



Pérez Art Museum Awards Artist Javier Téllez With Annual Pérez Prize, Raises \$2 Million in Support of Education Program at Museum's Largest Fundraiser

Honoring Craig Robins and Jackie Soffer at the 12th Annual Art of the Party



Left: Craig Robins, Franklin Sirmans, Darlene Pérez, Dorothy Podhurst, Jackie Soffer, Jorge M. Pérez, and Aaron Podhurst. Photo: WorldRedEye.com. **Right:** Art of the Party 2025. Photo: John Parra/Getty Images for Pérez Art Museum Miami.

(MIAMI, FL — November 17, 2025) — On Saturday, November 15, **Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM)** honored **Craig Robins and Jackie Soffer** during the 12th annual Art of the Party, the museum's largest fundraising event. The evening brought together Miami's community of artists, philanthropists, civic leaders, and arts supporters to celebrate the pair's visionary leadership at the intersection of art and design. The event raised **\$2 million** in support of the museum's robust arts education program—the largest of its kind outside the Miami-Dade County Public Schools system—in addition to funding PAMM's broader mission. The evening featured a seated dinner on PAMM's East Portico followed by an after-party on the museum's waterfront terrace, featuring a live set by DJ Ruckus.

[Images available for download here.](#)

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As longtime PAMM supporters, Robins and Soffer have enriched the museum's collection with more than 300 donated works and helped shape its vision as board members, co-chairs, and champions of Miami's creative community. **In recognition of their support, PAMM honored Robins and Soffer throughout the evening and gifted them a Bisa Butler print.**



Franklin Sirmans, Jorge M. Pérez, Javier Téllez, and Darlene Pérez.
Photo: John Parra/Getty Images for Pérez Art Museum Miami.

The evening also featured the presentation of the **seventh annual Pérez Prize**, a \$50,000 unrestricted award recognizing an artist whose work advances global artistic dialogue. Annually funded by a gift from Miami-based art patrons Jorge and Darlene Pérez, this year's recipient was **Javier Téllez**, a New York-based and Venezuelan-born artist whose incisive work grapples with representations of mental illness, the meaning of sanity, and the marginalized communities affected by these categorizations.

"Seven years into the Pérez Prize, we're reminded why this commitment matters more than ever. Artists, especially those who amplify underrepresented voices, deserve meaningful recognition and support," said **Darlene Pérez**. "Javier's work approaches a highly charged, highly timely topic through a deeply personal lens, creating space for dialogue around challenges too often overlooked. We're honored to support his practice and see this award bring attention to artists whose work resonates far beyond the museum walls."

"Craig and Jackie have transformed Miami through their visionary leadership in art, design, and community building. We're honored to recognize their enduring contributions and to celebrate the generosity of those who make nights like this possible," said **Franklin Sirmans, Sandra and Tony Tamer director at PAMM**. "We're also thrilled to honor Javier Téllez with this year's Pérez Prize, thanks to Jorge and Darlene Pérez. Javier's practice confronts the realities of mental illness with empathy and urgency—an issue of growing significance in our time. We're proud to play a part in sustaining the power and reach of his work."



Left: Woody De Othello and José Carlos Diaz. Photo: John Parra/Getty Images for Pérez Art Museum Miami.
Right: Sarah Arison, Daniel Milewski, and Nina Johnson. Photo: WorldRedEye.com.



Left: Kimberly Green, Stephanie Cox, Alexa Wollman, and Lark Bennett. Photo: WorldRedEye.com.
Right: Commissioner Oliver Gilbert, Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, and Senator Oscar Braynton. Photo: John Parra/Getty Images for Pérez Art Museum Miami.

2025 Art of the Party Chairs

Darlene and Jorge M. Pérez
 Dorothy and Aaron Podhurst

Host Committee

Co-Chairs: *Alexa and Adam Wolman, Jessica and Franklin Sirmans*
 Sarah Arison and Thomas Wilhelm

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Ebba Holm Cinotti
Reyna Noriega
Ariel Penzer Milgroom
Veronica Sesana Grajales
Eden Xu-Martinez and Steve Martinez

ABOUT CRAIG ROBINS & JACKIE SOFFER

Craig Robins, founder and CEO of Dacra, has redefined Miami through projects that unite architecture, design, and community. He has spearheaded transformative developments, including the revitalization of South Beach, Lincoln Road, and most notably the Miami Design District. Robins also played a pivotal role in bringing Art Basel to Miami Beach, permanently shifting the global art calendar, and co-founded Design Miami, one of the world's premier fairs for collectible design.

Jackie Soffer, chairman and CEO of real estate development firm Turnberry, leads some of South Florida's most dynamic developments, including Aventura Mall, which she has shaped into both a retail and cultural landmark with an iconic collection of public art. She has expanded her family's legacy with large-scale projects across hospitality, residential, and commercial real estate, redefining how culture and commerce converge.

ABOUT PAMM

Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), led by Franklin Sirmans, Sandra and Tony Tamer Director, 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. The 41-year-old South Florida institution, formerly known as Miami Art Museum (MAM), opened a new building, designed by world-renowned architects Herzog & de Meuron, on

December 4, 2013, in Downtown Miami's Maurice A. Ferré Park. The facility 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.

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