token part of the Miami and the Beaches Monopoly game.

3. Describe the significant impact of the nominee's achievements. Quantify the answer where possible.

By creating the New World Symphony, Mr. Tilson Thomas is shaping the future of orchestral music. He has mentored over 1,200 musicians who now perform and teach in over 30 countries around the world, including every major orchestra in the U.S. His vision and entrepreneurial spirit, embraced by NWS alumni, is defining the art form in every way. Some orchestras have more than 20 NWS alumni, that's 25% of the orchestra who have trained under Mr. Tilson Thomas. Through online mediums, like NWS's MUSAIC and webcasts, as well as NWS's pioneering work with distance learning, he has reached even more audiences and young musicians. Musicians and artists all over the world know of MTT and see through his work that Miami Beach is a vibrant hub of culture, youthfulness and infinite dreams.

4. Present evidence that the nominee's achievements have (or will have) enduring value to Miami Beach. Where applicable, focus your comments on change that has been or will be created and how that change is expected to last over time.

When speaking of creating NWS in the 1980s with Ted and Lin Arison, Michael Tilson Thomas describes walking down a derelict Lincoln Road and Ted telling him that his [MTT's] dream would change everything, and it has. NWS has been at the heart of Miami Beach's cultural revival, starting with its renewal of the Lincoln Theatre, NWS's home for over 20 years. Now in the New World Center, NWS and its campus attract international and national tourists. Staff and artistic leaders from organizations all over the U.S. have traveled to Miami Beach to witness Michael Tilson Thomas's vision and taken their inspiration to create ensembles and performing arts centers inspired by what Mr. Tilson Thomas built in Miami Beach. When the campus opened in 2011, former City of Miami Beach Mayor Neisen Kasdin predicted that "no building in recent years will have as profound an effect on so many fields of endeavor and so many aspects of society and culture as this." Today, current Mayor Dan Gelber calls the New World Center one of Miami Beach's cultural crown jewels. This is the work of Michael Tilson Thomas and his vision for classical music—both the art and where and how it's shared—will impact Miami Beach and the world for decades to come.

5. Enter a list of the nominee's significant awards.

Twelve Grammy Awards; 2019 Kennedy Center Honoree; National Medal of the Arts; inducted into the California Hall of Fame and the American Academy of Arts and Letters; Musical America's Musician of the Year and Conductor of the Year; Gramophone Magazine's Artist of the Year; Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres of France; two-time Carnegie Hall Perspectives Artist; Peabody Award winner for radio series "The MTT Files"

6. Provide two (2) letters of Recommendation. (Please attach this within the submission)

SUBMITTER INFORMATION

Nomination Submitted By: Marci Falvey

Title/Occupation of Submitter:

Vice President of Communications, New World Symphony

Relationship to the Nominee: Colleague

(Example: friends, colleague, student, employee, relative, etc.)

Address of Submitter: 500 17th Street, Miami Beach, FL 33139

(Street Address, City, State, Zip Code)

Telephone: 786-393-2494

Email Address: marci.falvey@nws.edu

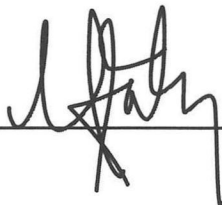
Nomination Package Checklist:

Before submitting the City of Miami Beach Nomination Form, make sure you have done all the following.

☒ Completed the Nomination form. Please refrain from sending petitions, photographs, books, resumes, Curriculum Vitaes (CV), etc. in lieu of completing the nomination form.

☒ Included two (2) letters of recommendation. The letters of recommendation **must** be submitted in conjunction with the nomination form.

Signature of Submitter: _____



Date: 05/01/2023



ALBERTO IBARGÜEN

President

April 30, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Regarding: Miami Beach Hall of Fame

Dear Fellow Citizens:

I write in support of the nomination of Michael Tilson Thomas for the honor of membership in the Miami Beach Hall of Fame. I endorse his nomination with the greatest enthusiasm, and without any reservation.

My position as president of the Knight Foundation for the last 18 years has allowed me to see some of the most significant civic, artistic and cultural contributions made to our community and the world by citizens of Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County. In my opinion, none match the world-wide renown and impact on his field of Michael Tilson Thomas.

MTT, as he is affectionately known, is one of the premier classical music conductors in the world. He is also known and respected throughout the world of music as a teacher, musician and composer. His brilliant career as music director of the San Francisco Symphony spanned 25 years and began after he had already founded, along with Lin and Ted Arison, the New World Symphony in Miami Beach in 1987, where today he is Artistic Director Laureate. During all that time as head of two important musical organizations, he was guest conductor throughout the world and his recordings of classical music are among the most highly regarded.

Since the time that he worked with the legendary Leonard Bernstein, the classical music world has considered MTT one of its most accomplished and consistently outstanding musicians. MTT and his husband, Joshua Robison, have made Miami Beach their home and have given our community the distinction not only of a wonderful orchestra but of one of the great music education programs for young professionals, drawing applicants from around the world.

Anyone who enters the New World Center on 17th Street, or attends a concert in Soundscape Park, just outside the symphony hall, can't help but appreciate the enormous contribution to the cultural, social and civic life of Miami Beach that this complex has brought us. I have felt it every time I see families enjoying a concert there, when I have attended weddings or other celebrations in the building, or attended conferences there. It is a genuine community space that lifts our minds as well as our spirits. And it is also an important generator of commerce, drawing, as it does, hundreds of thousands of people annually to Miami Beach.

When it was built, the New World Center cost approximately \$167million. It was significantly supported by Carnival Corporation, the Arison Arts Foundation, the Kovner Foundation, Miami Dade County, Yamaha, Truist Bank and, of course, the City of Miami Beach. Many others have also contributed including Knight Foundation, which has invested and committed more than \$15 million to make New World a leader in the training of musicians and the use of digital and social media technologies to produce and disseminate music.

All of those contributions are not as important, however, as the one by the citizens of Miami Beach. Not only has the City provided the land and leadership from its public officials, but its

citizens recently voted in favor of a \$159 million general obligation bond for the arts that included an announced amount of \$5.7 million intended for the New World Symphony. Knight Foundation supports arts in community programs around the country. I assure you, what the citizens of Miami Beach did in the general obligation bond is extraordinary support of an institution they have claimed as their own. And I am just as sure that the development of this world-class institution would not have happened without the vision, courage, skill, inclusion and tenacity of Michael Tilson Thomas.

Generations of professional musicians -- in the many thousands -- playing in orchestras around the world received training at New World in Miami Beach. The impact on classical music is incalculable. Their openness to new thinking about music is remarkable and their acceptance of new technology to engage the audience and disseminate the music is outstanding. It is also one of the premier presenters of diverse musicians in the classical music world.

MTT has won a dozen Grammy Awards, appeared on more than 120 recordings and is a conductor the world's best musicians are happy to play for. There's good reason why CBS's 60 Minutes and ABC's Nightline have featured him and why he has been awarded just about every prize in the classical music world. Our country has awarded him among its highest civilian honors, the National Medal of Arts by President Barak Obama, and in 2019 he was celebrated as part of the Kennedy Center Honors.

For all of his fame and genius, he remains Michael, MTT, a teacher, a neighbor and a friend.

I feel privileged to second his nomination to the Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alberto Ibargüen', with a stylized, sweeping flourish extending from the end.

