About our Board

**Edouard Duval-Carrie** was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in 1954. He was educated at the University of Loyola Montreal, Quebec, in Canada; and at the Ecole Nationale Superieure des Beaux Arts, Paris in France. Duval-Carrie moved to Miami in 1992 and swiftly established himself as an integral factor in the city’s cultural fabric.

Throughout his career, Duval-Carrie has presented many solo exhibitions, among those, in 2014 he had a major one at Perez Art Miami Museum (PAMM). His works are part of the collections of important museums and institutions such as The Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, Michigan; Musee des Art Africains et Oceaniens, Paris France; Davenport Museum of Art, Davenport, Iowa; Perez Art Museum Miami, Miami, Florida; Musee de Pantheon National Haitien, Port-au-Prince, Haiti; and the Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Monterrey (MARCO), Monterrey, Mexico; among others. In 2014 he was awarded the Chevalier des Arts et Lettres by the Consul General of France, Mr. Philippe Letrilliart.

Duval-Carrie’s work explores the social and historical aspects of Haitian culture. His imagery includes very often Voodoo gods combined with aspects of classical mythology and Haiti's national heroes, the typical fusion that characterizes the Caribbean. His images are visual examples of Magic Realism, portraying a world in which reality and mythology come hand in hand.

**Jose Felix Diaz**, Executive Vice President, Ballard Partners, is a government law attorney and consultant, who specializes in representing clients in complex matters involving federal, state, and local government approvals. With a decade of legal experience at one of Florida's top law firms, Jose has represented various individuals, nonprofit organizations, and entities throughout South Florida and beyond. He was recognized as one of the “Best of Miami’s Legal Leaders for 2014” and as one of "Miami's Best Government Leaders for 2016" by Miami Today.

In 2010, Jose was elected to the Florida House of Representatives, where he dedicated himself to serving the needs of South Florida communities. As Chairman of the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation, he led the way in legislation that created $500 million of tax relief for middle-class families and championed the largest funding of education in Florida's history. In 2013, Will Weatherford, Speaker of the Florida House, appointed Jose to represent Florida on the Board of the Southern States Energy Board, the National Council of State Legislators’ Nuclear Energy Working Group, and the Standing Committee on Natural Resources and Infrastructure.
Jose also plays an active role in events and organizations that provide opportunities for abused and neglected children in Miami. He serves as a Board member for various child advocacy organizations, including Our Kids of Miami-Dade & Monroe. In 2011, Our Kids of Miami-Dade awarded Jose with the Outstanding Legislator Award, and Voices for Children awarded him with the MVP Leadership Award in 2012.

**Brenda Freeman** is a veteran brand and digital marketing executive, with over 25 years of experience in the marketing and communications profession. Most recently she served as Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) for the technology start-up, Magic Leap, leading the brand’s marketing and communications, brand development and strategy, digital marketing, and all creative efforts. She was recently appointed as a Senior Advisor to Magic Leap reporting directly to the CEO. Freeman has also launched the marketing consulting company, Joyeux Marketing Group focusing on brand development, customer journey mapping, digital analytics, insights development, integrated marketing and experiential for early-stage start-ups and Fortune 500 companies. Prior to Magic Leap, Brenda served as CMO for National Geographic Channels where she oversaw the totality of the channel’s marketing and communications functions.

Before Freeman served as Global Head of Television Marketing for DreamWorks, where she created the DreamWorks TV Marketing Unit. Prior to DreamWorks Animation, Freeman was Chief Marketing Officer for Turner Broadcasting, a Time Warner division, leading the Animation, Young Adults and Kids Media group of networks.

Before joining Turner, Freeman served as SVP of Integrated Marketing for Nickelodeon and the MTV Networks Kids and Family Group. Prior to that, Freeman served as VP of Consumer Marketing for VH1. Freeman also served as Group VP of Affiliate Marketing, Entertainment Group for MTV Networks for Spike TV, Nickelodeon, Noggin, Nick at Nite and TV Land. Freeman began her marketing career in the consumer-packaged goods industry working for Pepsi Cola and Frito Lay in various promotional and brand management roles. She graduated undergrad as a practicing design engineer in the aerospace industry.

Freeman serves as an independent board director for the following boards: Avnet Inc (technology and distribution), Caleres Inc. (fashion manufacturing and retail), and Herman Miller, Inc. (design and retail) Freeman received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and a joint M.B.A in finance and marketing, all from the University of Maryland, College Park.

**Christine King, Esq.** is the President/CEO of the Martin Luther King Economic Development Corporation (MLKEDC). MLKEDC is a not-for-profit community-based organization with a mission to spur economic redevelopment along the Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and surrounding community.
Ms. King was a veteran county administrator with over fifteen years of proven experience. Prior to her tenure with the MLKEDC, Ms. King served in many capacities as an executive administrator with Miami-Dade County. To name a few, she was the assistant to the Executive Director of the Community Action Agency (CAA) where she developed legislation, consulted with the County Attorney’s Office on departmental lawsuits, provided oversight for the implementation of programs and services funded through federal grants such as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding. Christine also served in the capacity of Interim Director of the CAA Foundation and as Fair Employment Practice Liaison with responsibility for responding to and managing EEOC complaints. Other capacities included being the department’s Public Information Officer and Contracts Officer.

