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CINTAS Foundation and Miami Dade College Announce Competition for 2011- 2012 Visual Arts Fellowship

Finalists Exhibition to be held at MDC's National Historic Landmark Miami Freedom Tower in October

Miami, July 8, 2011 – Miami Dade College (MDC) and the **CINTAS Foundation** announce the start of the annual competition for the **2011 – 2012 CINTAS Foundation Fellowship in the Visual Arts**, administered by the Foundation and the CINTAS Fellowship Program at MDC.

MDC will host a variety of events to showcase the works of this year's finalists in the three disciplines: music, visual art and creative writing. There will be a **special exhibition opening on Thursday, Oct. 27, at the college's Freedom Tower** for visual art finalists.

"For more than 48 years, the CINTAS Foundation has helped Cuban artists pursue their craft and share it with the world. We are proud to continue that tradition by partnering with MDC for this exhibition of Cuban artists at the Freedom Tower," said **Hortensia E. Sampedro, CINTAS Foundation president**. "The winner, to be announced shortly after, will receive \$10,000 and the opportunity to pursue a creative project outlined in their application."

The only one of its kind in the nation, the CINTAS Fellowship program has honored some of the world's most talented Cuban artists. Past visual arts fellows include Gladys Triana, Guillermo Calzadilla, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Carlos Alfonzo, Teresita Fernandez, Anthony Goicolea, Ernesto Oroza, photographers Andres Serrano and Maria Martinez-Canas, sculptor Maria Elena Gonzalez, and filmmaker Mari Rodriguez-Ichaso.

The CINTAS Foundation awards fellowships annually to creative artists of Cuban lineage who reside outside of Cuba. **Competition details and all program requirements and application forms are posted on the CINTAS Foundation web site at www.cinasfoundation.org**. Applicants for the visual arts fellowship must submit original images or film projects by August 29, 2011.

About the CINTAS Foundation

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. www.cintasfoundation.org.

Miami Dade College

Miami Dade College has a long and rich history of involvement in the cultural arts, providing South Florida with a vast array of artistic and literary offerings including The Miami Book Fair International, the Florida Center for the Literary Arts, the Miami International Film Festival, the Cultura del Lobo performing

arts series, the Cuban Cinema Series, the Prometeo Theatre, the Miami Leadership Roundtable speakers' series, the Miami International Sculpture Park, a renowned art gallery system, several campus theaters, and the nationally recognized School of Entertainment and Design Technology. It is also the home of the National Historic Landmark Miami Freedom Tower.

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

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