August 9, 2021

We would like to invite you to join us at our 19th Annual Tropical Nights gala fundraiser. This signature fundraising event celebrates the impactful work of the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism & Related Disabilities (UM-NSU CARD). Tropical Nights will be held outdoors on Saturday, December 18, 2021, on the SkyLawn rooftop of the beautiful InterContinental Miami. While raising autism awareness and the need for critical funding, Tropical Nights celebrates and acknowledges the tireless efforts of important community leaders.

We are excited to honor Dr. Michael Alessandri for his 25 years of outstanding dedication to UM-NSU CARD and the South Florida autism community! Under Dr. Alessandri’s visionary leadership, UM-NSU CARD has grown from one office, three staff, and several hundred clients to a multi-site, multi-disciplinary network serving over 13,000 clients in South Florida. Dr. Alessandri’s vision has led to an expansion of our services to include specialized programming for teens and adults, business models to help employ adults on the autism spectrum, and an enhanced research profile. Dr. Alessandri has focused his life’s work on creating a community that truly values, embraces, and supports each one of UM-NSU CARD’s client’s and families. We are truly fortunate to have him lead the way in South Florida.

This year we have two featured artists. Nicolas Morgalo is a 14-year-old artist who aspires to have a career as a visual development artist or a character and background designer in the animation industry. Haley Moss is an attorney, contemporary American pop art artist, author and advocate for people with disabilities, as well as a UM-NSU CARD Constituency Board Member.

Our event is a celebration of the vision to build a truly inclusive community for people with autism and related disabilities and their loved ones. Tropical Nights is an exceptional alliance of philanthropists, local leaders, our clients and their families, and all of those who share this vision with us to better the quality of life for those living with autism and related disabilities in our own communities. In order to keep all of our guests safe during these times, we encourage all our guests to become fully vaccinated before attending Tropical Nights, and for all guests to wear masks at all times during the event, except when eating and drinking.

Below are several ways you can support today:

✅ Attend Tropical Nights
✅ Sponsorship Opportunities
✅ Branding Opportunities
✅ Journal Page Opportunities in our full-color Online Program Journal
✅ Donate to support a specific program like: Support Groups, Job SEEKers, Teen Times and many others

We look forward to celebrating Tropical Nights with you!

Sincerely,

Michelle Costa
UM-NSU CARD - Communications & Community Events Manager
5665 Ponce de Leon Blvd., 2nd Floor
Coral Gables, FL 33146
mke@miami.edu
Company/Individual Name: ________________________________
Contact Name: ________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City, State, Zip: ____________________________________
Phone: ________________________________ Fax: ________________________________
E-mail: ________________________________ Sponsor Signature: ________________________________

Please note, Sponsorships may not be paid through donor advised funds. We encourage all of our guests to become fully vaccinated before attending Tropical Nights. All guests should wear masks at all times except when eating and drinking.

**Royal Palm Sponsor**
- Presenting Sponsor
- Corporate logo on website, step & repeat, slideshow
- Corporate logo and scheduled mentions on social media with brief description of business
- Sponsor recognition on event welcome signage

**King Palm Sponsor**
- Corporate logo on website, step & repeat, slideshow and social media
- Sponsor recognition on welcome signage at event
- Recognition in media promotions and press releases related to event
- Full Page recognition in the Evening Program Journal

**Queen Palm Sponsor**
- Corporate logo on website, slideshow and social media
- Half Page recognition in the Evening Program Journal
- Listing on the Sponsor Page in the Evening Program Journal

**Coconut Palm Sponsor**
- Corporate logo on website, slideshow and social media
- Quarter Page recognition in the Evening Program Journal
- Listing on the Sponsor Page in the Evening Program Journal

**Pineapple Palm Sponsor**
- Corporate logo on website, slideshow and social media
- Listing on the Sponsor Page in the Evening Program Journal

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**Invitation Deadline is October 15, 2021. Online Program Journal Deadline is Friday, November 26, 2021**

*University review and prior approval of logo and recognition may be required.*

**For Peer to Peer Fundraising visit** [https://p2p.onecause.com/tn2021](https://p2p.onecause.com/tn2021)

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**Please make checks payable to** University of Miami CARD/Tropical Nights and mail to:
University of Miami CARD/Tropical Nights 5665 Ponce de Leon Blvd., 2nd Floor • Coral Gables, FL 33146

**You can also complete form and email to:** card@miami.edu. For event information call 305-284-5269 or email card@miami.edu. For more details visit [www.miami.edu/tropicalnights](http://www.miami.edu/tropicalnights).
With a contribution to UM-NSU CARD, we will feature your business or personal message to
our honoree or to UM-NSU CARD in the Online Program Journal.