Alberto Ibargüen
President, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation



Neisen O. Kasdin

Akerman LLP
Three Brickell City Centre
98 Southeast Seventh Street
Suite 1100
Miami, FL 33131
Tel: 305.982.5629
Fax: 305.374.5095

April 28, 2023

City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame
Department of Tourism and Culture
1755 Meridian Ave, 5th Floor
Miami Beach, FL, 33139

Re: Miami Beach Hall of Fame | Recommendation Letter – Michael Tilson Thomas

It is my great honor and pleasure to endorse the nomination of Michael Tilson Thomas to the Miami Beach Hall of Fame. I have known Michael for 34 years since my wife, Ana, and I were season ticket subscribers to the New World Symphony's ("NWS") first concert series at the Lincoln Theater on Lincoln Road. Later, as a City Commissioner and Mayor, I worked with Michael to help fulfill his vision and dream to create an important civic and cultural space in the heart of Miami Beach, the Frank Gehry designed New World Center and West 8 designed Soundscape Park.

Years later, I served as Chair of the NWS Board as MTT's dream became a reality and was designed and built. The NWS is the preeminent cultural anchor in the City of Miami Beach and the New World Center is renowned globally. However, it is not only because of this very direct and profound impact of MTT on the life and course of the City that he should be honored.

MTT, a long time Miami Beach resident, is one of the great geniuses of our time. He is widely considered one of, if not the most important figure in orchestral music of the last 50 years - often referred to as the successor to his mentor and close friend, Leonard Bernstein, as a conductor, composer, teacher and leader in the evolution and popular outreach of orchestral music. Michael's greatest laboratory for this work has been the New World Symphony, which he created in Miami Beach 35 years ago and has served as Musical Director until this past year. The New World Symphony is considered the world's most important post-graduate musical institution and is widely viewed as in the forefront of innovation in orchestral music through new presentation formats, multimedia, internet learning etc. Hundreds of NWS Fellows now populate orchestras throughout the world, each one an ambassador who relates their extraordinary experience as a Fellow for 3 years in Miami Beach. This is an added gift to the City that will keep on giving for generations.

I could write forever about Michael's seminal accomplishments, among them his 25 year tenure as Musical Director of the San Francisco Symphony, vaulting it into position as one of the world's greatest orchestras, or his role in sparking the revitalization of Lincoln Road and making Miami Beach the cultural hub of the region because of the New World Symphony's 20 + year residency at the Lincoln Theater(1989-2011).

What makes Michael's nomination so compelling, beyond his global stature and importance, is the profound and lasting effect he has had in shaping the community we have today, in its finest sense, and for many generations to come. Few figures in the history of Miami Beach have had such an important and positive impact.

I wholeheartedly recommend Michael Tilson Thomas for nomination to the City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

AKERMAN, LLP



Neisen O. Kasdin



ALBERTO IBARGÜEN

President

April 30, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Regarding: Miami Beach Hall of Fame

Dear Fellow Citizens:

I write in support of the nomination of Michael Tilson Thomas for the honor of membership in the Miami Beach Hall of Fame. I endorse his nomination with the greatest enthusiasm, and without any reservation.

My position as president of the Knight Foundation for the last 18 years has allowed me to see some of the most significant civic, artistic and cultural contributions made to our community and the world by citizens of Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County. In my opinion, none match the world-wide renown and impact on his field of Michael Tilson Thomas.

MTT, as he is affectionately known, is one of the premier classical music conductors in the world. He is also known and respected throughout the world of music as a teacher, musician and composer. His brilliant career as music director of the San Francisco Symphony spanned 25 years and began after he had already founded, along with Lin and Ted Arison, the New World Symphony in Miami Beach in 1987, where today he is Artistic Director Laureate. During all that time as head of two important musical organizations, he was guest conductor throughout the world and his recordings of classical music are among the most highly regarded.

Since the time that he worked with the legendary Leonard Bernstein, the classical music world has considered MTT one of its most accomplished and consistently outstanding musicians. MTT and his husband, Joshua Robison, have made Miami Beach their home and have given our community the distinction not only of a wonderful orchestra but of one of the great music education programs for young professionals, drawing applicants from around the world.

Anyone who enters the New World Center on 17th Street, or attends a concert in Soundscape Park, just outside the symphony hall, can't help but appreciate the enormous contribution to the cultural, social and civic life of Miami Beach that this complex has brought us. I have felt it every time I see families enjoying a concert there, when I have attended weddings or other celebrations in the building, or attended conferences there. It is a genuine community space that lifts our minds as well as our spirits. And it is also an important generator of commerce, drawing, as it does, hundreds of thousands of people annually to Miami Beach.

When it was built, the New World Center cost approximately \$167million. It was significantly supported by Carnival Corporation, the Arison Arts Foundation, the Kovner Foundation, Miami Dade County, Yamaha, Truist Bank and, of course, the City of Miami Beach. Many others have also contributed including Knight Foundation, which has invested and committed more than \$15 million to make New World a leader in the training of musicians and the use of digital and social media technologies to produce and disseminate music.

All of those contributions are not as important, however, as the one by the citizens of Miami Beach. Not only has the City provided the land and leadership from its public officials, but its

citizens recently voted in favor of a \$159 million general obligation bond for the arts that included an announced amount of \$5.7 million intended for the New World Symphony. Knight Foundation supports arts in community programs around the country. I assure you, what the citizens of Miami Beach did in the general obligation bond is extraordinary support of an institution they have claimed as their own. And I am just as sure that the development of this world-class institution would not have happened without the vision, courage, skill, inclusion and tenacity of Michael Tilson Thomas.

Generations of professional musicians -- in the many thousands -- playing in orchestras around the world received training at New World in Miami Beach. The impact on classical music is incalculable. Their openness to new thinking about music is remarkable and their acceptance of new technology to engage the audience and disseminate the music is outstanding. It is also one of the premier presenters of diverse musicians in the classical music world.

MTT has won a dozen Grammy Awards, appeared on more than 120 recordings and is a conductor the world's best musicians are happy to play for. There's good reason why CBS's 60 Minutes and ABC's Nightline have featured him and why he has been awarded just about every prize in the classical music world. Our country has awarded him among its highest civilian honors, the National Medal of Arts by President Barak Obama, and in 2019 he was celebrated as part of the Kennedy Center Honors.

For all of his fame and genius, he remains Michael, MTT, a teacher, a neighbor and a friend.

I feel privileged to second his nomination to the Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alberto Ibargüen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alberto Ibargüen
President, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation



Neisen O. Kasdin

Akerman LLP
Three Brickell City Centre
98 Southeast Seventh Street
Suite 1100
Miami, FL 33131
Tel: 305.982.5629
Fax: 305.374.5095

April 28, 2023

City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame
Department of Tourism and Culture
1755 Meridian Ave, 5th Floor
Miami Beach, FL, 33139

Re: Miami Beach Hall of Fame | Recommendation Letter – Michael Tilson Thomas

It is my great honor and pleasure to endorse the nomination of Michael Tilson Thomas to the Miami Beach Hall of Fame. I have known Michael for 34 years since my wife, Ana, and I were season ticket subscribers to the New World Symphony's ("NWS") first concert series at the Lincoln Theater on Lincoln Road. Later, as a City Commissioner and Mayor, I worked with Michael to help fulfill his vision and dream to create an important civic and cultural space in the heart of Miami Beach, the Frank Gehry designed New World Center and West 8 designed Soundscape Park.

