



**Award-Winning Miami-Dade Student Art
Returns to Miami Art Museum
Awards Ceremony Held at MAM on January 25, 2009 3pm
Exhibition on view January 25—February 15, 2009**

Works by young artists representing the diversity that nourishes Miami's expanding art scene will be on view at Miami Art Museum during the annual Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition from January 25 to February 15, 2009. Hundreds of Miami-Dade middle and high school students and their families will gather at Miami Art Museum on Sunday, January 25, 2009, for the exhibition opening in the Museum's Ne Work Gallery from 1 to 4pm. Award winners, selected from approximately 200 works on view at the Museum, will be honored by school district officials at a 3pm ceremony.

The Miami-Dade County Schools Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition is an annual display of artwork produced by Miami-Dade County high school and middle school students as part of the regional and national Scholastic Art & Writing Awards competition. Every year winners of the Miami-Dade awards compete on the national level in New York. Students from Miami-Dade County schools consistently rank among the top winners at the national level – setting records for the number of awards won by the students of a single school district. In 2008, students from Miami-Dade won 28 national awards.

"The annual Scholastic Art Awards exhibition is only one of the ways Miami Art Museum is working with Miami-Dade schools to encourage engagement in the arts as a way of improving academic achievement," MAM Director Terence Riley said. "In an effort to help schools cope with the current economic situation, the Museum has dropped fees for classes visiting the Museum and for teachers attending our teacher workshops. We continue to look for other ways to help students get here, as well as ways of getting art to students in the schools."

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards have been conducted annually since 1923 to reward the creative achievements of students in grades 7 through 12 and to recognize excellence in teaching. The awards – the longest running, largest and most prestigious student recognition program in America – were established by Maurice R. Robinson, founder of Scholastic Inc.

At the conclusion of this regional exhibition, top award-winning artworks are forwarded to the national program in New York City. Works of art and writing are submitted for the national jury process by 80 regions from across the United States. A distinguished panel of prominent artists, writers, and arts professionals selects the national awards. National awardees will be honored in New York.

Miami Art Museum

Miami Art Museum is dedicated to engaging the public with art from the twentieth century through the present. Since its founding in 1996, the Museum has built a collection of contemporary art with the goal of providing Miami with a legacy for future generations. MAM's collection has grown exponentially since *Art in America* called it "the quintessential Miami collection" in 1999. The MAM collection is dedicated to international art of the 20th and 21st centuries, taking a hemispheric perspective of the Americas.

Miami Art Museum's educational programs are supported by

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Miami Art Museum is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts; with the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners. Miami Art Museum is an accessible facility. For a sign language interpreter or assistive listening devices please call MAM's Education Department 305.375.4073 at least five days in advance. Materials in accessible format may be requested.

Open Tuesday through Friday - 10 AM to 5 PM, Saturday and Sunday – noon to 5 PM. Third Thursdays until 8:30 PM. Closed Monday. Admission for MAM members, children under 12 and students (with valid ID) is free. Adults \$8, seniors \$4. Free admission every second Saturday.

Miami Art Museum
101 West Flagler Street
Miami, FL 33130
www.miamiartmuseum.org