

Sunshine *Living*



Leidys Monascal & Mihai Preda:

Creativity First!

Page 4



Best Version Media®

Publication Team

Publisher: Rosalinda O’Neill

Content Coordinator: Evelyn Lasso

Designer: Emily Lund

Contributing Photographer: Betty Alvarez

Advertising

Contact: Rosalinda O’Neill **Phone:** (305)505-6579

Email: roneill@bestversionmedia.com

HOA Submission Information

Are you on the associate board for your subdivision? Contact us for information on how you can submit articles, updates, reminders, events and more to the residents. We create customized Homeowners Association sections at no cost to the HOA or the residents.

Neighborhoods of Distribution:

Coco Plum, Biscayne Bay Sea, Tahiti, Gables Estates, Old Cutler

Feedback/Ideas/Submissions:

Have feedback, ideas or submissions? We are always happy to hear from you! Deadlines for submissions are the 18th of each month. Go to www.bestversionmedia.com and click “Submit Content” You may also email your thoughts, ideas and photos to: elasso@bestversionmedia.com.

Expert Contributors:

Armando Gonzalez

Eldeliza Quevedo

Edward Croce

Rosie Hernandez

Jackie Mastrodonato

Jean Dorcelien

Elizabeth Brana

Alina Palenzuela and Blanca Ceballos

To learn more about becoming an expert contributor, contact BVM at roneill@bestversionmedia.com or 305-505-6579.

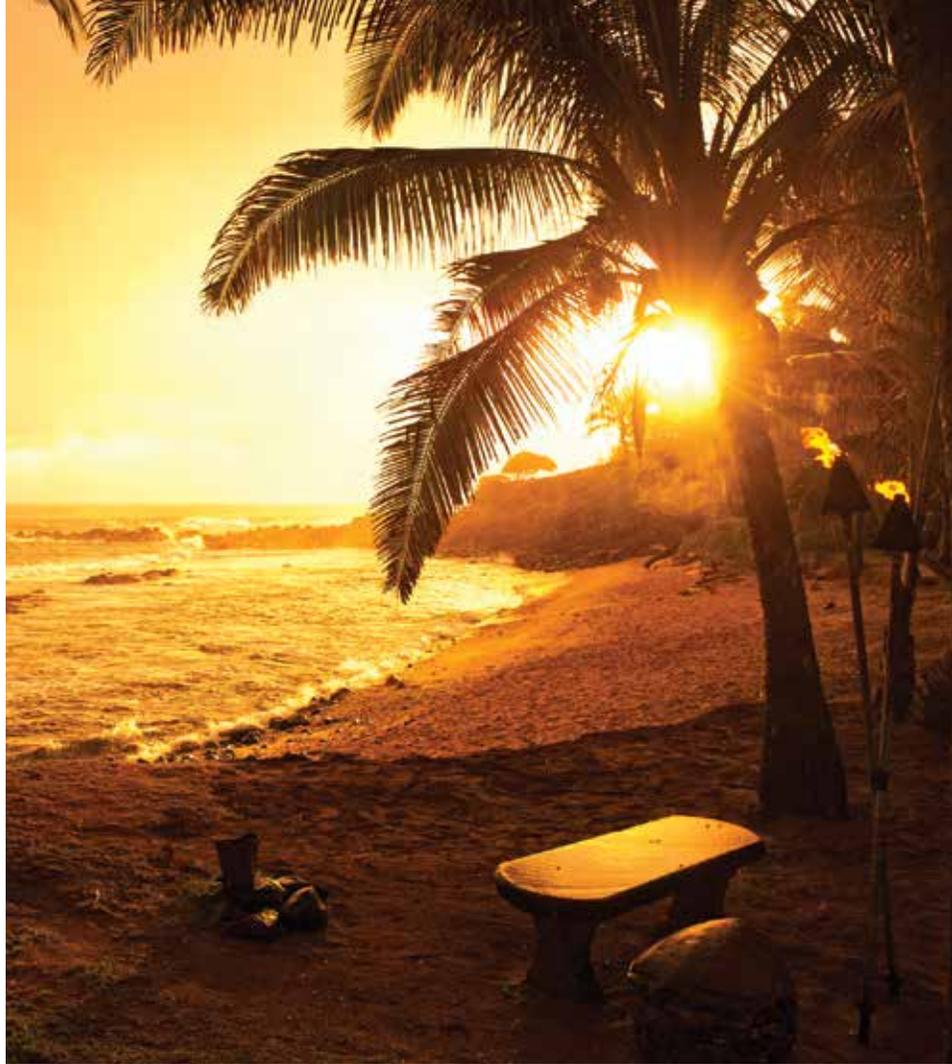
Content Submission Deadlines

Content Due:

