



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** The Mayor  
Member of the Tourism, Arts, Parks, Entertainment & Sports Committee

**From:** Manuel A. Diaz  
Mayor of Miami  
Chair: Tourism, Arts, Parks, Entertainment & Sports Committee

**Date:** March 13, 2006

**Re:** Special Arts Committee Meeting  
New Orleans, LA  
May 3-5, 2006

As I announced at our meeting during the Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting, our committee will be holding a special meeting in May to focus on what can be done to help New Orleans and the Gulf Coast region restore their arts and culture programs. The program should be both helpful to the people of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, as well as all cities in providing new ideas on ways to further develop local arts and culture programs.

The staff is working on the program details now. There will be a number of "best practices" examples of ways cities can build up their artists talent pool, develop cultural facilities, market their attractions, and attract new investments and opportunities.

Attached is the draft agenda, as well as the registration form which includes hotel information. For planning purposes, the meeting will begin on the evening of May 3 and end at noon on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The last weekend of the world famous New Orleans Jazz Festival is May 6 and 7<sup>th</sup> in case you are interested in staying over for that event. Further information on the Jazz Festival can be found at their website: [nojazzfest@musictoday.com](mailto:nojazzfest@musictoday.com)

**Please note the hotel accommodations cutoff date of April 7<sup>th</sup>. Also, note the room rate difference for the Friday and Saturday nights during the Jazz Festival. Due to the high demand for hotel rooms during this time period in New Orleans due to the Jazz Festival, it is important that you make your hotel reservations as soon as possible.**

If you have any questions, please contact Tom McClimon on the Conference staff at (202)861-6729 or by email at: [mcclimon@usmayors.org](mailto:mcclimon@usmayors.org)

I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans.