



Pérez Art Museum Miami
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pamm.org



Pérez Art Museum Miami Brings Police and Community Together in Critical Dialogue with New Art Detectives Program

Program in Partnership with Links Inc. Greater Miami Chapter, Breakthrough Miami and Miami-Dade Police



MIAMI – February 16, 2016 – This February, Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), in partnership with the Links Inc. Greater Miami Chapter and Breakthrough Miami, will launch Art Detectives, a new arts education program that promotes critical and timely dialogue between community youth and police. Through this innovative program, PAMM teaching artists, members of The Links, Inc., Greater Miami (FL) Chapter, Miami-Dade County Police, students and Americorps volunteers from Breakthrough Miami, will work together to build relationships using art as a catalyst.

“Through Art Detectives we aim to foster dialogue around one of our country’s ongoing issues – police interactions with young people of color,” said Adrienne Chadwick, PAMM deputy director for education. “By using inquiry-based art instruction, we can create a cross-generational ‘teaching moments’ and work toward building mutual trust and respect.”

The program will unfold in a series of shared art encounters, each involving 50 middle-school students from Breakthrough Miami, which provides enrichment, mentoring and college access services to nearly 1,300 Miami-Dade County students. The sessions, each of which will involve facilitators from The Links and officers from the Miami-Dade County Police Department as well as educators from the PAMM staff, are designed to cultivate observation skills and spark creative thinking and cross-community dialogue.

“When you look at the issues that are polarizing our communities, it’s important to understand the relationships between beliefs and assumptions to recognize the biases that generate perceptions and perspectives on all sides,” Chadwick said.





Participants will begin by exploring new ideas based on a presentation of PAMM exhibition images, then share the experience of hands-on art-making inspired by the art. Field trips to PAMM will include interactive gallery explorations led by a teaching-artist which provide an in-depth focus on specially selected works of contemporary art.

The development of digital learning resources, including further inquiries and lesson plans, will enable participants to continue the dialogue around the art and the topical issues represented.

The goal of the program is to create new channels for community interactions – particularly between youth and law enforcement officers-that provide a foundation for mutual understanding and respect.

“We want to provide our students the opportunity to interact with law enforcement in a non-traditional setting and help both groups humanize a relationship that is currently mired in mythology and misrepresentation,” said Webber Charles, the Breakthrough Miami senior site director. “Working alongside law officers, students can develop authentic relationships with the potential to foster empathy in both directions.”

"Designing the underpinnings of this program was fueled by my passion to improve relations between young people and the police," said Donna L. Ginn, The Links Inc., Greater Miami Chapter and program designer. It was natural fit for the Links to serve as facilitators given our abiding commitment to serving young people, in particular, and our community overall."

Art Detectives is organized by PAMM, The Links, Inc. Greater Miami (FL) Chapter, Breakthrough Miami, and Miami-Dade County Police. It is supported by a grant from The Children's Trust Innovation Fund.

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Photo/Interview Opportunities: Media are invited to attend the **February 25 session from 1-3pm** at PAMM.

Interview requests facilitated by Alexa Ferra. Interviews with program spokespeople available upon request:

- Adrienne Chadwick, PAMM deputy director for education
- Tracey Robertson Carter, The Links, Inc. Greater Miami (FL) Chapter
- Webber Charles, Breakthrough Miami senior site director
- Officer Mercy Rodriguez, Miami-Dade Police Department

About Pérez Art Museum Miami

Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) promotes artistic expression and the exchange of ideas, advancing public knowledge and appreciation of art, architecture and design, and reflecting the diverse community of its pivotal geographic location at the crossroads of the Americas. A 32-year-old South Florida institution formerly known as Miami Art Museum (MAM), Pérez Art Museum Miami opened a new building, designed by world-renowned architects Herzog & de Meuron, in Downtown Miami's Museum Park on December 4, 2013. The facility and is a state-of-the-art model for sustainable museum design and progressive programming and features 200,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor program space with flexible galleries; shaded outdoor verandas; a waterfront restaurant and bar; a museum shop; and an education center with a library, media lab and classroom spaces. For more information, please visit www.pamm.org, find us on Facebook ([facebook.com/perezartmuseummiami](https://www.facebook.com/perezartmuseummiami)), or follow us on Twitter/Instagram (@pamm).

The Links, Inc. Greater Miami (FL) Chapter

The Links, incorporated an international, not-for-profit corporation, was established in 1946 and has nearly 14,000 members. The Greater Miami Chapter is one of 281 chapters of The Links, Incorporated and has provided continuous service to the South Florida community since 1955. We are one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of women who are committed to enriching,





sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and persons of African ancestry. Our programming initiatives in ***National Trends and Services, The Arts, Services to Youth, International Trends and Services and Health and Human Services*** are designed to support and enhance the lives of countless men, women and children in our community.



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service
Greater Miami (FL) Chapter

Breakthrough Miami

Breakthrough Miami is an eight-year, tuition-free academic enrichment program that provides motivated middle-school students from underserved communities with the tools they need to achieve their most ambitious goals in life.

Miami-Dade Police Department

The Miami-Dade Police Department’s vision is to be the model law enforcement organization in the nation by blending strategic planning with community concerns.

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Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. Support is provided by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners. Additional support is provided by the City of Miami and the Miami OMNI Community Redevelopment Agency (OMNI CRA). Pérez Art Museum Miami is an accessible facility. All contents ©Pérez Art Museum Miami. All rights reserved.

