Miami Dade College gets Cintas art collection

MIAMl HERALD STAFF

During a signing ceremony Monday morning in the office of President Eduardo J. Padron, Miami Dade College officially becomes the new home of the Cintas Foundation Collection, almost 300 works by artists of Cuban descent who have received a prestigious Cintas Fellowship.

The works which, college officials say, eventually will go on permanent display at the college’s Freedom Tower, represent 200 artists, span generations and aesthetics and include paintings, prints, photographs, drawings, films, sculptures and installation art.

The Cintas fellowships, awarded since 1963, are funded by the estate of Oscar B. Cintas, a former Cuban ambassador to the United States. The Cintas Foundation encourages artistic expression by offering grants and making art available to the public. Past grant recipients include composers Orlando Garcia and Tania León; architect Andrés Martin Duany, writers Oscar Hijuelos, Maria Irene Fornes and Reinaldo Arenas and visual artists Agustín Fernández, Félix González-Torres, Guillermo Calzadilla, Quiisqueya Henríquez, Lydia Rubio, Gean Moreno, Gleixis Novoa, Luis Gispert, María Martínez-Cañas, Carlos Alfonzo and Andres Serrano.

HIS NEXT PLAY

Get out your orange and blue, Gator fans. Tim Tebow is coming to town.

The Denver Broncos quarterback and Heisman Trophy winner will appear from 7-9 p.m. Monday at Books & Books, 265 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables.

To get in line for the signing, customers must purchase Tebow’s new memoir Through My Eyes (Harper, $26.99), written with Nathan Whitaker. You can buy the book at any Books & Books location or on the website; only two copies per person allowed in the signing line.

Tebow won’t be able to sign your championship T-shirts, jerseys or any other memorabilia due to time constraints. No word yet on whether you’ll be allowed to do the “Two Bits” cheer.

Connie Ogle

KRON FREE AT ARSHT

CityWrights, the four-day conference portion of City Theatre’s popular Summer Shorts festival, hits town beginning Thursday under the guidance of literary manager and City co-founder Susan Westfall. Obie Award-winning playwright and performer Lisa Kron (whose works include 2.5 Minute Ride and Well) will give a free performance titled What Will Happen Next? at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the Peacock Room at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, 1300 Biscayne Blvd., Miami. Before Kron’s lecture-performance a free 6:30 p.m. round-table discussion on season programming will feature artistic directors Israel Horovitz (Glouster Stage Company), David Loehr (Riverrun), Ricky J. Martinez (New Theatre), Deborah Sherman (Promethean Theatre), Jeff Revels (Orlando Repertory Theatre), Henry Fonte (University of Miami) and Stephanie Norman and John Manzelli of City Theatre. Because of limited seating at the Kron performance and artistic directors’ panel, reservations are required; call City Theatre at 305-755-9401, ext. 10.

Locals who want to participate in the CityWrights conference, with most events held at Miami’s Epic Hotel, are being offered a special price of $30 per day or $50 for Friday and Saturday. Info: www.citytheatre.com.

Christine Dolen

KRAVIS HELPS OUT

The sudden closing of the award-winning Florida Stage almost two weeks ago left those who bought tickets to the canceled summer show Ella out of luck. But the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, Florida Stage’s home for the past year, is trying to make that loss less painful for anyone who purchased an Ella ticket through its box office. As a goodwill gesture, the Kravis is offering a complimentary ticket to any 2011-2012 “Kravis Center Presents” performance in the center’s Rinker Playhouse, Persson Hall or Gosman Amphitheatre, based on availability.

Since Florida Stage filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy, neither the company nor the Kravis can give refunds, but now ticketholders have an alternative. After Kravis season brochures are sent out in September, Ella ticketholders should call the box office at 561-832-7469 to make their alternative choice. Info about Florida Stage and its closing is still available on the company’s website at www.floridastage.org.

Christine Dolen