



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 326-2010

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: December 6, 2010

SUBJECT: Bass Museum Awarded \$100,000 Grant from Knight Foundation

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This Letter to Commission is intended to provide you with some great news regarding the Bass Museum. On Monday, November 29, 2010, the City's Bass Museum of Art was awarded a matching grant of \$100,000 from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation in support of three one-year curatorial fellowships in contemporary art. Bass President George Lindemann accepted the award from Alberto Ibarguen, President and CEO of the Knight Foundation, at a gala ceremony last night at the Arsht Center's Knight Concert Hall.

We should be especially proud that this grant was one of only 27 projects funded out of more than 950 proposals to the Knight Arts Challenge, and that it was the tenth largest grant awarded in this year's program. The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation's Knight Arts Challenge is a five-year, \$40 million initiative "to bring South Florida together through the arts."

The Bass' curatorial fellowship program was designed to foster dialogue within the Greater Miami arts community. This project will offer hands-on training to emerging curators or recent Master of Arts graduates. Among other activities, the fellows will conduct studio visits and gather materials to help the museum develop a complete archive on Miami artists. They will also help create an outdoor art program for Collins Park; develop programming and contemporary artists' projects for display in the museum's small-project room (called "The Cabinet"); and facilitate an educational lecture series for museum members.

Please join me in congratulating Bass Museum Executive Director Silvia Cubina and her staff for this prestigious vote of confidence from the Knight Foundation.