

Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation

Historical Markers Application

Application Number: **HM-0530**

You are not done yet!

We have received your application electronically however you are **NOT** done yet! We still need a few more things from you.

Part 1: Resource Information

Name and Location

What is the Historic Name of the Resource?

Diana Nyad

Address

Los Olas and A1A

City

Fort Lauderdale

Zip Code

33301

Details

What type of resource will you be marking?

Building (e.g., commercial, educational, religious, residential)

If other, please explain:

The location is the Atlantic Ocean A1A and Las Olas Avenue in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Diana Nyad frequently practiced swimming in the Atlantic Ocean at that location.

Is the resource listed in the National Register of Historic Places?

Yes

Description and Significance

Please describe the resource

The Atlantic Ocean at Las Olas Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale.

Provide a statement explaining the significance of the resource

Marathon swimmer Diana Nyad was born on August 22, 1949 in New York City but grew up in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She started swimming competitively for Pine Crest School at age 11 and was the Florida State High School Champion in the 100 and 200 meter backstroke. She is a graduate of Lake Forest College and is fluent in French and Spanish. Nyad made national headlines in 1975 when she set a world speed record for swimming around the island of Manhattan in under eight hours. The previous record had stood for 50 years. In 1979, she became the first person to swim from North Bimini to Florida a distance of over sixty miles. She is most famous for her marathon swim from Havana, Cuba to Key West, Florida which she completed on September 2, 2013. A distance of 110 miles, Nyad completed the swim 53 hours at the age of 64 years old. Upon landing, Nyad told the millions of people on shore who followed her epic journey, "Never, ever give up" and "You are never too old to follow your dreams." Nyad has routinely practiced swimming at Fort Lauderdale Beach - her childhood home. Nyad was inducted in the International Women's Sports Hall of Fame (2006) and the International Marathon Swimmer Hall of Fame.

Part 2: Marker Information

Marker Details & Location

Will this be a new or replacement marker?

New Marker

Will this be a single or double-sided marker?

Single-sided marker (identical text on both sides)

Will the marker be located at the resource?

Yes

If no, please explain:

Yes

In which county will the marker be located?

Broward

What are the **geographic coordinates** of the proposed marker location?

Please use decimal fractions. (Example: 30.438659 or -84.284451). See [How to Determine Marker Coordinates](#) for instructions.

Longitude

26.119353

Latitude

-80.104716

What days and times will the marker accessible to the public?

Twenty-four hours a day.

Marker Text

What is your proposed Marker Title

Marathon Swimmer Diana Nyad

Please provide your proposed **Marker Text**

The marker text may not exceed 1,235 characters per side. This character limit includes punctuation and spaces. See [Tips for Writing Marker Text](#) for additional instruction.

Side One

On September 2, 2013, at the age of sixty-four, Diana Nyad staggered onto Smathers Beach in Key West, Florida after swimming 111 miles from Havana, Cuba. Nyad was the first person to make the treacherous journey without the benefit of a shark cage. In an epic fifty-three hour swim that personified both endurance and courage, Nyad won the hearts of millions of admirers around the world. Exhausted but exhilarated Nyad told the awaiting crowd: "Never, ever give up. You're never too old to chase your dreams. It looks like a solitary sport, but it's a Team." The triumphant swim was Nyad's fifth attempt. She first attempted the swim thirty-five years earlier. Intense preparation, mental toughness and her mantra— find a way— helped Nyad realize her dream in her sixties that had eluded her as a young champion. Nyad garnered national attention at age 26 she swam the 28 miles around Manhattan Island in a recordbreaking 7 hours and 57 minutes. Diana Nyad grew up in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She attended Pine Crest School and was the Florida State High School 100 and 200 meter Backstroke Champion. Nyad practiced frequently at Fort Lauderdale Beach. Nyad was inducted into the National Women's Sports Hall of Fame in 1986.

Side Two (double-sided markers only)**What organization(s) and or individual(s) are sponsoring the marker?**

Sponsor - Equal Visibility Everywhere

Close

Close

Part 3: Contact Information**Resource Owner**

If the resource is owned by an organization, provide the name and information of a contact person in that organization.

What is the name of the resource owner or organization contact?

First name
Trish
Last name
Logan

Organization name (if owned by an organization)

City of Fort Lauderdale

What is the address of the resource owner?

Address
Fort Lauderdale Govt Building
City
Fort Lauderdale
State
Florida
Zip Code
33301

Phone number of owner

954-828-7101

Email address of owner

tlogan@fortlauderdale.gov

Will the resource owner also be responsible for installation and maintenance of the marker?

Yes

Is the resource owner also the person that prepared this application?

Yes

Marker Caretaker

Please provide the contact information for the person responsible for installing and maintaining the marker if different from the resource owner. If this will be an organization, provide the name and information of a contact person in that organization.

What is the name of the of the marker caretaker?

First name
Trish
Last name
Logan

Organization name (If an organization will be the marker caretaker)

What is the address of the marker caretaker?

Street Address
Fort Lauderdale Govt Building
City
Fort Lauderdale
State
Florida
Zip Code
33301

Phone number of caretaker

954-828-7101

Email address of caretaker

tlogan@fortlauderdale.gov

Person That Prepared the Application

Please provide the contact information for the person that prepared the content of this application (if different from resource owner).

What is the name of the of the person that prepared the application?

First name
Lynette
Last name
Long

What is the address of the of the person that prepared the application?

Street Address
650 West Avenue Apt. 501
City
Miami Beach
State

Florida
Zip Code
33139

Phone number of preparer
301-325-6976

Email address of preparer
drlynettelong@gmail.com

If you need assistance, please email michael.hart@dos.myflorida.com or call 850.245.6333.