Years later, I served as Chair of the NWS Board as MTT's dream became a reality and was designed and built. The NWS is the preeminent cultural anchor in the City of Miami Beach and the New World Center is renowned globally. However, it is not only because of this very direct and profound impact of MTT on the life and course of the City that he should be honored.

MTT, a long time Miami Beach resident, is one of the great geniuses of our time. He is widely considered one of, if not the most important figure in orchestral music of the last 50 years - often referred to as the successor to his mentor and close friend, Leonard Bernstein, as a conductor, composer, teacher and leader in the evolution and popular outreach of orchestral music. Michael's greatest laboratory for this work has been the New World Symphony, which he created in Miami Beach 35 years ago and has served as Musical Director until this past year. The New World Symphony is considered the world's most important post-graduate musical institution and is widely viewed as in the forefront of innovation in orchestral music through new presentation formats, multimedia, internet learning etc. Hundreds of NWS Fellows now populate orchestras throughout the world, each one an ambassador who relates their extraordinary experience as a Fellow for 3 years in Miami Beach. This is an added gift to the City that will keep on giving for generations.

I could write forever about Michael's seminal accomplishments, among them his 25 year tenure as Musical Director of the San Francisco Symphony, vaulting it into position as one of the world's greatest orchestras, or his role in sparking the revitalization of Lincoln Road and making Miami Beach the cultural hub of the region because of the New World Symphony's 20 + year residency at the Lincoln Theater(1989-2011).

What makes Michael's nomination so compelling, beyond his global stature and importance, is the profound and lasting effect he has had in shaping the community we have today, in its finest sense, and for many generations to come. Few figures in the history of Miami Beach have had such an important and positive impact.

I wholeheartedly recommend Michael Tilson Thomas for nomination to the City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

AKERMAN, LLP



Neisen O. Kasdin

MIAMI BEACH HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

>>> Please Type All Information <<<

NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

Nominee's Name: Jerry Libbin

Nominee's Occupation, Field of Achievement or Title:

Business Leader

Nominee's Category of Expertise (Select one from the options below):

- ☐ Artist/ Architect/ Designer/ Scientist
- ☐ Athlete
- ☐ Business Leader
- ☒ Civic Leader
- ☐ Family Legacy

Date of Death (if posthumous nomination): _____

Questions 1 -5: Fully explain your answers for all questions. Please put the nominee's accomplishments in context; show how they are relevant and valuable to Miami Beach.

1. Enter a brief biography highlighting the nominee's personal history and connection to Miami Beach.

See Attachment for Question 1 Answer

2. Describe the nominee's lasting contributions to Miami Beach.

See Attachment for Question 2 Answer

3. Describe the significant impact of the nominee's achievements. Quantify the answer where possible.

See Attachment for Question 3 Answer

4. Present evidence that the nominee's achievements have (or will have) enduring value to Miami Beach. Where applicable, focus your comments on change that has been or will be created and how that change is expected to last over time.

See Attachment for Question 4 Answer

5. Enter a list of the nominee's significant awards.

See Attachment for Question 5 Answer

6. Provide two (2) letters of Recommendation. (Please attach this within the submission)

SUBMITTER INFORMATION

Nomination Submitted By: Jorge M. Gonzalez

Title/Occupation of Submitter:

Village Manager, Bal Harbour, FL

Relationship to the Nominee: Colleague

(Example: friends, colleague, student, employee, relative, etc.)

Address of Submitter: 655 96th Street Bal Harbour, FL 33154

(Street Address, City, State, Zip Code)

Telephone: 305-866-4633

Email Address: JGonzalez@BalHarbourFL.gov

Nomination Package Checklist:

Before submitting the City of Miami Beach Nomination Form, make sure you have done all the following.

- ☒ Completed the Nomination form. Please refrain from sending petitions, photographs, books, resumes, Curriculum Vitae (CV), etc. in lieu of completing the nomination form.
- ☒ Included two (2) letters of recommendation. The letters of recommendation must be submitted in conjunction with the nomination form.

Signature of Submitter:  **Date:** 4/21/2023

Jerry Libbin - Hall of Fame Application Question 1 Response:

Jerry moved to Miami Beach in 1982 to become the founding Executive Director of a newly forming Miami Beach Jewish Community Center (JCC) located at 4221 Pine Tree Dr. He served in this capacity and built programming literally from the ground up. The initial building was formerly a private residence that the City acquired and designated it for recreational purposes to ease the concerns of residents on Pine Tree Dr. that there might be an expansion of condominium construction north of Tower 41 along the intracoastal.

During his tenure at the J.C.C. he became involved in numerous civic organizations including the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce and he became an Honorary Lifetime Trustee in the organization in 1982. In addition to his service on various committees at the Chamber of Commerce, in 1986, Jerry joined and became President of the Miami Beach Rotary Club, as well as the Nor-Isle Optimist Club in the same year. An accomplishment that has never been replicated.

In the late 80's Jerry was elected as the President of the North Beach Development Corporation and led that organization for two years during which time the Byron Carlyle Theater closed and Jerry recognized the significant adverse impact that the shuttered theater would have on the North Beach community. He led the Board and successfully lobbied the City to purchase the theater at a fraction of the appraised value.

From 1990 until 2005 Jerry served as President of his Normandy Shores Homeowners Association (HOA) and was also asked to serve the city on various city committees including Budget Advisory, and the Planning Board. In 2005, Jerry was elected to the first of two terms as one of our City Commissioners and shortly after his reelection in 2009 he was hired as the President and C.E.O. of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce. Jerry is completing his 13th year at the helm of the Chamber of Commerce and has announced his retirement at the end of 2023.

Jerry Libbin - Hall of Fame Application Question 2 Response:

One of the little known accomplishments Jerry takes great pride in is his organization of the Homeowner Associations in North Beach while he was President of his own Normandy Shores H.O.A. He learned of the plans that the City had for a General Obligation Bond and he understood that the funding was not to the advantage of the North Beach residents, as they were only planned to receive \$7 million from a \$90 million dollar offering. This only fed into the belief by many North Beach residents that North Beach was viewed as a step-child. Jerry organized the Homeowner Associations in North Beach and held a meeting with the City Administration to express their concerns. The result was a complete overhaul of the planned bond offering where North Beach received a much greater share, approximately equal to that of both Mid-Beach and South Beach.

Jerry's foresight on the importance of saving the Byron Carlyle and making it a vital part of North Beach is a vision that is still in process, however, the very fact that time and again, residents of North Beach demand that the Byron Carlyle become a vibrant contributing part of the cultural landscape in North Beach justifies his judgment. Another cultural landmark that Jerry fought for as a Commissioner was the North Beach BandShell, which needed shelter from both scorching sun and rain in order to become a viable facility. Only recently has this vision become a reality and the community now enjoys a myriad of fantastic programs in the North Beach BandShell.

Perhaps the contribution that Jerry is most proud of is his leadership that brought to life the New World Center as we know it today. When Jerry sat on the City Commission, this fantastic project was proposed as a Frank Gehry designed state of the art symphony hall and attached garage. The City made a commitment of \$15 million, however, when it came time to make the payment, there were several Commissioners that began to waiver on whether or not the City should invest this much money. Jerry was a clear voice of support from the outset and he made sure that the city did in fact provide the full \$15 million. He understood that this was another cornerstone in making Miami Beach relevant as a cultural arts community, along with the amazing Art Basel Miami Beach, which had its first successful year in 2002 and actually put Miami Beach on the map in terms of culture.

