



Bridget Middleton
Executive Director

Greg Woodfin
President

Anna Johnson
President Elect

Jeff Phillips
Board Chairman

Amanda Barr
Secretary

Mary Catherine Harper
Treasurer

Lisa Combs
Vice President

Nikki Fuqua
Vice President

Benny Gaines
Vice President

Mark Leidner
Vice President

Denis McKinnon
Vice President

Bill Mitchem
Vice President

Robin Zimmern
Vice President

Jill Robinson
Member at Large

Brent Videau
Member at Large

Cyndi Warren
Member at Large

January 27, 2023

Dear Friends of Mayoki and Fiesta,

We are writing to let you know that the relationship between Mayokis and Fiesta Pensacola will change going forward. Arriving at this decision was difficult, but it was necessary for the future of both organizations. This decision is a result of unanimous votes of both the Fiesta Association and Foundation Boards.

Fiesta oversees 40+ events annually and has four full time employees. We receive funding from Escambia County, the State of Florida, corporate sponsors, and our events. Fiesta is a large non-profit corporation, very much in the public eye and visible in all we do, and accountable to our courts, our sponsors, and our community. Fiesta's tacit endorsement of Mayokis presents a public relations, reputational and potential financial risk to Fiesta that we are no longer willing to bear.

Effective this year (2023), Fiesta will no longer hold a Landing Ceremony as we all have come to know it. We also have decided to not formally send our court to the Mayoki Ball or pub crawl. However, we are open to participating informally if both parties are agreeable. Mayoki royalty will continue to be invited and recognized at the Fiesta Coronation Ball with other VIPs and dignitaries; however, we would ask that those participating wear formal attire in lieu of Mayoki costumes. Lastly, all local krewes continue to be invited to participate in the Krewe Ball.

Our friendship goes back over 60 years, and we all want that to continue. We hope that everyone in your organization can understand why we are making this decision. We value you and are not suggesting you change. We simply must control what is best for Fiesta.

Sincerely,

Jeff Phillips
Chairman of the Board
Fiesta Association

Tom Owens
President
Fiesta Foundation