

CasaCuba At FIU Receives \$750K

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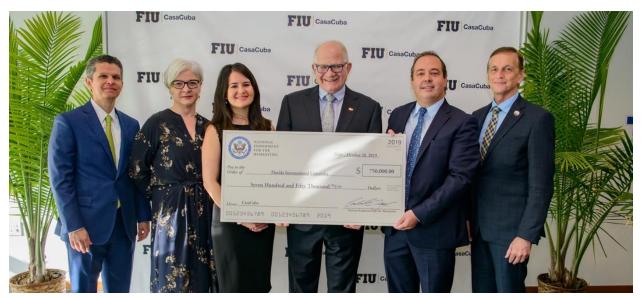


Photo: Left to right: Juan J. Martinez, vice president, chief financial officer and treasurer, Knight Foundation; Victoria Rogers, vice president of arts, Knight Foundation; María Carla Chicuén, executive director of CasaCuba; Mark B. Rosenberg, president of FIU; The Honorable Dr. Carlos Díaz-Rosillo, senior deputy chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities; Provost Dr. Kenneth Furton, FIU.

The National Endowment for the Humanities recently gave \$750,000 to CasaCuba at Florida International University, which is a Cuban heritage center and think tank.

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MIAMI – CasaCuba at FIU, a Cuban heritage center and think tank, recently received a check from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

representing a \$750,000 matching grant. The check presentation took place on Oct. 28 at the Frost Art Museum located on campus.

Gathered for the presentation were members of FIU faculty along with CasaCuba leadership and local dignitaries committed to the initiative. Carlos Díaz-Rosillo, senior deputy chairman of National Endowment for the Humanities represented the agency. Other attendees included Agustín Arellano Sr., chair of construction firm NV2A Group, board chair of CasaCuba; Mark B. Rosenberg, president of Florida International University, congresswomen Donna Shalala and Debbie Mucarsel-Powell and former Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen.

The NEH funding will support the architectural design phase of the state-of-the-art facility, which will integrate the latest technologies – 360 video, touchscreens, and virtual reality – to enable interactive features and exhibitions. The center, expected to break ground in 2020, is envisioned as a destination venue for dynamic public programming and events such as lectures, conferences, screenings, music events, live theater, dance performances, literary circles and more. CasaCuba also will house a think tank on Cuban affairs, engaging discussions that will bring together top scholars, policymakers and business leaders from around the globe.

"On behalf of CasaCuba and FIU, as well as our distinguished board and generous supporters, we collectively thank the National Endowment for the Humanities for this extraordinary award, and for joining us in this historic initiative," said María Carla Chicuén, executive director of CasaCuba. "With every donation, we get closer to realizing our shared dream to build CasaCuba and preserve the richness of the Cuban heritage for perpetuity."