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**Cintas Foundation Program at FIU Announces 2008 Competition for  
Coveted Fellowship in Creative Writing**  
*Submissions Must be Received by January 14 Deadline*

**Miami - (December 4, 2007)-** The Cintas Foundation and The Frost Art Museum at FIU today announced the start of the annual Fellowship in Creative Writing competition administered by the Cintas Fellowship Program at The Frost. The only one of its kind in the nation, the Cintas Foundation Fellowship Program has honored more than 300 artists including Pulitzer-Prize winning novelist Oscar Hijuelos, playwright Maria Irene Fornes, Guggenheim Fellow Cristina García and poet and essayist Lourdes Blanco. Established in 1963, the Cintas Foundation awards fellowships annually to creative artists of Cuban lineage who are currently residing outside of Cuba.

“For more than 40 years, the Cintas Foundation has helped great artists pursue their craft, and share it with the world. We are proud to continue that tradition,” said Hortensia E. Sampedro, president of the Cintas Foundation’s Board of Trustees.

Applicants for the fellowship program must submit original manuscripts by January 14, 2008. Cintas fellows are awarded \$15,000 and the opportunity to pursue the project outlined in their applications.

The Cintas Fellowship Program encourages creative development in architecture, literature, music composition and the visual arts. The program awards annual fellowships in music and visual arts as well as creative writing.

FIU and the Cintas Foundation have been administering the awards program since 2005. 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.

Application forms and competition requirements are available online at [www.cintasfoundation.org](http://www.cintasfoundation.org). or by contacting Ingrid LaFleur Rogers, Cintas Fellows Collection Manager, at [ingrid.rogers@fiu.edu](mailto:ingrid.rogers@fiu.edu).

