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2012

**MEDIA ADVISORY MEDIA ADVISORY MEDIA ADVISORY MEDIA ADVISORY**

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## Carnival Comes to Little Haiti

*-City of Miami Commissioner Michelle Spence Jones Celebrates the Pre Grand Opening of the Caribbean Marketplace in Little Haiti / Historic Lemon City-*

**(Miami, FL February 17, 2012)** — In an effort to revitalize the cultural and business corridor in Little Haiti/ Historic Lemon City, the City of Miami is pleased to announce the temporary re-opening of the Caribbean Marketplace. To celebrate the opening, The City of Miami will present “Carnival in Little Haiti”. ***This exciting event will take place on Saturday, February 18, 2012 on NE 2nd Avenue between NE 59th Terrace and NE 59th Street with the opening of the Caribbean Marketplace from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m and the Carnival Street Festival from 3:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.*** “Carnival in Little Haiti” is free and open to the entire community.

This weekend’s celebration coincides with the annual Carnival event in Port-au-Prince, Haiti; giving residents from the local and surrounding communities the unique opportunity to experience Carnival’s bright colored costumes and masks; while enjoying fresh Caribbean food, music, and arts and crafts. The carnival will also have fun filled activities for kids provided by DJ Griot of WEDR 99 Jamz and the Little Haiti Optimist Club. There will also be music provided by Mizikpam’s very own DJ Mack, DJ Francois and live performances by the hottest Caribbean bands and dance groups in South Florida.

The temporary opening of the Caribbean Marketplace and “Carnival in Little Haiti” is spearheaded by City of Miami Commissioner Michelle Spence-Jones and part of the City’s Believe Campaign. According to the District 5 Commissioner, this weekend’s activities will highlight and promote the unique culture and diversity of the Little Haiti /Historic Lemon City community.

The Caribbean Marketplace will remain open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. until May of 2012. The marketplace will have exotic fruits, delicacies and arts and crafts for the public to purchase. For more information on “Carnival in Little Haiti” or the Caribbean

Marketplace, please contact Tracy Lozama, Special Projects Coordinator at the Little Haiti Cultural Center at (305) 960-2969.

*This event is sponsored by the City of Miami, Mango's Tropical Café, DJ Griot of WEDR 99 Jamz, the Little Haiti Optimist Club, Show Technology, Memorial Plan, WSRF 1580 AM, Island TV, Azure College, Prestige Beer and Cola Couronne. Participating organizations include: the Office of Commissioner Michelle Spence-Jones, the North East 2nd Avenue Partnership, the Little Haiti Cultural Center, the Rhythm Foundation, Little Haiti Neighborhood Enhancement Team, Bochika, FANM, Urban Tour Host, Home Depot and FePouLi.org. Performances by Groove Relax, MC Compas, Prinsip, Jude Papaloko, The Conga Band, Nancy St. Leger Haitian Dance Theater, Rara Lakay and Racine Lakay. Hosts Mecca aka Grimo and Marjory Sheba.*

**WHO:** Commissioner Michelle Spence-Jones.

**WHAT:** Pre Grand Opening of the Caribbean Marketplace in Little Haiti.

**WHEN:** **Friday, February 18, 2012, 10:00 am to 5:00 p.m.**

**WHERE:** NE 2nd Avenue between NE 59th Terrace and NE 59th Street

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Approved  
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