____ Premium Page (8.5” x 11” with .125” bleed all around) $1,000**
____ Full Page (8.5” x 11” with .125” bleed all around) $750
____ Half Page (5.5” x 8.5” landscape with .125” bleed all around) $500
____ Quarter Page (4.25” x 5.5” portrait with .125” bleed all around) $250

**Limited spaces available

Company/Individual Name: __________________________
Address: _________________________________________
City, State, Zip: ________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Fax: ___________________________
E-mail: ___________________________

Online Program Journal Deadline is November 26, 2021.
*University review and prior approval of logo and recognition may be required

Please send artwork to mke@miami.edu
or include message here:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Total $ ___________ Discover _____ Amex _____ Visa _____ Master Card _____ Check _____

Is this a Corporate Card: YES ☐ NO ☐
Cardholder or Corporation Name: __________________________
Card Number: ___________________________ Exp. ___________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________

Please make checks payable to University of Miami CARD/Tropical Nights and mail to:
University of Miami CARD/Tropical Nights, 5665 Ponce de Leon Blvd., 2nd Floor • Coral Gables, FL 33146.

You can also complete form and email to: card@miami.edu. For event information call 305-284-5269 or email card@miami.edu. For more details visit www.miami.edu/tropicalnights.
Online Auction
Benefiting the Center for Autism & Related Disabilities ~ Saturday, December 18, 2021

Company/Individual Name: ________________________________
Owner Name: ________________________________ Contact Person: ________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip: __________________________________________________________________________________
Phone: __________________________________________________________________________ Fax: ___________________________________________________________________
E-mail: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Item Description: __________________________________________________________________________________

Restrictions (if any): ________________________________________________________________________________
Fair Market Value: __________________ Expiration (one year from event date): _____________________________

If gift $5,000+, Donor is filing IRS Form 8283: Yes / No
If “Yes”, attach Form 8283 for University signature.

Donor was informed of IRS 8282 policy: Yes / No
If no, donor must so acknowledge in writing.

*If gift is over $5,000, it must be approved by the University before acceptance.

Procurement/Delivery Instructions: (please check one)
Donation will be: Picked up _______ Mailed _______ Delivered _______
Date: ________________ Donor Signature ________________________________

Online Program Journal Deadline is November 26, 2021

To ensure inclusion in the Evening Program Journal this form must be received by November 26, 2021 along with your gift certificate and/or instructions for obtaining item to:
University of Miami CARD/Tropical Nights
5665 Ponce de Leon Blvd., 2nd Floor • Coral Gables, FL 33146.

For event information call 305-284-9126, email card@miami.edu or visit www.miami.edu/tropicalnights

UM-NSU CARD serves over 13,000 families AT NO COST to them
Two main offices: University of Miami - Coral Gables & Nova Southeastern University - Davie; Three regional branch offices: (Homestead, Miami Lakes, and Miramar)

Languages spoken by staff: English, Spanish, Creole

As of June 30, 2021, 13,823 families in our region registered for services

All services free of charge to families and community stakeholders

All services are offered across the lifespan allowing for continuity of care

Core services include:

- Individual client and family support (i.e., services related to a client with autism)
- Programmatic and professional assistance (i.e., services to any program or agency serving people with autism)
- Training (i.e., comprehensive parent, paraprofessional, and professional training; annual statewide conference, summer institutes, regional teacher trainings coordinated with school districts)
- Public education and awareness (i.e., broad community-based autism awareness campaigns)
- UM-NSU CARD provides the State of Florida with a solid return on investment by
  - Promoting early identification and intervention
  - Building capacity in our community by enhancing the availability of evidence-based practices
  - Improving student outcomes by promoting training and consultation in educational best practices
  - Ensuring a sustainable life after school through post-secondary initiatives related to employment, health and well-being, and social networking

Supplemental community enrichment programs:

- Autism Multicultural Collective
- The Autism Friendly Initiative including a county-wide program with Miami-Dade County
- Collaborations with partner school districts (Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe)
- Summer literacy camp in collaboration with The Children’s Trust
- Social opportunity groups for clients of all ages
- Family support groups for all family members
- Employment training programs for job seekers
- All abilities events with community partners
- A comprehensive autism research portfolio focused on genetics, neuroscience, early identification, school-based interventions, and family adaptation and coping

UM-NSU CARD and our COVID-19 Response:

- Immediate shift to all virtual services with no disruption
- 28% increase in educational and clinical services with clients and families
- 43% increase in school and community trainings
- Enhanced efforts to serve public, private, and charter schools delivering instruction during the pandemic
- Provided mental health support for clients, families, and professionals coping with the pandemic
- Increased connections with the community through social media engagement using Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Linktree

www.card.miami.edu