

Sunrise over Miami-Dade County  
Written by Oscar Fuentes, The Biscayne Poet

The sun rises on Miami, The Magic City,  
and Biscayne Bay glimmers in the morning air  
while pelicans dive for their first meal of the day.  
The sun rises on our Miami-Dade County  
with its light piercing through our skyline all the way to the Everglades.  
It shines on Overtown with the same brightness that shines over Miami Lakes, Coral Gables  
and Westchester. Making the leaves of our trees vibrantly greener.  
We too, rise before and with the sun, Miami-Dade has always been an early riser.  
We bustle and move through the neighborhood streets and sidewalks  
in our cars, our bicycles, on the bus or on the metro mover to get to work,  
or to drop off our kids at the daycare.  
Because we are better connected, we all rise to the task, like the sun.  
These days we are finally and slowly  
coming out to the greenery of our public parks.  
We are starting up again and getting back in motion.  
Back into that Miami rhythm, that defines us.  
And yes we still wear our masks and choose to vaccinate because,  
well, it's our civic duty.  
This is how we will thrive.  
This is how we invest in tomorrow.  
And between cafecito breaks we save lives,  
we cook in restaurants,  
we protect our neighborhoods,  
put out fires, teach classes on zoom  
or sit by the mesmerizing Biscayne Bay  
as we read a downloaded book from the library  
and practice to learn English or Spanish or Creole.  
And if you close your eyes...  
You can hear the echoes of the mockingbirds singing to each other  
in our very own River of Grass, and even in our neighborhoods.  
You can hear the ocean splash its waves on the beach and dissolve its immensity  
in foam on the sand.  
From the cafecito scented streets of La pequeña Habana to Kendale Lakes,  
the County is beautified by its people.  
Miami is the Gateway to Latin America  
where grandfathers and abuelas share their stories of origin,  
where traditions are kept close to the heart and passed on through recipes  
that flavor the afternoon air of our communities.  
This is home, and we are one resilient County  
under the Miami sun.