



CINTAS Foundation and MDC Museum of Art + Design Announce 2015-16 Fellowship Competition in Visual Arts

Winners to be announced at Museum at MDC's National Historic Landmark Miami Freedom Tower

Miami, April 1, 2015 – The Miami Dade College (MDC) Museum of Art + Design and the CINTAS Foundation have announced the ongoing **2015-2016 CINTAS Knight Foundation Award in Visual Arts**.

All submission materials must be received by Wednesday, July 1, 2015.

Marking its 51st year, the one-of-a-kind competition serves as a platform to promote and support visual artists, writers, architects and composers of Cuban descent from across the globe. The Collection has grown to be one of the largest bodies of Cuban art outside of Cuba and continues to grow each year with each new fellow.

"CINTAS Fellows are found represented in all major museums, as well as in important private and corporate collections throughout the world," said CINTAS Foundation Board President Hortensia E. Sampedro.

In addition to supporting Cuban artists, many early in their careers, the CINTAS Foundation also maintains a growing collection of works by past awardees and other esteemed Cuban artists.

Past Visual Arts Fellows include:

Guillermo Calzadilla, in collaboration with the artist Jennifer Allora, produce community collaborations, installations, photography and sculptural work. Allora and Calzadilla represented the United States in the 2011 Venice Biennale.

Carmen Herrera was one of Cuba's first abstract painters. Herrera has exhibited widely in various solo and group shows, including the *Outside Cuba* exhibition. Herrera's pieces are in many museums and collections, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York; the Tate Modern in London; the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis; the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C.; El Museo del Barrio in New York; and Havana's Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes. She is the winner of a Creative Artists Public Service Award (CAPS) in New York.

The late Félix González Torres represented the USA in the 52nd Venice Biennale. He also had solo exhibitions at the New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York; the Brooklyn Museum; the Museum of Modern Art in New York; the Museum in Progress in Vienna; the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles; the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C.; and the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris.

The late Carlos Alfonzo was represented in the *Outside Cuba* exhibition and the *Cuba-USA: The First Generation* traveling exhibition. He has also been the subject of several solo exhibitions in institutions such as the Pérez Art Museum Miami, the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in North Carolina, the Bass Museum of Art in Miami Beach and the Hal Bromm Gallery in New York.

Teresita Fernández has had solo exhibitions at Castello di Rivoli in Italy, the Masataka Hayakawa Gallery in Japan, the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., Deitch Projects in New York and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Miami. She was also appointed by President Barack Obama to serve on the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts.

Andrés Serrano has won awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation and the New York State Council on the Arts. He has also been featured in countless solo and group shows in the United States and abroad.

MDC Museum of Art + Design will host a variety of events to showcase the works of this year's finalists, including **the Visual Arts Finalists exhibition. The awards announcement for Visual Arts will be made on Saturday, October 10 at MDC's Freedom Tower.**

The winner will receive a \$15,000 award and the opportunity to complete the project outlined in the proposal. The winner will be announced by CINTAS Foundation Board President Hortensia E. Sampedro.

Competition details, program requirements and application forms can be found at www.cintasfoundation.org.

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 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.mdcmaod.org

For more information about the CINTAS program at MDC Museum of Art + Design, please contact Eliza Gonzalez at 305-237-7741, or egonza10@mdc.edu.

Media-only contacts:

Juan Mendieta, MDC communications director, 305-237-7611, jmendiet@mdc.edu; Sue Arrowsmith, media specialist , 305-237-3710, sue.arrowsmith@mdc.edu; Allison Horton, public information coordinator, 305-237-3359, ahorton2@mdc.edu; or Alejandro Rios, 305-237-7482, arios1@mdc.edu

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

###

MDC MUSEUM of ART + DESIGN
FREEDOM TOWER at MIAMI DADE COLLEGE
300 NE SECOND AVE
MIAMI, FL 33132
(305) 237-7700
WWW.MDCMOAD.ORG

MDCculture
Miami Dade College