

PRESS RELEASE

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For further information visit www.CINTASFOUNDATION.org
<<http://www.cintasfoundation.org/>> or contact: Jose W. Perez, Frost Art Museum at
perezjos@fiu.edu or (305) 348-6086.

CINTAS FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2006 COMPETITION IN ARCHITECTURE AND THE VISUAL ARTS

The Cintas Foundation is pleased to announce that the competition for the *Cintas Fellowship in Architecture* and the *Cintas Foundation Emilio Sanchez Award in the Visual Arts* is open effective December 1, 2005. Both Fellowships have been increased to \$15,000.

The *Cintas Foundation Emilio Sanchez Award in the Visual Arts* was established in 2005 by the Emilio Sanchez Foundation to honor the work of the well-known artist and Cintas Fellow.

The Cintas Foundation is also pleased to announce that the selection process will now be administered by the Cintas Selection Program at the Frost Art Museum of Florida International University. "We are pleased to expand our relationship with Florida International University by awarding to the Frost Art Museum the selection process of the Cintas Fellowships. We believe that applicants in architecture, music composition and literature as well as the traditional visual arts will be well served by this association" said Cintas Foundation president Hortensia Sampedro. The Frost Art Museum houses the Cintas Fellows Collection. These are gifts made by past Fellows and now comprise the largest collection of Cuban art outside Cuba.

The Cintas Foundation invites 2006 applications for fellowships in architecture and the visual arts, including painting and sculpture. Fellowships in the amount of \$15,000 are awarded annually. Eligibility is limited to artists of Cuban citizenship or direct descent (having a Cuban parent or grandparent,) who do not live in Cuba. Fellowships are awarded for creative accomplishment. Students and performing artists are not eligible. Cintas Fellows are free to pursue their artistic activities as they wish, in the United States or in other countries approved by the Cintas Foundation, according to their application.

The work of the artists selected as finalists will be shown, and the winners announced, both in architecture and the visual arts, at the library of Florida International University on May 20th, 2006.

Since 1963, the Cintas Fellowships have honored over 300 artists including Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Oscar Hijuelos, playwright Maria Irene Fornes, painter Carlos Alfonzo, photographer Andres Serrano, architect Andres Martin Duany, sculptor Maria Elena Gonzales, filmmaker Mari Rodriguez-Ichaso, and composer Tania Leon among many others.

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 acknowledge creative accomplishments and 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 Selection Program of the Frost Art Museum of Florida International University.

The application deadline for the *Cintas Foundation Emilio Sanchez Award in Visual Arts* is February 17, 2006. The application deadline for the *Cintas Foundation Fellowship in Architecture* is March 17, 2006. For more information and application forms, please visit the website www.cintasfoundation.org <<http://www.cintasfoundation.org/>>