Jerry served our city as a City Commissioner from 2005-2013. He was ahead of his time in promoting cultural tourism. He was known to be fiscally responsible, as well as a staunch advocate of our residents. An example of his advocacy on behalf of the tens of thousand of residents that live in condominiums in our city as well as all of those throughout the State of Florida is when Commissioner Libbin organized a community meeting to protect the rights of residents by lobbying the State Legislature to amend section 718.303 (3) a, which once approved, "allowed an association to suspend, for a reasonable time, the right of a unit owner, or a unit owner's tenant, guest, or invitee, to use the common elements, common facilities, or any other association property for failure to comply with any provisions of the declaration, the association bylaws, or reasonable rules of the association."

There had been a huge controversy when residents did not pay their association fees and were still taking advantage of the common facilities such as the swimming pool and the associations were powerless to prevent it.

Jerry collected over 3,000 resolutions from condo associations state-wide which he brought with him to Tallahassee to present along with testimony to the committee. Jerry is proud of the role he played in convincing the State Legislature to amend section 718.303 to protect the rights of all condo residents in Miami Beach and throughout the State of Florida.

As the President and C.E.O. of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce, Jerry has often been called upon to organize our community business leaders around significant issues. None was more important than Covid-19 and the shutdown of all businesses in March of 2020. Jerry was asked by then City Manager, Jimmy Morales, to put together business leaders from every major industry, as well as from the religious community and to develop recommendations to the City Commission for how to safely reopen each industry. Jerry is very proud that almost every single recommendation was approved by the City Commission and he takes great personal satisfaction in knowing that he was able to play such a vital role in getting both our residents and our businesses back to at least a new normal at that time.

Jerry has always been a strong supporter of Public Education, and was happy to support Mayor, Mattie Bower's lead when she required that every child in all of our Miami Beach Public Schools must have the opportunity to participate in the International Baccalaureate Program, and when he was hired by the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce in 2010, he made it part of his mission to contribute to the cost of the training of the teachers for this program from the Miami Beach Chamber's Education Foundation. He also established many new programs over the past 13 years for the benefit of our students.

Among the most significant initiatives that he was responsible for was raising the initial funding to make sure that the 3 public schools in our city that did not have a nurse were able to obtain one. He did this by entering and winning a national competition among 30 other non-profit organizations in ten cities across the country that had identified a serious health concern in their community. The \$30,000 prize was only the start as Jerry went on to raise almost \$150,000 more for the schools and ultimately convinced the Children's Trust to provide a nurse and full-time medical assistant in each school at a cost of \$270,000.

The most recent project that Jerry has taken on is the funding of a brand new culinary arts kitchen to support the opening of a ProStart program at Miami Beach Senior High. This is a nationally recognized program that provides Juniors and Seniors with a two year curriculum, and gives them a certificate of completion upon graduation. The current equipment in the Beach High Culinary Arts room is antiquated and would not provide the type of environment to entice bright and enthusiastic students to enter the field of hospitality. Something that Miami Beach is known for world-wide. The Chamber Education Foundation, under Jerry's leadership, has already raised \$230,000 and has placed the order for brand new state of the art equipment which should be installed in a brand new kitchen that Jerry was able to get the Dade-County

School Administration with the support of School Board member, Lucia Baez Geller, to commit to rebuilding at a cost of \$960,000. The School Administration has agreed to cover all of the cost for design, permitting as well as ventilation and complete renovation of the room.

Jerry Libbin - Hall of Fame Application Question 3 Response:

Jerry's impact on the reallocation of the \$90 million bond issue to include significantly more funds for projects in North Beach was a testament to his leadership, but more importantly, it gave residents throughout North Beach the sense that they were finally being recognized and valued equally with other parts of the city. This was a significant starting point and today, there are numerous projects that are under way and in various stages of design and or construction. The City Commission has held many workshops in North Beach to develop a master plan and to incorporate the input from the homeowners.

The impact of Jerry's leadership in getting the city to purchase the Byron Carlyle Theater was visionary and residents have consistently demanded that this facility be saved and that it be utilized as a cultural arts facility for the community. The current City Commission has finally identified the funding necessary to rehab the building and to bring it back to life, which will have a positive impact on all of North Beach, as well as the businesses in this part of the city for decades to come.

The leadership that Jerry provided in making sure that the Frank Gehry designed NWC had the funding that it needed to build the world class facility that it has become was instrumental in the process, and now more than ever as the city seeks to transform itself into more of a cultural destination, the investment at the time proves it was a sound one. The NWC and the New World Symphony Orchestra is recognized world-wide as a transformative program and has had a significant impact on the quality of the cultural programs offered throughout the world. Musicians that have had their training in Miami Beach and then been hired to play in orchestras throughout the world have led to the moniker that the New World Symphony is in fact, America's Orchestral Academy.

The commitment that Jerry has had to public education and to the students in our Miami Beach Feeder Pattern, is nothing short of remarkable. The Chamber Education Foundation over the past 13 years of his tenure as C.E.O. of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce, has been responsible for over \$6 million dollars of value provided to the students. This comes in the form of many partnerships, principally with the City of Miami Beach and the surrounding municipalities, as well as with The Children's Trust. Every year that the Chamber Education Foundation provides some direct funding to the Mental Health Programs that are afforded students in every Miami Beach public school, The Children's Trust has agreed to continue to fund the full cost of the Nurses in all 8 of our Schools. The value of the nurse in each school is at least \$90,000 and the Chamber Education Foundation along with our municipal partners also provides approximately \$140,000 of mental health services. In today's society with the pressures on our children in school the value of providing both the health and mental health services is well beyond what one can calculate as for many parents it would mean that they must leave work to pick up their child at school if there was not a nurse in the school and this would translate to lost income to the family and lost productivity to the employer.

The latest initiative that the Education Foundation has undertaken under Jerry's direction to fully fund brand new kitchen equipment to the tune of \$300,000 is going to pay long term dividends for the students over the next few decades, who will be able to enter the workforce directly out of high school and obtain a high paying job in the hospitality industry after completing the ProStart two year certificate program.

This nationally acclaimed program will also have an immediate positive impact on our local businesses as well, because the students in the ProStart Program are required to do both paid and unpaid in-service training in local hospitality venues. This will be a blessing for our hospitality industry that is struggling to find qualified candidates to hire for their establishments. That is why so many of our businesses have contributed financially to this \$300,000 project and why our City Commission agreed to match the first \$100,000 that the Chamber raised.

Jerry Libbin - Hall of Fame Application Question 4 Response:

The changes in North Beach since the late 80's and early 90's when Jerry aroused the spirit of the homeowner's in North Beach have been happening incrementally over the past decade and will continue to evolve as is witnessed by the new investment in North Beach both by the private sector, as well as the City. Over the next five years, North Beach will likely become one of the few places in our city for individuals to find attainable housing in developments that are being built for Co-living spaces. Additionally, the most recent General Obligation Bond issue has funding for a major new aquatic center, as well as the Byron Carlyle Theater at last, among many other Park and infrastructure improvements. There is no doubt that North Beach's time is now and it will continue to thrive for decades to come, as the development on Ocean Terrace and ultimately upon the grounds of the old Deauville Hotel bring fresh energy to the community that will stimulate significant tax dollars in the newly created Tax Increment Finance District.

