



## Friends of Marine Stadium Newsletter

September 2010

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### Dade Heritage Trust



Dade Heritage Trust is the umbrella organization for Friends of Marine Stadium. It is the foremost organization devoted to Historic Preservation in Miami Dade County. Click [here](#) for more information.

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Friends of Marine  
Stadium email  
list...1588

We respect your time and only send emails on average once a month. We do not give or sell our

To: Miami Marines

What a busy and productive summer! With the passage of the Virginia Key Master Plan, the real work begins!

### Virginia Key Master Plan

On July 22, the Miami City Commission approved the Virginia Key Master Plan with a unanimous 5-0 vote. The plan provides a blue print for the future development of Virginia Key, including the Marine Stadium and Basin. You can see the plan by clicking [here](#)

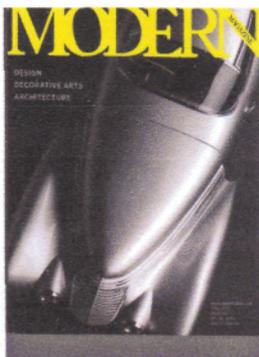
Earlier drafts of the plan either did not show the Marine Stadium - or had it surrounded by too many structures rendering it unusable. The final approved version showcases the Marine Stadium as the centerpiece of the Virginia Key restoration. Although no funding backs this plan, it does provide us with the "green light" to move forward with considerable momentum.

This plan was a collaborative effort by the University of Miami's Architectural Studio taught by Architecture Prof. and Co-Founder of Friends of Marine Stadium Jorge Hernandez along with Hilario Candela, architect of the Stadium, and several groups lead by the Urban Environment League, as well as the City Administration.

Additional assistance was provided by the University of Miami's Finance Class from the School of Business Administration, taught by Professor Andrea Hueson. Three student teams analyzed different alternatives for a site just west of the Marine Stadium and adjacent to the marinas and restaurants. The proposals were for a [Maritime Museum](#), a [Marine Industry Trade Center](#) and [70,000 square feet of commercial space](#) (this was part of the proposal of the October, 2009 draft of the Master Plan

email list to anyone.

### Press



Press is essential to our initiative. It generates awareness and provides us with important contacts. The Fall issue of [Modern Magazine](#) (the article may take a few minutes to download) has a feature length article on the Marine Stadium and architect Hilario Candela. The Stadium is also featured in a web video by [Architectural Record](#) (you may have to write "Marine Stadium" in the search box if the video does not come up immediately).

We expect lots more press in the next several months.

### Friends of Marine Stadium TV

The Miami Birthday Party was a huge success - many Miami Marines attended. We even had our very own "Miami Marine Stadium TV" present. Click [here](#) to see a video of the birthday party, which includes interviews with Marine Stadium supporters, Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado, and ex-Heat basketball star Tim Hardaway. We'd like to thank Pamela D'Amelio

prepared for the City by EDSA, the City's Consultant at that time). Because the Business School students were working at the same time as the Architecture students, some of the business student proposals do not reflect the final conclusions of the Virginia Key Master Plan.

## Next Steps For Marine Stadium



With the passage of the Master Plan, we have amped up work on a number of fronts, including financing for the Marine Stadium.

The Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Commission, an independent taxing district, has approved \$150,000 for structural assessment, design and permitting for reconstruction of the pilings and seawall for the Marine Stadium. This funding, which is contingent upon obtaining matching funds, was received pursuant to a grant application by the City of Miami. If this phase is completed successfully, the City may re-apply to the FIND Commission for up to 50% of the funding for the actual construction work on the pilings and seawall.

The National Trust For Historic Preservation has provided \$3,000 towards the cost of a follow-up engineering study to analyze the condition of the pilings on both the sea and land side of the Stadium.

The City of Miami recently applied for a \$350,000 grant for reconstruction of the Stadium from the State Division of Historical Resources of the Department of Historic Preservation. Friends of Marine Stadium worked with the City Grants Department to provide letters of support and additional information for the application. We have developed a pro-active working relationship with the City to pursue various sources of funding.

## Conclusion

We thank the many Miami Marines who have written emails, attended Hearings of the City Commission and other City Boards, and wrote letters in support of the City of Miami's grant application for funding from the State Department of Historic Resources. Decision makers and funding sources-both public and private-want to see community support.

of [It's Your Red Carpet](#) and her associate, Marta-Beth Nordstrom for documenting the birthday party and showcasing our supporters.

### Become Part of Marine Stadium History



**Hannah Imberman,** Girl Scout extraordinaire, is compiling memories of the Marine Stadium for a book entitled "IF SEATS COULD TALK". Hannah has been documenting reminiscences of our beloved stadium for the last year and a half and it will become an important piece of the stadium's history. Hannah herself has been a terrific asset for our cause-she has been written up in several articles and she and friend Kira Feldman appeared on television in [Comcast Newsmakers](#). Please contribute your fondest memory of the Marine Stadium by writing it up (just a few paragraphs will do, and emailing it to Hannah by clicking [here](#)) Thank you!

# of People who have submitted their memories.....83

With our advocacy concluded, we are now embarking on the challenging task of creating a successful plan for the Stadium. Your involvement and support is more important than ever.

Though we still have an ocean to cross, we feel the wind is at our back...onward and upward!

Jorge Hernandez  
Becky Roper Matkov  
Violette Sproul  
Don Worth

Friends of Marine Stadium  
[www.marinestadium.org](http://www.marinestadium.org)

Over the past few years, the Marine Stadium has become covered with wall-to-wall graffiti. Photographers have documented the many layers of graffiti-and posted the results on the web. Now a whole new generation, who never attended an event at the stadium, has been exposed to its concrete splendor. Given the Stadium's popularity for graffiti, we couldn't resist blazing a new section of our website to exhibit photographs that highlight this art form. Here's a beauty by [Xavier Nuez](#)



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Friends of Marine Stadium | Dade Heritage Trust | 190 SE 12th Terrace | Miami | FL | 33131