

For Immediate Release

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Cintas Foundation Program at FIU Frost Art Museum Opens 2010 Competition for Coveted Music Fellowship

Miami, (Dec. 1, 2009) The Cintas Foundation and The Frost Art Museum at Florida International University (FIU) announced the start of the annual competition for the 2010 Brandon Fradd Fellowship in Music Composition administered by the Foundation and the Cintas Fellowship Program at The Frost.

The only one of its kind in the nation, the program has honored some of the world's most talented Cuban musicians. Last year, the three finalists for the award were Oriente Lopez, Fabian Almazan and Sergio Barroso who won the award. Past music fellows include Armando Bayolo, Mario Bauza (known as the father of Afro-Cuban jazz), José Bernardo, Aldo Rafael Forte, Julián Orbon, Tania León and Orlando Jacinto Garcia. The Cintas Foundation awards fellowships annually to creative artists of Cuban lineage who reside outside of Cuba. Competition details are posted on the Cintas Foundation web site at www.cintasfoundation.org.

Cintas fellows are awarded \$10,000 and the opportunity to pursue an art project outlined in their applications. Since it was established in 1963, the Cintas Fellowship Program has honored more than 300 artists. FIU and the Cintas Foundation Board have been administering the awards program since 2005. Winners will be announced in May 2010.

Applicants for the music fellowship must submit original musical compositions and recordings of their work by January 30, 2010. All program requirements and application forms are posted on the Cintas Foundation web site at www.cintasfoundation.org.

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), former Cuban ambassador to the United States, a prominent industrialist and patron of the arts. www.cintasfoundation.org

About the Frost Art Museum – Florida International University

The Frost Art Museum opened its current 46,000 □ square □ foot state of the art building in November, 2008. Over **26,000** people have visited The Museum in its new building since its opening in November, 2008. Admission to The Museum is always free. The Frost is an AAM accredited museum and Smithsonian affiliate and is located at 10975 SW 17thSt across from the Blue garage and adjacent to the Wertheim Performing Arts Center on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday noon □ 5 p.m. Closed on Mondays and most legal holidays. For more information, please visit thefrost.fiu.edu or call 305 □ 348 □ 2890. Find The Frost Art Museum on Twitter (twitter.com/frostartmuseum) and Facebook (facebook.com)

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