The global impact of the New World Center and the musicians that are trained in our city have already had an enormous cultural impact on Miami Beach and the symphonies fortunate enough to hire some of our world class musicians, however, it is also the value of the many concerts and programs offered by the NWC which have elevated the quality of life for our residents and visitors alike. A facility like ours is simply put, one of the finest gems in our city and that is the reason that our Mayor gives his State of the City addresses from the NWC and why such prestigious organizations as the Aspen Institute hold their major programs inside of it.

The impact that Jerry has had on students over the past decade and more has been substantial, however, the legacy of a program such as ProStart currently being developed is going to impact thousands of students over the coming decades and will provide immediate relief to our hospitality industry that is starved for talent. The graduates from our high school ProStart program will become the next great chefs and restaurant managers over the coming decades.

Jerry Libbin - Hall of Fame Application Question 5 Response:

1982	Founding Executive Director of the Miami Beach Jewish Community Center
1986	President of Miami Beach Rotary Club
1986	President of Optimist Club of Miami Beach
1990-2005	President of Normandy Shores Homeowners Association
1993 & 1994	Jewish Community Center Community Service Award
1999-2002	President of North Beach Development Corporation
2001	Supreme Court of Florida Court Appointed Mediator
2000-2001	Kiwanian of the Year
2002	Selected Kiwanis's George Hixson Fellow
2005-2013	Miami Beach City Commissioner
2008 & 2009	Excellence in Education Award by Kapow Organization
2010-Present	President and C.E.O. of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce
2011	Recognized by the Veterans of Foreign Affairs for founding the Veteran's Day Parade in Miami Beach
2011	ECOMB Emerald City Award
2012	Normandy Award



Neisen O. Kasdin

Akerman LLP
Three Brickell City Centre
98 Southeast Seventh Street
Suite 1100
Miami, FL 33131
Tel: 305.982.5629
Fax: 305.374.5095

April 20, 2023

City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame
Department of Tourism and Culture
1755 Meridian Ave, 5th Floor
Miami Beach, FL, 33139

Re: Miami Beach Hall of Fame | Recommendation Letter – Jerry Libbin

I write to recommend Jerry Libbin for the Miami Beach Hall of Fame. I have known Jerry for over 30 years since he came to Miami Beach to run the Miami Beach Jewish Community Center which he took over at a time when it had questionable viability and built it into a stable and important community asset. Similarly, Jerry brought his business acumen, energy and organizing skills to his role as President of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce for many years, helping to maintain the Chamber's role as a leading voice of the civic and business communities and as an important advocate for progress and investment in the community.

During Jerry's tenure as a City Commissioner he continued his leading role as an advocate for progress and investment in the community. He also was very supportive of the arts, including his advocacy of City support for the New World Symphony's Frank Gehry designed New World Center and West 8 designed Soundscape park.

I wholeheartedly recommend Jerry for nomination to the Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

AKERMAN, LLP



Neisen O. Kasdin



April 19, 2023

Letter of Recommendation

Dear Evaluation Committee for the City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame,

The purpose of this letter is to recommend former City of Miami Beach Commissioner and current President/CEO of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce Jerry Libbin for the City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

I've known Jerry for the past 15 years, both personally and professionally. Jerry has been a Civic Leader since arriving to Miami Beach in 1982. He's had a significant impact on the formation of what Miami Beach has become today.

I worked closely with him as Chairman of the Board for the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce from 2013-2016. During that time, we partnered to help boost the City's economy by helping the business community in their development needs. Additionally, we created programming that helped professionals, business owners, and entrepreneurs achieve their business goals.

I worked very closely with him on various projects that helped the Miami Beach community, such as the Chamber's Heroes Breakfast, which was organized under his leadership and my tenure as Chairman. This event showcases the great work our city's first responders do by selecting local heroes that have shown valor in the line of duty and awarding them thousands of dollars in gifts.

Jerry supports Miami Beach by raising funds, through the Miami Beach Chamber Education Foundation, to benefit public education. We worked together on establishing the Links Project, which raises thousands of dollars for teacher grants and scholarships to graduating seniors at Miami Beach Sr. High School.

He is a highly dedicated community member that is dynamic and possesses a gift in bringing people together. Despite these formidable gifts, he is a humble and approachable person who loves to share his extensive knowledge with others and is a creative thinker.

As a Commissioner, Jerry showed tangible results from his policy initiatives dealing with fiscal responsibility, public education, international trade, economic development, arts and culture, sustainability, neighborhood improvement projects, and condominium owner rights. Jerry is also a stakeholder in the City of Miami Beach, having been a resident for many years.

In closing, it is with sincere conviction that I enthusiastically recommend Jerry Libbin for the City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael S. Goldberg".

Michael S. Goldberg
Senior Vice President, Private Banking Group Manager
Past Chairman of the Board, Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce

First Horizon Bank
400 Arthur Godfrey Road
Suite 102
Miami Beach, FL 33140
305-468-4160
www.firsthorizon.com

MIAMI BEACH HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

>>> Please Type All Information <<<

NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

Nominee's Name: Nancy Liebman

Nominee's Occupation, Field of Achievement or Title:

Civic Leader and Activist

Nominee's Category of Expertise (Select one from the options below):

- ☐ Artist/ Architect/ Designer/ Scientist
- ☐ Athlete
- ☐ Business Leader
- ☒ Civic Leader
- ☐ Family Legacy

Date of Death (if posthumous nomination): _____

Questions 1 -5: Fully explain your answers for all questions. Please put the nominee's accomplishments in context; show how they are relevant and valuable to Miami Beach.

1. Enter a brief biography highlighting the nominee's personal history and connection to Miami Beach.

Nancy Weinstein Liebman was born on August 17th, 1936 in Jersey City, N.J. She attended the Teacher's College at New Jersey State. In 1954, Nancy met Norman Liebman and two years later they were married. Liebman taught grade school for a number of years in South Jersey. In 1959, Nancy and her husband moved to Miami Beach so he could complete his medical internship. Once settled they started a family and soon had three children Mark, Jill and Penny. In 1966, when the Vietnam War broke out, Nancy's husband was drafted to serve as a military physician. Their whole family had to move to an Air Force base in Omaha, Nebraska. A few years later the family was able to return to Miami where the kids attended Biscayne Elementary. A devoted mother, Nancy got involved with the PTA. Soon she was elected to serve as PTA President. Then in 1979, Nancy became aware that many of Miami Beach's historic structures were at serious risk for demolition. Feeling compelled to join the preservation movement, she had no idea this would start her lifelong career as a civic leader, community activist and historic preservationist.

2. Describe the nominee's lasting contributions to Miami Beach.

One of Nancy's first successful projects with other activists in the 1980's was preventing Miami-Dade from changing the Venetian Causeway into a 4 lane highway.

In 1982, Nancy helped organized the National Trust's first visit to Miami Beach to advocate for protection of historic buildings. This visit led to further protections against demolition for historic buildings on a local level.

One of her other original activism projects, was lobbying in D.C. for Miami Beach's historic buildings to legally retain their original names. This rule still applies until today.

In 2014, Nancy was the founder of the local community activist's group called "Miami Beach United". This group still is very active today uniting the city's activists into a single coalition group which can more effectively achieve the goals of historic preservation. Many of its members are very involved in local politics and serve on a number of the City's committees.

During covid, Nancy not one to be idle began writing a book of her memoirs. In 2021, her book "Preservation Dreams" was published to the delight of many of her admirers. Unstoppable, Nancy went at it again coming out with her next book "Another Landmark Bites the Dust" in 2023. This book compiled from her archives, contains many of her Letters to the Editor of the Miami Herald and dozens of articles from the 1980's through the 2000's, where her impassioned pro-preservation sentiments are quoted.