Ms. King plays a pivotal role in community service also. She had previously served as the Chairperson of the Martin Luther King Economic Development Corporation board. Her key accomplishment under her leadership was to spearhead the capital program for the redevelopment of the organization’s new multi-million-dollar Business Center funded through Miami-Dade County’s Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond program. She was a volunteer Guardian Ad Litem, served on the Governor’s Mentorship Program and the Put Something Back Program.

Ms. King received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Public Administration (B.P.A.) in 1999 from Barry University, Miami, Florida. She was conferred her Juris Doctorate Degree in 2007 from the Shepard Broad Law Center, Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and is currently a member of the Florida Bar. She also has been an Adjunct Professor of American Government at Barry University. She is a sole law practitioner. Christine is married and is blessed with three children.

Adam Koffler has resided in Miami since 2005. His business involvements are primarily in commercial equipment finance. Adam is owner of YES Leasing, a Florida-based company doing business nationally. He is the Board Chair of The Koffler Foundation, with the mandate of supporting The Koffler Centre of the Arts (Toronto, Canada) and other worthy causes. Adam’s philanthropy has been focused on community initiatives as well as developing a global corps of young diplomats in over 40 countries. Adam is married to Miami native, Lisa Heiden.

Jason Korman, Board President, is the co-founder and CEO of gapingvoid. A serial entrepreneur, his early career was spent in the wine business. At age of 24, he created La Crema Winery from the assets of a bankrupt Sonoma County wine producer, eventually farming nearly 200 acres of vineyard and running three different facilities in Northern California. Later, Jason went on to create Stormhoek, a South African winery, that became an early case study on how to utilize social media to create a global brand. Jason and Hugh teamed up to do all kinds of cool marketing with Stormhoek, such as a viral campaign that cleared out the shelves.
of a 2000 store UK wine retailer in a weekend. Stormhoek won an AdAge 50, among other awards.

Gapingvoid has always been about seeing the world through a unique lens that connects seemingly unrelated ideas to provide insight… and to make life and business a little more human. The core concept informing Jason’s work is the belief that business and products connect with people in complex, emotional ways. Technology has changed how we work, and there is an ongoing realignment of where work and life intersect. Jason employs a truly crossfunctional team of creatives, consultants, writers, marketers, psychologists, you name it. He believes in the power of letting people do their best work, so they can achieve great outcomes that they really believe in. gapingvoid clients are diverse and include, among a number of start-ups AT&T, Roche, and Zappos.

**Lawrence Kline, Board Vice President**, serves as Managing Director of the Miami office of Perkins+Will, focusing on the continued growth and expansion of the firm’s presence in South Florida. He has comprehensive expertise designing major municipal projects, corporate offices, and educational institutions, which have won numerous awards from the American Institute of Architects. With more than 25 years of national and international experience, Lawrence’s work is well known for its ability to meet scheduling challenges and strict budgetary constraints while still maintaining a strong design aesthetic. His strong management background, innovative eye for design, and work ethic make him a valuable member of the Perkins+Will team.

**Marsh Kriplen**, partner of MAKwork, has more than 20 years of design, construction and management experience. He has worked in landscape architecture, architecture, water feature design and construction management over the course of his career. He served as Studio Director with Raymond Jungles in Miami and Director of Landscape Architecture with both Robert A M Stern Architects, New York and Delta Fountains, Jacksonville. He is an adjunct professor of Landscape Architecture at Florida International University and at the Cushman School where he currently teaches an architecture elective. This rich professional and academic background enables him to work comfortably with clients from a project’s inception through completion; while his management experience allows him to oversee general project coordination and fulfill our role as Owner’s Representative for a number of private and commercial clients.

**McKenzie A. Livingston, Board Secretary**, is Director of Compliance in the Office of Privacy and Data Security at University of Miami Health System. She has been a commercial litigator and health law attorney practicing in New York and then Miami, with extensive experience in a variety of commercial litigation matters, including bankruptcy, arbitration, business and partnership dissolutions, trusts and estates, and breach of contract and breach of fiduciary duty actions. She has significant experience representing clients in court, arbitration and mediation.
Livingston also serves on the Board of Directors for the Fordham Law Alumni Association.

**Claudio Riedi** is a founding shareholder of Lehtinen Schultz Riedi Catalano De la Fuente. His practice focuses on commercial litigation, administrative proceedings, international transactions, and litigation, and appellate law.

**Lia Yaffar-Pena, Board Treasurer**, is an independent consultant in the areas of Strategic Thought Partnership and Execution. She is an entrepreneurial-minded, self-motivated, multi-lingual / cultural, strategic thinker and problem solver, focused on innovating and improving processes by thinking critically, strategically, and creatively. Ms. Yaffar-Pena’s experience spans over 25 years in the area of Financial Services, including positions of various levels of responsibility in the retail and private banking, brokerage, and investment advisor platforms including HSBC Securities, Espirito Santo Bank, and Charles Schwab. The positions she has held include responsibility for leading sales teams, managing P&L, as well as strategy design and implementation of products platforms, pricing, and execution. She has served on the Board of Directors of a Florida chartered Bank, Broker/dealer, and Investment Advisor. She currently serves as Director on the Board of the Salvadoran American Humanitarian Foundation (SAHF), a Florida non-profit organization whose mission is to help the underserved in El Salvador through human development programs. Ms. Yaffar-Pena received a Bachelor in Business Administration degree in Finance from the University of Miami and a MBA from George Washington University. She is a native speaker/writer in English and Spanish, fluent in French, and has working knowledge of Portuguese. She holds several FINRA Investments licenses as well as Agent Insurance License.