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## ***Cintas Foundation Announces 2007 Competition for the Brandon Fradd Fellowship in Music Composition***

Miami (November 7, 2006)- The Cintas Foundation is pleased to announce the competition for the ***Cintas Foundation Brandon Fradd Fellowship in Music Composition*** which opens December 1, 2006. This marks the first annual Brandon Fradd Competition in Music Composition. Applications accepted through **January 12, 2007**.

The Cintas Foundation invites applications for the fellowship in music composition, which annually awards \$15,000 to artists of Cuban citizenship or direct descent (having a Cuban parent or grandparent) living outside of Cuba. The fellowship is awarded for creative accomplishment in the field of music. The fellowship is not awarded for academic writing, study or research, or to performing artists. Cintas fellows are free to pursue their artistic activities as they wish, according to their application, in the United States or in other countries approved by the Cintas Foundation. Representative music of the finalists will be featured on the Cintas Foundation website.

Brandon Fradd, managing director of Apollo Medical Partners, generously funded the endowment for the fellowship in music composition. “Mr. Fradd has always held a deep interest and respect for Cuban music,” said Hortensia Sampedro, president of the Cintas Foundation. “In addition to the fellowship, Mr. Fradd’s generous donation will also be used to fund the archiving of the Cintas Foundation’s music collection.”

Since 1963, the Cintas fellowships have been awarded to more than 300 artists. 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 Cintas Foundation was established with funds from the estate of Oscar B. Cintas (1887-1957), former Cuban ambassador to the United States and a prominent industrialist and patron of the arts. Cintas fellowships encourage creative development in architecture, literature, music composition, and the visual arts. The Cintas fellowships program is administered by the Cintas Foundation Board and by the Cintas Fellowship Program of the Frost Art Museum of Florida International University.

The application deadline for the ***Cintas Foundation Brandon Fradd Fellowship in Music Composition*** is **January 12, 2007**. For more information and application forms, please visit the website, [www.cintasfoundation.org](http://www.cintasfoundation.org), or contact Ingrid LaFleur Rogers, Cintas Fellows Program Manager and Selection Process Manager, at [ingrid.rogers@fiu.edu](mailto:ingrid.rogers@fiu.edu).

