

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Miami Dade College and CINTAS Foundation Announce 2012 - 2013 Finalists**

Miami, Oct. 11th, 2012 – **Miami Dade College** (MDC), home of the CINTAS Fellows Collection, and the **CINTAS Foundation** announced this year's finalists for the annual CINTAS Foundation Fellowship competition at a special reception held at the college's iconic Freedom Tower. The competition awards a \$10,000 fellowship for each winner in three categories: visual arts, music and architecture.

The MDC Museum of Art + Design at the Freedom Tower will be showcasing the visual arts finalists' works **through Dec. 14**. The exhibition is free and open to the public, during gallery hours. The exhibition opened on October 10th and featured works by each of the 10 Visual Arts Finalists. Finalists in Music Composition and Architecture were announced at the opening.

The 2012 CINTAS Fellowship finalists are:**VISUAL ARTS:**

José Luis Alonso Mateo, Ray Azcuy, Ramon Bofill, Xavier Cortada, Nereida García-Ferraz, Patricia Margarita Hernandez, Gabriel Martinez, Jillian Mayer, Shie Moreno and Primitivo Suarez Wolfe.

The jury: **Jennifer Basile**, artist and associate senior professor of painting and drawing at MDC, **Christopher Cook**, Executive Director of LegalArt, a non-profit contemporary arts space in downtown Miami, **George Kinghorn**, Director & Curator of the University of Maine Museum of Art, **Michael Rooks**, Wieland Family Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the High Museum in Atlanta and **Jane Simon**, Curator at University of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum.

MUSIC:

Ailem Carvajal, Yalil Guerra, Carlos Rivera.

The jury: **Ileana Perez Velazquez**, associate professor of music at Williams College and internationally known musician, **Augusta Reade Thomas**, Grammy-winning composer and **Carlos Sanchez Gutierrez**, Professor of Composition at the Eastman School of Music.

ARCHITECTURE:

Marta Canavas & Marilyns Nepomechie (joint application), Carlos Alberto Fleitas.

The jury: **Guillermo Carreras**, renowned architect with more than 50 years' experience in all phases of architecture in the United States, Europe and Latin America, **Manuel Castedo**, founder of M. Castedo Architects in New York City, a firm with work ranging widely in its variety of projects, and **Ana Paula Ibarra**, Principal at VIA Design Studio, Miami.

The only one of its kind in the nation, the CINTAS Fellowship program has honored some of the world's most talented Cuban artists. The winner of each category will receive a \$10,000 award and the opportunity to complete the project outlined in his or her proposal.

Fellowships in Visual Arts and Music Composition are awarded annually. Fellowships in Architecture and Creative Writing are awarded in alternating years.

About the CINTAS Fellowship Program

The CINTAS Fellowship Program encourages creative development in architecture, literature, music composition and the visual arts. The Foundation was established with funds from the estate of Oscar B. CINTAS (1887-1957), the former Cuban ambassador to the United States, a prominent industrialist and patron of the arts. In June of 2011, the CINTAS Foundation entered into an extended loan to MDC's Museum of Art + Design of the CINTAS Fellows Collection, comprised of nearly 300 pieces by artists of Cuban descent living outside Cuba who have received prestigious CINTAS Fellowships, awarded since 1963. www.cintasfoundation.org

About MDC's Museum of Art + Design

MDC Museum of Art + Design is Miami Dade College's flagship institution dedicated to the presentation and exhibition of visual art and design, located within the historic MDC Freedom Tower in downtown Miami. With more than 13,000 square feet of exhibition space, the Museum of Art + Design presents year-round exhibitions and educational programs, and is known for its presentation of exhibitions by emerging artists, designers, as well as major figures in modern, post-modern and contemporary art. With a mission to promote the appreciation and understanding of art and its role in society through direct engagement, original works of art, design, and related creative processes; the Museum provides residents and visitors access to unique cultural, historical, and educational exhibitions that enrich our community, while building and preserving its expansive permanent art collection. Available to the public five days a week, and as an admission FREE institution with a diversity of patrons and visitors, the MDC Museum of Art + Design is one of the largest and most accessible institutions in the South Florida area devoted to visual arts and design.

More information can be found on the Museum & Galleries website: www.mdcmoad.org

For more information about the CINTAS program at MDC Museum of Art + Design, please contact Jessica Brodsky at 305-237-7722, or jbrodsky@mdc.edu.

For more information about the exhibition, please call MDC's Museum of Art + Design at 305-237-7700.

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This and other MDC releases are available on the web at www.mdc.edu.

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