

EXTINGUISH BOARD-OM!

KNIGHT ARTS CHALLENGE TO FUND ARTS BOARD MATCH

*ARTS & BUSINESS COUNCIL OF MIAMI TO LAUNCH INNOVATIVE NEW ONLINE PLATFORM
TO MATCH BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS WITH NON-PROFIT ARTS BOARDS.*

(February 8, 2012)--The Arts & Business Council of Miami has been awarded a Knight Arts Challenge grant for Arts Board Match, a new project to ignite arts boards with new members and new vitality. Imagine hundreds of business professionals channeled onto arts boards to light them up with new ideas. Visualize the opportunity for each person to find the board where they feel a personal passion and commitment. Using modern technology, the internet and social media we will get business involved, one board member at a time. No more boredom here!

"The Knight Arts Challenge funding will provide us with the resources to rethink the way arts groups have traditionally recruited new board members," said Arts & Business Council Executive Director, Laura Bruney. "Using technology effectively and creatively will be powerful and transformative. Arts Board Match will revolutionize the way in which potential board members, interested in getting involved with arts, find their perfect match".

With over 1,000 non-profit cultural groups competing for board members the need to expand the pool of interested prospects is great. Imagine hundreds of business executives and professionals channeled onto arts boards based on a careful match of their personal interests. Consider the range of experience, business skills and new circles of influence these new board members will bring to the table through their networks of associates, colleagues, friends and clients. Energized new board members will reignite and revitalize governing boards.

"Arts Board Match will infuse Miami's arts community with hundreds of new members which will raise the standard of leadership and service, increase diversity and provide cultural groups with new sources of donations, income and outreach," said Raul Garcia, Chair of the Arts & Business Council Board of Trustees. "The Knight Arts Challenge funds will provide us with the resources needed to develop an innovative tool to close the crisis gap in the number and diversity of board candidates accessible to arts organizations in South Florida. We are honored the Knight Foundation selected us."

With our multi-functional [.ArtsBoardMatch.com](http://ArtsBoardMatch.com) website the path to board involvement will be one click away. Using ground-breaking and innovate technological platform we will be able to harness the power of the internet to connect nonprofit arts boards needing board members to business professionals who wish to serve in these important leadership roles. Our powerful search capability will be able to make board matches across boundaries of skill, giving capabilities, ethnicity, age and geography. The site will give business professionals and entrepreneurs easy access to a resource of important information about non-profit boards and highlight the benefits of joining a board. The website will be launched in 2012.

The Arts & Business Council of Miami creates partnerships between the corporate and cultural communities. When a business partners with the arts, they partner with the whole city. Beyond giving money, corporations can provide employees as volunteers, encourage their executives to serve on boards, buy arts tickets for colleagues and clients, purchase holiday gifts at museum shops and host corporate events at cultural venues. A strong cultural community is good for business. By providing leadership opportunities and spearheading innovative programs and initiatives, the Council has made a lasting impact on the business community, arts and cultural organizations, and the whole region. Since our inception in 1985, Arts & Business Council staff, volunteers and outreach have contributed more than ten million dollars in services to the cultural community. To learn more about the Arts Board Match program call the Arts & Business Council office at 305-326-1011.

