

**For Immediate Release:**

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**Funding Arts Network Announces 2009 Grant Recipients;  
\$50,000 Knight New Work Award Presented to  
Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator's Public Art Project: "Elusive Landscape"**

**Miami, Fla. (May 5, 2009)** – Funding Arts Network (FAN) presented \$200,000 in member-supported grants to 22 non-profit arts organizations for programs in Miami-Dade County, on Tuesday, May 5, at FAN's annual awards luncheon in Miami. In addition and in partnership with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, a \$50,000 Knight New Work Award to Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator for the multi-media exhibition "Elusive Landscape." Created by Miami-based artist Dinorah de Jesus Rodriguez, the exhibition celebrates natural landscapes in urban environments through hand crafted film.

To date, FAN has given \$2.25 million in grants to support more than 75 visual and performing arts groups in Miami-Dade County. This year, \$200,000 in grant awards were presented to Actor's Playhouse, Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Brazz Dance Theater, Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education, Florida Grand Opera, Frost Art Museum-FIU, Frost School of Music-UM, GableStage, Jewish Museum of Florida, Lowe Art Museum, Miami Contemporary Dance Co., Miami Light Project, Museum of Contemporary Art, New Theatre, New World Symphony, Patrons of Exceptional Artists, Seraphic Fire, Sunday Afternoons of Music, Teatro Avante, Inc., The M Ensemble Company, and Tigertail Productions, in addition to the \$50,000 Knight Foundation New Work Award.

The Knight New Work Award winner was selected with the help of an advisory panel including Charles Cinnamon, publicist and arts activist; Dr. Ruth Greenfield, former chair of the music department at Miami Dade College and founder of two concert series; Mercy Quiroga, provost of the New World School of the Arts; Helen Kohen, former art critic for The Miami Herald; Michael Spring and Deborah Margol of the Miami-Dade Department of Cultural Affairs; and Nicole Yarling, musician and teacher at Florida Memorial College. Funding Arts Network Grant Awards were selected by a screening committee consisting of FAN members.

**About Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator's "Elusive Landscape"**

At five distinct outdoor venues (Arch Creek Park, Vizcaya Gardens, Sewell park, Morningside Park and Miami Beach Botanical Garden) over the course of six months (June – November 2010), Dinorah de Jesus Rodriguez will present multiple 16mm film projections aimed at the surrounding scenery so that the imagery illuminates the foliage and textures of the environment, penetrating and activating the landscape. Each installation event will be specific to its venue, with footage depicting scenes from that location, and will be open to the public at no cost.

**About FAN**

Funding Arts Network ([www.fundingartsnetwork.org](http://www.fundingartsnetwork.org)) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the support of the arts in Miami-Dade County through a competitive grant process funded by its members' contributions.

**About The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation**

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation promotes journalism excellence worldwide and invests in the vitality of Miami and 25 other U.S. communities where the Knight brothers owned newspapers. Knight Foundation focuses on projects with the potential to create transformational change. To learn more, visit [www.knightfoundation.org](http://www.knightfoundation.org).

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