

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Miami Dade College and CINTAS Foundation Announce 2011 Fellowship Finalists**

*MDC's Art Gallery System is showcasing the works of visual arts finalists at its Iconic Freedom Tower*

**Miami, Nov. 1, 2011** – At an exhibition held recently at **Miami Dade College's (MDC) Freedom Tower**, the **CINTAS Foundation** announced this year's finalists for the annual CINTAS Foundation Fellowship competition in three categories: visual arts, music and creative writing.

MDC, the new home of the world-renowned CINTAS Fellows Collection, hosted the event and opening exhibition of this year's visual arts finalists. **The artwork will remain on display through Dec. 16**, free and open to the public, during gallery hours.

**The 2011 CINTAS Fellowship finalists are:****VISUAL ARTS:**

**Ivan Abreu, Harold Batista, Domingo Castillo, Ivan Depena, Coco Fusco, Jillian Mayer, Fabian Pena, Dinorah de Jesus Rodriguez, Ruben Torres Llorca, and Juana Valdes.**

The jury: **Michelle Weinberg**, visual artist and creative director of the Girls' Club in Ft. Lauderdale; **Jorge Santis**, curator of collections at the Museum of Art in Ft. Lauderdale; **Maggy Cuesta**, dean of Visual Arts at New World School of the Arts; **Rene Morales**, associate curator for the Miami Art Museum; and **Velia Larcinese**, executive director of The Americas Collection.

**MUSIC:**

**Luis Franz Aguirre Rovira, Jorge Martín and Omar Sosa.**

The jury: **Tania Leon**, composer and conductor, **Eduardo Marturet**, music director of the Miami Symphony Orchestra and **Jeffrey Hodgson**, interim provost and CEO for New World School of the Arts.

**CREATIVE WRITING:**

**Jorge Ignacio Cortiñas, Ana Menendez, Daniel Older, and Enrique Del Risco.**

The jury: **Ana Dopico**, author and associate professor at New York University, **Jose Quiroga**, author and professor at Emory University and **Damian J. Fernandez**, head of the Ethical Culture Fieldston School.

**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. In June of 2011, the Cintas Foundation entered into an extended loan to MDC's Art Gallery System (AGS) 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. The collection is comprised of gifts made by the fellows to the foundation. More than 200 artists are represented in the collection through a wide variety of media including paintings, prints, photographs, drawings, films, sculptures and installation art. The vast scope of the collection reflects the

heterogeneous nature of the artistic production of Cuban artists, spanning across various generations, and their significant aesthetic and historical contribution to modern and contemporary art.

[www.cintasfoundation.org](http://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 Center @ MDC, the Miami International Film Festival, the MDC Live! 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](mailto:jbrodsky@mdc.edu).

**For more information about the exhibition, please contact** MDC's Art Gallery System at 305-237-7700.

**Media-only contacts:** Juan Mendieta, MDC director of communications, 305-237-7611, [jmendiet@mdc.edu](mailto:jmendiet@mdc.edu); Tere Estorino, director of media relations, 305-237-3949, [testorino@mdc.edu](mailto:testorino@mdc.edu); Sue Arrowsmith, 305-237-3710, [sue.arrowsmith@mdc.edu](mailto:sue.arrowsmith@mdc.edu); or Tarnell Carroll, 305-237-3359, [tc Carroll@mdc.edu](mailto:tc Carroll@mdc.edu).

**This and other MDC releases are available on the web at** [www.mdc.edu](http://www.mdc.edu).

###