3. Describe the significant impact of the nominee's achievements. Quantify the answer where possible.

During the 1980s, Nancy served for nine years as a Board Member of the Miami-Dade Heritage Trust. In 1987, Nancy was appointed to the Historic Preservation Board. She would serve on that committee for six years, sometimes as the Chair.

In 1989, Nancy was then appointed as Executive Director to the Miami Design Preservation League, where she would serve for the next three years.

In 1993, Nancy decided to throw her hat in the political arena and ran for Miami Beach Commissioner. After elected, she would serve for two consecutive terms from 1993-2001, always supporting preservationists v. developers.

During all these decades, Nancy was consistently writing pro-preservation letters to the editor of the Miami Herald. Hundreds of her letters were published in the Herald from the 1980's up to the year 2003, always voicing her strong opinions on the benefits of keeping Miami Beach's original charm through preservation.

4. Present evidence that the nominee's achievements have (or will have) enduring value to Miami Beach. Where applicable, focus your comments on change that has been or will be created and how that change is expected to last over time.

One of her first successful projects with other activists was preventing Miami-Dade from changing the Venetian Causeway into a 4 lane highway. In 1982, Nancy helped organize the National Trust's first visit to Miami Beach to advocate for local protection of historic buildings. One of her other original activism projects was lobbying in D.C. for Miami Beach's historic buildings to legally retain their original names. This rule still applies today. During the 1980s, Nancy also served for nine years as a Board Member of the Miami-Dade Heritage Trust. In 1987, Nancy was appointed to the Historic Preservation Board. She would serve on that committee for six years, sometimes as the Chair. In 1989, Nancy was then appointed as Executive Director to the Miami Design Preservation League, where she would serve for the next three years. In 1993, Nancy decided to throw her hat in the political arena and ran for Miami Beach Commissioner. After being elected, she would serve for two consecutive terms from 1993-2001, always supporting preservationists v. developers. In 2002, Nancy served as President of the Urban Environment League of Greater Miami for four years. One of the goals she took on during that time was fighting development that would destroy a portion of the Everglades. In 2014, Nancy was the founder of the local community activist's group called "Miami Beach United". This group still is very active today uniting the city's activists into a single coalition group which can more effectively achieve the goals of historic preservation. Many of its members are very involved in local politics and serve on a number of the City's committees. Once again in 2016, Nancy was appointed to serve on Miami Beach's Historic Preservation Board. She would dutifully attend their monthly meetings up until this last January 2023.

5. Enter a list of the nominee's significant awards.

In 1998, Nancy was awarded the "Recognition of Historic Preservation" from well known Miami Modern architect, Norman Giller.

6. Provide two (2) letters of Recommendation. (Please attach this within the submission)

SUBMITTER INFORMATION

Nomination Submitted By: Merle Shama

Title/Occupation of Submitter:

Member of Miami Beach Commission for Women

Relationship to the Nominee: Friend

(Example: friends, colleague, student, employee, relative, etc.)

Address of Submitter: 11 Island Avenue, #911, Miami Beach, FL 33139

(Street Address, City, State, Zip Code)

Telephone: 646-250-3910

Email Address: merle.shama@gmail.com

Nomination Package Checklist:

Before submitting the City of Miami Beach Nomination Form, make sure you have done all the following.

☒ Completed the Nomination form. Please refrain from sending petitions, photographs, books, resumes, Curriculum Vitae (CV), etc. in lieu of completing the nomination form.

☒ Included two (2) letters of recommendation. The letters of recommendation must be submitted in conjunction with the nomination form.

Signature of Submitter: Merle Shama **Date:** 04/26/2023

Nancy Liebman

I support the nomination of Nancy Liebman to the Miami Beach Hall of Fame for three reasons:

1. Her leadership in developing the effectiveness of the Miami Design Preservation League;
2. Her pioneering role on the Miami Beach Commission; and,
3. Her work making the story of Miami Beach preservation a local and national model.

In her book *Saving South Beach*, Marty Stofik describes the preservation movement on Miami Beach as an "ensemble performance." True enough, but there was one player who stood out: Nancy Liebman.

Though not a founder of the Miami Design Preservation League, Nancy Liebman eventually became Executive Director of MDPL during a critical period of its history, providing the kind of leadership needed for stability and effectiveness. Building on the Federal designation of the Miami Beach Architectural District in 1979, MDPL began a successful series of local historic designations under her leadership.

In 1993, Nancy Liebman was elected to the Miami Beach Commission, running explicitly as a preservationist. When elected, the preservation interest on the Commission was in the minority. Succeeding elections made preservation the majority position, a point of view that City officials had to heed.

Following service on the Commission, Nancy Liebman made the story of South Beach preservation a model for efforts on Biscayne Boulevard, throughout Miami-Dade County through the Dade Heritage Trust, and finally with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

In the story of Miami Beach preservation, Nancy Liebman is a "most valuable player."

Jeff Donnelly

305-458-0671



1000 Quayside Terrace Suite 1706, Miami, FL 33138

April 21, 2023

Re: Nancy Liebman – Miami Beach Hall of Fame

To Whom It May Concern:

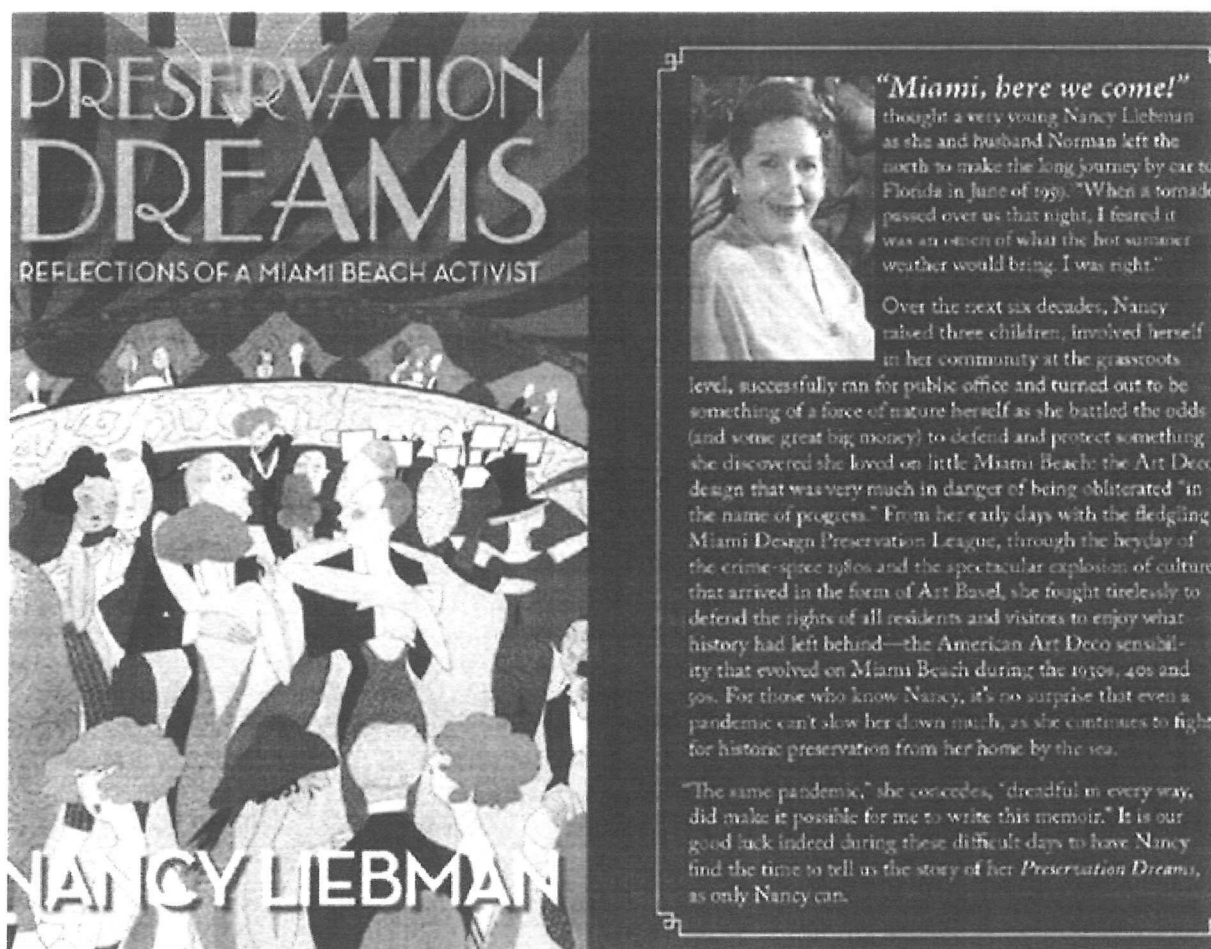
Nancy Liebman is especially worthy of the Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

