Beaux Arts endows Directorship of University of Miami Lowe Art Museum

CORAL GABLES, FLA. (November 3, 2014) – The University of Miami’s Lowe Art Museum and Beaux Arts have been partners for 63 years. A $1.5 million gift from Beaux Arts, the Museum’s founding support group, has now enabled the creation of the position of Beaux Arts Director and Chief Curator of the Lowe Art Museum. The endowment will also support increased programming, community outreach, facility upgrades and other projects at the Lowe.

“Through events such as their spectacular annual Beaux Arts Festival and so much more, the members of the Beaux Arts have been critical supporters of the Lowe’s educational and cultural mission in South Florida,” said Sergio M. Gonzalez, Senior Vice President for University Advancement and External Affairs. “Their efforts have allowed the Lowe to grow and flourish since 1952; we are grateful for all that they have done and continue to do.”

With the University’s commitment to taking the Lowe to the next level of excellence and the recent announcement of the Museum’s acclaimed new director and art historian, Dr. Jill Deupi, the Museum is perfectly poised to realize its vision as a world-class arts education and cultural institution.

“For more than 60 years, Beaux Arts has played a critical role in the Lowe Art Museum’s long-term success by helping us to grow our collections, expand our facilities and enhance our programming,” said Deupi. “This remarkable donation affirms Beaux Arts’ commitment to furthering the educational and outreach mission of the Museum. It equally solidifies the relationship between Beaux Arts and the Lowe, and secures for us a solid future together.”

Beaux Arts has a long tradition of serving as an educational resource to the community and of philanthropy at the Museum. As original founders of the Lowe, Beaux Arts’ steadfast loyalty has been reflected by its generosity.
“As President of this amazing organization, I am honored to be part of such a wonderful event,” said Becky McCarron, President of Beaux Arts. “These funds come as a result of hard work from members past and present, and we know the Lowe will benefit greatly from our gift, which will benefit Beaux Arts as well. This is such a wonderful opportunity for the Lowe and Beaux Arts, and we are ecstatic that this endowment will live in perpetuity.”

“This generous gift further cements the long, successful partnership between Beaux Arts and the Lowe. The support of Beaux Arts has been critical to the Lowe’s success in being a cultural resource to our students and South Florida for more than 60 years, and we look forward to continuing that relationship under the leadership of Dr. Jill Deupi,” said Dr. Leonidas Bachas, Dean of the UM College of Arts & Sciences, of which the Lowe is a part.

Kristen Munroe, Past President of Beaux Arts, said, “This gift to endow and name the directorship of the Lowe celebrates the hard work of all the past and current members of Beaux Arts to create a permanent resource that will further enhance the Museum. Beaux Arts is honored to give this gift to the Museum and support the gem that is the Lowe.”

The development of the Lowe’s highly regarded collection may be attributed to the continued generosity of partners such as Beaux Arts who, from the Museum’s beginning, have supported it with major gifts. The almost 19,000-object collection is one of the most important in the Southeast. The Lowe Art Museum excels not only as a vibrant center for teaching and research, but also as a foremost cultural institution for Miami’s diverse community, and the city’s many visitors from around the world.

“I am looking forward to building an even brighter tomorrow with the help of Beaux Arts and each and every one of their members,” said Deupi.

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Momentum2: The Breakthrough Campaign for the University of Miami seeks to advance learning, elevate scholarship, and make bold strides in health care in the community, across the country, and around the world. With a goal of raising $1.6 billion by 2016, Momentum2 comes on the heels of the institution’s record-breaking Momentum: The Campaign for the University of Miami, which concluded at the end of 2007 and raised more than $1.4 billion for endowed chairs and professorships, scholarships, facilities, academic and medical programs, and other initiatives.