Cintas Foundation Announces 2007 Winner of the Brandon Fradd Fellowship in Music Composition

The Board of Directors of the Cintas Foundation is pleased to announce Carlos Puig-Hatem is the winner of the 2007 Brandon Fradd Fellowship in Music Composition.

The 2007 jury for this prestigious award included: writer and producer Nathanial Chediak, Orlando Jacinto Garcia, director of Music Composition at Florida International University and Harold Meltzer, co-artistic director of Sequitur. "We had a very competitive field of applicants this year," stated Cintas Foundation president Hortensia Sampedro, "The jury did an admirable job of selecting the fellow from the highly talented pool of candidates and a variety of styles."

Brandon Fradd, managing director of Apollo Medical Partners, generously funded the endowment for the fellowship in music composition. This is now an annual fellowship. Since 1963, the Cintas Foundation has awarded more than 300 fellowships to artists of Cuban lineage who reside outside of Cuba.

The award has been granted to many artists who have gone on to play an influential role in the development of their disciplines. Past music fellows include **Sergio Barroso**, **Mario Bauza** (known as the father of AfroCuban jazz), **José Bernardo**, **Aldo Rafael Forte**, **Julián Orbon**, **Tania León** and **Orlando Jacinto García**. This year, the first William B. Warren Lifetime Achievement Award was given to **Bebo Valdes**. The award carries a $15,000 cash prize which is used by the winner to further his or her creative development.

The Selection Program is administered by the Cintas Foundation Board and the Cintas Fellows Program at the Patricia & Philip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University.

For more information about the Cintas Foundation and past fellows and about the Frost Art Museum at FIU, please visit the websites, www.cintasfoundation.org and www.frostartmuseum.org or call 305-348-2890.