November 18th.....	December
December 18th.....	January
January 18th.....	February
February 18th.....	March
March 18th.....	April
April 18th.....	May
May 18th.....	June
June 18th.....	July
July 18th.....	August
August 18th.....	September
September 18th.....	October
October 18th.....	November

Any content, resident submissions, guest columns, advertisements and advertorials are not necessarily endorsed by or represent the views of Best Version Media (BVM) or any municipality, homeowners association, businesses or organizations that this publication serves. BVM is not responsible for the reliability, suitability or timeliness of any content submitted. All content submitted is done so at the sole discretion of the submitting party.

© 2017 Best Version Media. All right reserved



Dear Residents,

The holiday season is the perfect time to pause and reflect. As much as we celebrate the holidays collectively, the passing of another year also holds individual significance for everyone. This time of year prompts me to look around in gratitude.

“Looking back, I am grateful for all the lessons each year brings.”

Looking forward, I am grateful for new adventures. So many of us can get caught up with the hustle and bustle of the holidays that we forget to just stop and be present and mindful. Lastly, I am grateful for our readers and the wonderful residents we get to feature. It is inspiring to come across so many talented individuals.

Here’s to seizing your own opportunity to create something different, memorable and fresh! Have a wonderful and in-the-moment holiday season!

Rosalinda O’Neill

Sunshine Living | Publisher



Leidys Monascal & Mihai Preda: *Creativity First!*

BY EVELYN LASSO



Child prodigy and world-renowned cellist, Yo-Yo Ma once said,

“Music enhances the education of our children by helping them to make connections and broadening the depth with which they think and feel. If we are to hope for a society of culturally literate people, music must be a vital part of our children’s education.”

Miami Piano Studio founders, Leidys Monascal, M.S. and Mihai Preda, PhD are dedicating their life’s work to help our youth acquire essential music skills and a passion for creating and learning.

Leidys and Mihai met at Florida International University while studying music. Leidys was attaining a degree in Music Education while Mihai studied Piano & Organ Performance. As a child in her native country of Venezuela, Leidys was a member of the country’s well-known music program “El Sistema”. Born in Romania, Mihai showed a gift for music from an early age. He began piano lessons at the age of 6 with his grandmother who was a piano teacher.

In 2012 Leidys and Mihai founded

the Miami Piano Studio and started teaching together music and piano. While running the Miami Piano Studio, they looked for a method to use with their students that was comprehensive, engaging, creative and practical. In order to fill this need, they created the Brain-Based Piano Method. Under the motto “Play, Understand, Create!”, the method integrates principles used by the great masters of the past and the leading music educators of the 20th century Orff, Kodaly, Suzuki and Dalcroze with a fresh approach that is relevant to our times.

The mindful method also incorporates relaxation exercises, affirmations and activities that improve the child’s attention and focus, and uses the latest scientific findings on how we learn. The method can be used for individual as well as for group classes.

Children ages 18 months and up are introduced to the fundamentals of music through engaging games and activities they can easily relate to. The method allows children to develop essential musical skills through play, discovery and experimentation. “We need to focus on raising creative individuals who can contribute to the world they will live in” says Mihai. “We wanted to create a recipe that includes the core principles of music education and keeps in mind the needs of children, parents, and teachers” says Leidys.

Currently, Miami Piano Studio has about 40 students in the Miami area. The Brain-Based Piano Method is being implemented by music teachers and organizations nationwide and abroad. The comprehensive system includes musical storybooks, recordings, books, games, online video tutorials and teaching materials.

After meeting in person with Mihai

and Leidys and witnessing the love and dedication they put in their method I can tell why so many parents, teachers and students are attracted to this revolutionary learning system. Aside from both being extremely talented musicians individually; together they soar as a duo whose passion for musical originality and creativity has encouraged them to pay it forward to the next generation of musicians and music lovers.

To learn more about Miami Piano Studio please visit www.brainbasedpianomethod.com



Do you know a neighbor who has a story to share? Nominate your neighbor to be featured in one of our upcoming issues! Contact us at elasso@bestversionmedia.com.

Play, Understand, Create!