I met her in 1996 when I was installing a butterfly garden at Biscayne Elementary School where she had been president of the PTA when her 3 children were young. She became the executive director of the Miami Design Preservation League, City of Miami Beach Commissioner for two terms, formed Miami Beach United, the MIMO District on Biscayne Boulevard in the Upper Eastside and has just finished her term on the Miami Beach Historic Preservation Board. Since the pandemic she has written two books – ‘Preservation Dream: Reflections of a Miami Beach Activist’ and ‘Another Landmark Bites the Dust: A Deco Preservationist’s Scrapbook.’

Nancy’s commitment to Miami Beach and her unwavering support are my reasons for recommending her for the Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Claire L. Tomlin, President
The Market Company, Inc.



ARTHUR J. MARCUS ARCHITECT P.A.

1800 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE #7F * FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33311 * t:305-467-6141

email: arthur.marcus444@att.net * web: www.arthurmarcus.com

AA #26000962

April 27, 2023

Panel of the Miami Beach Hall of Fame
Department of Tourism and Culture
1755 Meridian Avenue - 5th floor
Miami Beach, FL 33139

To whom it may concern:

I would like to nominate Nancy Liebman as a member of the City of Miami Beach Hall of Fame. Nancy has had a remarkable public career serving the people of Miami Beach and has had a positive and far reaching impact on our community and on the preservation of our historic environment.

Throughout her public career Nancy has been a masterful voice in guiding Miami Beach through a host of community and political leadership issues. While most of those involved in politics tend to retire from public life after stepping down from being Commissioner, Nancy just stepped up her activism by forming new community organizations and inspiring new generations of leadership.

I am one of those who has been deeply influenced by Nancy and her activism. I first met Nancy around 1993 shortly after moving to South Beach, when we both attended a community meeting in South Beach. In our conversations at that first meeting I was immediately impressed with her impassioned and intelligent defense of historic preservation while at the same time fully understanding the pressures of development in Miami Beach.

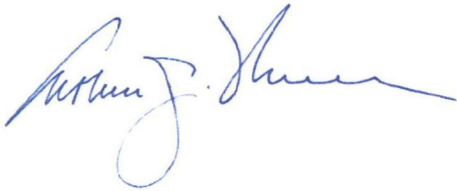
Nancy's not so subtle suggestion about getting involved with the Historic Preservation Board really gave me the inspiration to begin an alternate career as a community activist, alongside my career as an Architect. Eventually I joined the HP board where I eventually became chair of both the Miami Beach Historic Preservation Board and the Design Review Board. And today I am chair of the City of Fort Lauderdale Historic Preservation Board.

Nancy's continued dedication to the preservation of our shared heritage sets an example for all of us and has had a positive and lasting impact on everyone in the community. Nancy so well understands the dance of preservation and development in Miami Beach, and early on understood that the only way to truly influence public policy was to run for public office and be able to formulate policies from the inside.

Nancy's long career of public service on behalf of the citizens of Miami Beach - through the City of Miami Beach Commission, the City of Miami Beach Historic Preservation Board, Miami Design Preservation League, Urban Environment League, Miami Beach United and Dade Heritage Trust - speaks for itself.

With all these achievements in mind I nominate Nancy Liebman for membership in the Miami Beach Hall of Fame. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



Arthur J. Marcus

Michael C. Góngora, Esq.
Shareholder
Board Certified Specialist, Condominium and
Planned Development Law
Phone: (305) 260-1014 Fax: (305) 442-2232
mgongora@beckerlawyers.com

Becker

Becker & Poliakoff
121 Alhambra Plaza
10th Floor
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

April 28, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to take this opportunity to recommend Nancy Liebman for the Miami Beach Hall of Fame. I have witnessed first-hand Nancy's dedication to our City both as a Miami Beach Commissioner and Activist.

I met Nancy in 1993 when she first ran for Commissioner and have witnessed her work throughout the years for non- profits, the arts and historic preservation. Nancy has advocated for historic preservation through the Miami Design Preservation League, as a Commissioner, as a longtime member of the Historic Preservation Board.

Nancy's organization and persistence have produced multiple successful events for great causes in our community. She is a leader in our city and for the historic preservation community and has positively impacted many through her hard efforts. I appreciate Ms. Liebman's dedication to her work and her passion for our City. As such, it is with pleasure that I offer my support for her for the Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

Very truly yours,



Michael C. Góngora

MCG/ma





MIAMI BEACH HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

>>> Please Type All Information <<<

NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

Nominee's Name: MARK SAMUELIAN

Nominee's Occupation, Field of Achievement or Title:

MIAMI BEACH COMMISSIONER

Nominee's Category of Expertise (Select one from the options below):

Artist/ Architect/ Designer/ Scientist

Athlete

Business Leader

Civic Leader

Family Legacy

Date of Death (if posthumous nomination): 2022

Questions 1 -5: Fully explain your answers for all questions. Please put the nominee's accomplishments in context; show how they are relevant and valuable to Miami Beach.

1. Enter a brief biography highlighting the nominee's personal history and connection to Miami Beach.

Mark has been a concerned and involved resident of Miami Beach and was elected into City Hall as a Commissioner several years ago.

2. Describe the nominee's lasting contributions to Miami Beach.

Mark introduced a very committed, caring brand of policymaker into City Hall.

Even when disagreeing with others he conducted himself in an unprecedented way of class and professionalism.

Mark was directly engaging with residents and never dismissive or unavailable.

3. Describe the significant impact of the nominee's achievements. Quantify the answer where possible.

Mark raised and set the bar for conduct and class in City Hall.

He achieved a level of popularity and fairness that many will aim to live up to from now into the future.

Mark voted in favor for many resident friendly items; he stopped overdevelopment and installed policies against greedy developments.

He was the driving factor to allow Sobecats to use the address at 8128 Collins Ave, as a permanent shelter. This will be lasting and helping save lives!

