

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 18-024 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING MR. FRANKLIN SIRMANS, DIRECTOR OF THE PÉREZ ART MUSEUM OF MIAMI (PAMM)

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED, AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

The Pérez Art Museum of Miami (PAMM) is a modern and contemporary art museum dedicated to collecting and exhibiting international art of the 20th and 21st centuries. Exhibitions highlight Miami's diverse community and essential geographic location at the crossroads of the Americas. Additionally, PAMM provides K-12 students and teachers interactive learning opportunities with art and students engage in critical thinking and explore personal meaning projects at the museum.

On September 4, 2015, the Board of Directors of the Perez Art Museum of Miami (PAMM) announced the appointment of Mr. Franklin Sirmans as the museum's Director. Mr. Sirmans began his tenure at PAMM in October 2015. Prior to this assignment, Mr. Sirmans was the Department Head and Curator of Contemporary Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art from 2010 to 2015.

From 2006 to 2010, Mr. Sirmans served as the Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at The Menil Collection in Houston, Texas, where he successfully organized several exhibitions. Additionally, he was the Artistic Director of the Third International Arts Biennial Project, Prospect New Orleans, in New Orleans, Louisiana. The exhibition ran from October 2014 to January 2015 and received many positive reviews in hundreds of international periodicals. From January 2006 to January 2009, Mr. Sirmans worked as Curatorial Advisor at P. S. 1 Contemporary Art Center in New York City, New York.

Mr. Sirmans has also worked as a freelance writer, independent curator, editor and professor from 1998 to 2006. He has regularly organized exhibitions, edited and wrote for different magazines and newspapers, books and catalogues, and worked as an adjunct professor of art theory. Many of his writings have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Newsweek International*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Essence Magazine*, *ArtNews*, *Art in America*, *Journal of Contemporary African Art*, and *Time Out New York*.

Some of his edited and exhibition catalogues include *Transforming the Crown: African, Asian, and Caribbean Artists in Britain* and *Jean-Michel Basquiat*; co-edited *Freestyle and Black Belt* (The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York); and has contributed to *Black Romantic*, *Gary Simmons*, and *Inside Out: Festival of New Art*.

Mr. Sirmans has lectured at institutions and universities including the Bronx Museum of the Arts; the Walker Art Center; the Contemporary Art Museum, Houston, Texas; Sculpture Center, New York; Harvard, Yale, Columbia, New York, Wayne State, Los Angeles State, Penn State, Florida Gulf Coast, and Temple Universities; Spellman College in Atlanta, Georgia; The School of the Art Institute of Chicago; The College of Creative Studies, Detroit, Michigan; California Institute of the Arts; The Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida; the University of Southern California; The Glassell School of Art, Houston; Comune di Milano, Milan, Italy; San Francisco Art Institute; Townhouse Gallery, Cairo, Egypt; The Second Yellowsea Conference, Seoul, South Korea; and Sony Music and Entertainment in New York; among many others.

Mr. Sirmans has brought to PAMM an extensive background and experiences from numerous large institutions and has a proven track record of electrifying communities. He is the ideal person to lead this incredible museum in a city that now is well-known as an arts destination and home to a vivacious blend of cultures and traditions.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No.18-024 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Mr. Franklin Sirmans, Director of the Pérez Art Museum of Miami (PAMM)

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-024
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING MR. FRANKLIN SIRMANS,
DIRECTOR OF THE PÉREZ ART MUSEUM OF MIAMI (PAMM)**

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2015, the Board of Directors of the Perez Art Museum of Miami (PAMM) announce the appointment of Mr. Franklin Sirmans as the museum's Director. Mr. Sirmans began his tenure at PAMM in October 2015; and

WHEREAS, prior to this assignment, Mr. Sirmans was the Department Head and Curator of Contemporary Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art from 2010 to 2015; and

WHEREAS, from 2006 to 2010, Mr. Sirmans served as the Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at The Menil Collection in Houston, Texas. He was the Artistic Director of the Third International Arts Biennial Project, Prospect New Orleans, in New Orleans, Louisiana. And, from January 2006 to January 2009, Mr. Sirmans worked as Curatorial Advisor at P. S. 1 Contemporary Art Center in New York City, New York; and

WHEREAS, from 1998 to 2006, Mr. Sirmans has regularly organized exhibitions, edited and wrote for different magazines and newspapers, books and catalogues, and worked as an adjunct professor of art theory. His writings have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Newsweek International*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Essence Magazine*, *ArtNews*, *Art in America*, *Journal of Contemporary African Art*, and *Time Out New York*, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sirmans has lectured at institutions and universities including the Bronx Museum of the Arts; the Walker Art Center; the Contemporary Art Museum, Houston, Texas; Sculpture Center, New York; Harvard, Yale, Columbia, New York, Wayne State, Los Angeles State, Penn State, Florida Gulf Coast, and Temple Universities; Spellman College in Atlanta, Georgia; The School of the Art Institute of Chicago; The College of Creative Studies, Detroit, Michigan; California Institute of the Arts; The Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida; the University of Southern California; The Glassell School of Art, Houston; Comune di Milano, Milan, Italy; San Francisco Art Institute; Townhouse Gallery, Cairo, Egypt; The Second Yellowsea Conference, Seoul, South Korea; and Sony Music and Entertainment in New York; among others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 18-024 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Mr. Franklin Sirmans, Director of the Pérez Art Museum of Miami (PAMM).

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this twenty-fifth day of April, A. D. 2018

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary