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**CANNONBALL LAUNCHES WAVEMAKER GRANTS, A NEW VISUAL ARTS GRANT, WITH SUPPORT FROM THE ANDY WARHOL FOUNDATION FOR THE VISUAL ARTS**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MIAMI, FL**—**Cannonball** is thrilled to announce **WaveMaker Grants**, a new granting initiative that is sure to make waves in Miami’s visual arts community. Developed with the support of The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, WaveMaker Grants expands the Foundation’s **Regional Regranting Program** to the Southeast, creating a new funding stream to the growing number of innovative, artist-driven projects in Miami-Dade County. Through this program, Cannonball aims to recognize and validate unconventional, experimental artist-centric activities that tend to skew away from traditional funding sources and resist current demands of the marketplace.

Launching later this year, 10-15 WaveMaker Grants, ranging from \$2,000 to \$5,000, will be awarded directly to artists and artist-centric projects, totaling \$50,000 annually. The Warhol Foundation has committed to two years of the re-granting program, with the potential for continued support. The Foundation’s longest running regional re-granting program has been in operation since 2007 and administered by San Francisco’s Southern Exposure.

The Foundation’s Program Director Rachel Bers explains, “The Warhol Foundation is excited to add Cannonball to its growing network of regional re-granting organizations around the country. We are confident that the burgeoning community of self-organized artists in Miami will be well served by the thoughtful approach Cannonball is

taking to the WaveMaker program and that many great projects will be realized with its support." Cannonball joins five established re-granting programs in San Francisco (Southern Exposure); Kansas City, MO (Charlotte Street Foundation and Spencer Museum of Art); Chicago (Threewalls and Gallery 400); Houston (Diverse Works, Aurora Picture Show, and Project Row Houses), and Portland, OR (Portland Institute for Contemporary Art).

As an international art city and a gateway to the United States for many Central and South American artists, Miami is a logical location for the re-granting program to expand. Christopher Cook, Executive Director of Cannonball, observes, "Miami is in a perpetual state of becoming—a flux of identities, cultures, geographies, and built environs. Bubbling up from this complicated sea is a vibrant, rapidly growing art scene anchored by established arts institutions and an active year-round artist community that is inventive, self-organized, and courageous. Artists and their projects—exhibitions, spaces, performances, collaborations, interventions, etc.—deserve more direct support and attention, which is why Cannonball is bringing WaveMaker Grants to Miami."

WaveMaker Grants will deliver support to artists, unincorporated artist-run spaces, and artist-centric projects, ranging from solo and group exhibitions to public performances, workshops, and lectures. All supported activities will take place in Miami-Dade County and must have a public component, engage diverse audiences, and contribute to contemporary art discourse in the city. Grantees will be selected by an independent panel of artists and arts professionals from within and outside of the region. WaveMaker Grants will operate separately from Cannonball's annual programming; staff will not influence granting decisions and award recipients must present their funded projects outside of Cannonball. A Steering Committee consisting of local artists and arts professionals will be assembled to help advise the program's focus, development, and promotion.

Full application details and granting guidelines will be available in July, with the first round of awards being announced in February 2015. Further announcements are forthcoming as the program fully materializes. Individuals with immediate questions can email [splash@cannonballmiami.org](mailto:splash@cannonballmiami.org) or call 786.347.2360.

This major investment in Miami artists comes directly on the heels of the Warhol Foundation's award of \$100,000 over two years in support of Cannonball's live/work artist residency program, firmly establishing their support of Cannonball's mission and artist-centric programs and events in the region.

#### **ABOUT WAVEMAKER GRANTS**

WaveMaker Grants provide direct support for artist-centric, artist-driven projects that have a profound impact on the critical, intellectual, and creative depth of Miami's arts community. These projects are non-commercial, non-institutional, stimulate critical thinking and dialogue, and expose audiences to innovative artistic practices typically under-recognized by traditional venues. The very nature of these projects—unpredictable, courageous, and unencumbered by convention—spring from a cultural landscape that is endlessly diverse, nuanced, and equally defined by what is within and beyond its watery borders.

#### **ABOUT THE ANDY WARHOL FOUNDATION FOR THE VISUAL ARTS**

The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts was established in 1987 for the advancement of the visual arts. The Foundation's objective is to foster innovative artistic expression and the creative process by encouraging and supporting cultural organizations that in turn, directly or indirectly, support artists and their work. The Foundation values the contribution these organizations make to artists and audiences and to society as a whole by supporting, exhibiting, and interpreting a broad spectrum of contemporary artistic practice.



Based in downtown Miami, Cannonball is a non-profit arts organization known for its advocacy and innovative programs supporting today's artists. Core initiatives include: SeminArt, providing free educational and professional development services to artists; Legallink, an in-

house legal advice and referral service for artists and arts organizations; and the Residency Program, which offers long-term live/work space for local artists and short-term residencies for visiting cultural producers.

Cannonball is supported, in part, by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Harpo Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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