5. Enter a list of the nominee's significant awards.

Since I am submitting as a resident and not as a family member I am not familiar with a list of awards but if he is considered it will be easy to obtain one.

6. Provide two (2) letters of Recommendation. (Please attach this within the submission)

2 letters are attached

1) Gayle Durham

2) Ed Gards

SUBMITTER INFORMATION

Nomination Submitted By: SUSANNA PORUCKER

Title/Occupation of Submitter: PARAMEDIC / CRISIS INTERVENTION
SPECIAL

Relationship to the Nominee: RESIDENT OF MIAMI BEACH
(Example: friends, colleague, student, employee, relative, etc.) AND SUPPORTER

Address of Submitter: 1200 WEST AVENUE
(Street Address, City, State, Zip Code) MIAMI BEACH, FLA. 33139

Telephone: 305 788 6540

Email Address: SPORUCKER@BELLSOUTH.NET

Nomination Package Checklist:

Before submitting the City of Miami Beach Nomination Form, make sure you have done all the following:

Completed the Nomination form. Please refrain from sending petitions, photographs, box resumes, Curriculum Vitae (CV), etc. in lieu of completing the nomination form.

Included two (2) letters of recommendation. The letters of recommendation must be submitted in conjunction with the nomination form.

Signature of Submitter: S. Porucker Date: 05/01/20

May 1, 2023

Miami Beach will never be blessed with a more beloved commissioner as Mark Samuelian whose second term was cut short due to his sudden death.

The West Avenue Neighborhood Association, of which I am the former president, always made Mark our first call to ask for help or to illicit his advice as he was the most trusted people's commissioner. Mark actually coined the phrase, "The Resident Coalition". Mark focused on resident concerns like completing the Baywalk, mitigating any negative effects of road raising, and pulling the plug on short term rentals. In a relatively short time on the commission, five years, Mark accomplished many complicated issues, he walked the walk. And I mean that two-fold, because Mark was a walker, he walked everywhere, and everyone always saw him walking throughout the city as if he was keeping his eye on everything. And he loved the city so, I believe he is still watching over us!

And that why we love Mark and would love to see him elected to the Miami Beach Hall of Fame.

Regards,
Gayle Durham
1455 West Avenue, Apt 804, Miami Beach, FL 33139
C 305.812.5331

----- Original message -----

From: ED GARCES <garci10@aol.com>

Date: 5/1/23 4:20 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: Susanna Purucker <spurucker@bellsouth.net>

Subject: Mark Samuelian

To whom it may Concern

I would also like to see Mark Samuelian inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Mark was a class act and truly loved and cared about Miami Beach and its residents!

There was never a time when I would email him when I didn't receive a response!

The man was a true Mensch !

I miss all the amazing photos he would post on Facebook!

Ed Garces

1200 West Ave

MB FL 33139

212 -695-4948

Sent from my iPhone

MIAMI BEACH HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

>>> Please Type All Information <<<

NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

Nominee's Name: Commissiner Mark Samuelian

Nominee's Occupation, Field of Achievement or Title:
Miami Beach Commisioner (Proffesional Engineer)

Nominee's Category of Expertise (Select one from the options below):

Artist/ Architect/ Designer/ Scientist

Athlete

Business Leader

Civic Leader

Family Legacy

Date of Death (if posthumous nomination): June 22, 2022

Questions 1 -5: Fully explain your answers for all questions. Please put the nominee's accomplishments in context; show how they are relevant and valuable to Miami Beach.

1. Enter a brief biography highlighting the nominee's personal history and connection to Miami Beach.

Commissiner Mark Samuelian is Proffesional Engineer, He graduated from Georgia Tech. He was very Knoledgable, active, Sincere Commisiner. Specially he resolve any technical issue quickly as possible because of his Proffesional manner. Most of the time he share with me any technical issue or others issues. I am wellingby to help him and share each others. Basically he is Industiyal Engineer & I am Civil Engineer. I have huge experiance about civil construction work. Specially Sea walls, drainage system in Miami Beach. Raise the road Surface in Miami Beach etc.

2. Describe the nominee's lasting contributions to Miami Beach.

Mark Samuelian was Miami Beach Commissioner until he Passway. He completed his 1st. Term (4 years) as a Success Commissions & 2nd. term he just elected with huge referendum. Unfortunately he Passway within very short notice. I was so shocked and sorrow for his early death. I always pray for my good friend Mark. May God grant him heaven.

3. Describe the significant impact of the nominee's achievements. Quantify the answer where possible.

As a City Commissioner he did lots of significant work. Example - he create Inspector General Position in Miami Beach, This is very helpful position for our residents, Any complain or any issue resident can contact with the Inspector general office and investigate by the Inspector general.

4. Present evidence that the nominee's achievements have (or will have) enduring value to Miami Beach. Where applicable, focus your comments on change that has been or will be created and how that change is expected to last over time.

Nominees have lots of achievements. He selected good people, those are active, sincere and knowledgeable persons for Board and Committee in our city. Board members are doing active rule in our city before the agenda for Commission meeting.

5. Enter a list of the nominee's significant awards.

I received Certificate of Appreciation for my dedication to Sustainability Committee, on April 25, 2018, from City of Miami Beach, signed by Commissioner Michael Gorgora. Recently I received Certificate of Recognition Award in December 14th, 2021, from City of Miami Beach, signed by Commissioners Alex Fernandez, Kristen Rosen Gonzalez, Mark Samuelian, Steve Meiner.

6. Provide two (2) letters of Recommendation. (Please attach this within the submission)

SUBMITTER INFORMATION

Nomination Submitted By: Mohammed Rafiqul Islam

Title/Occupation of Submitter:

Board member Affordable Housing Committee.

Relationship to the Nominee: Friends

(Example: friends, colleague, student, employee, relative, etc.)

Address of Submitter: 1004 Biarritz drive #3 Miami Beach FL 33141

(Street Address, City, State, Zip Code)

Telephone: 786-303-3407

Email Address: mohammedIslam1960@gmail.com

Nomination Package Checklist:

Before submitting the City of Miami Beach Nomination Form, make sure you have done all the following.

Completed the Nomination form. Please refrain from sending petitions, photographs, books, resumes, Curriculum Vitae (CV), etc. in lieu of completing the nomination form.

Included two (2) letters of recommendation. The letters of recommendation must be submitted in conjunction with the nomination form.

Signature of Submitter: Hi Zee Date: 04/27/2023

Office of the Mayor
1666 Kennedy Causeway, Suite 300
North Bay Village, FL 33141
Tel: (305) 756-7171 | Fax: (305) 756-7722
Website: www.northbayvillage-fl.gov

May 1, 2023

City of Miami Beach
Hall of Fame
Department of Tourism and Culture
1755 Meridian Avenue, 5th Floor
Miami Beach, FL 33139

RE: Character Reference
City of Miami Beach
Commissioner Mark Samuelian

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter shall serve as a character reference and recommendation for City of Miami Beach Commissioner Mark Samuelian. I am the Mayor of North Bay Village and have been elected to serve for three consecutive terms.

Throughout the years I had the great pleasure and opportunity to collaborate with Commissioner Samuelian on matters relating to our surrounding municipalities. He was an exceptional individual who cared tremendously about the City of Miami Beach where he spent many years working to benefit the residents.

If my office can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me or the North Bay Village Administration at 305-756-7171

Sincerely,


Brent Latham
Mayor

BL/ac