

## MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(North Miami) - The **Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA)** is pleased to announce the election of **Michael Collins** as Chairman of its Board of Trustees. **Irma Braman**, who served as MOCA's Chairman for 12 years, continues on the MOCA Board in the position of Chairman Emeritus. **Kira Flanzraich** was elected Vice-Chairman. **Ray Ellen Yarkin**, was elected President, **Carlos Arrizurieta** was elected Treasurer and **Harold "Hal" Philipps** joined the Board as a new member.

MOCA Chairman Michael Collins stated, "MOCA is fortunate to have the combination of outstanding programming, financial stability, and an excellent strategic plan in place. We are a museum that is international in scope, and it is important for us to broaden our base of support and develop a new generation of leadership. During Irma Braman's 12-year tenure as Chairman, MOCA reached amazing milestones and international recognition. I look forward to working closely with Executive Director Bonnie Clearwater and my fellow Board members in building upon this strong foundation as we implement new initiatives for the future."

MOCA Executive Director and Chief Curator Bonnie Clearwater said, "Each of these individuals possess the exceptional qualities and experience key to carrying out MOCA's vision and mission. In the selection process, the board looked toward building the best team that could guide MOCA to the next stage. MOCA will greatly benefit from our trustees' backgrounds and experience in business, finance, community outreach, and contemporary art."

**Michael Collins (Chairman)** joined MOCA's Board in 2004 and has chaired the committee that developed the museum's successful strategic plan. He has held positions of Chairman, President and Director for a broad range of investment and operating businesses for 35 years. For the past 15 years, he has been President of Collins Capital. A native Texan, he served on the Board of Trustees of the Dallas Museum of Art for over 20 years and has served on the Boards and committees of numerous other civic, business, hospital and educational organizations, including the Chief Executives Organization, PBS, Outward Bound, and The Friends of Florence, which provides resources for preserving historic cultural treasures. He currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History.

**Dr. Kira Flanzraich (Vice-Chairman)** is a medical doctor licensed in both Russia and the United States. Born in Russia, she studied art at The Hermitage. She was also a producer and host of her own Russian



language television program. A MOCA Trustee since 2002, she also served on the Board of Directors of the Concert Association of Florida, the Community Advisory Committee of The Knight Foundation, the Citizen Board of the University of Miami, and the Education Committee of Ransom Everglades School. She and her husband, Neil Flanzraich, are avid supporters of many of Miami's cultural institutions and the United Way.

**Ray Ellen Yarkin (President)** was elected to the new position of Board President. An attorney by profession, she is an avid collector of American post-abstract expressionist and contemporary art and supporter of women's causes. She was Co-Chair of MOCA's Enchanted Evenings fundraiser in 2009 and is co-chairing the event for 2010. She also serves on the Board of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation.

**Carlos Arrizurieta (Treasurer)** has served on MOCA's board since 2004. He is Managing Director and Team Leader with Citi Private Bank where he works in the areas of private wealth management, private banking and investment counseling. He was previously a Senior Vice President with Bank of America Private Bank in Miami, Vice President with Northern Trust Bank of Florida, and also served in several capacities at Barnett Bank (purchased by Bank of America.) He is a certified financial planner and licensed securities professional.

**Harold "Hal" Philipps (Board member)** was born in Bombay, India and currently resides in New York and Miami. He has held positions in commercial and investment banking for major financial institutions. He was previously a partner and Managing Director of Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette (purchased by Credit Suisse) where he started a leveraged loan and bridge financing business. Asked to sit on the Board of Directors of Financial Guaranty Insurance Company (FGIC) in 2003 by The Blackstone Group, he chaired FGIC's audit and credit committees for three years. He is a strong supporter of education through the arts.

The **Museum of Contemporary Art** is dedicated to making contemporary art accessible to diverse audiences – especially underserved populations – through the collection, preservation and exhibition of the best of contemporary art and its art historical influences.

The Museum of Contemporary Art is located at 770 NE 125<sup>th</sup> Street, North Miami, FL 33161. For information, please visit [www.mocanomi.org](http://www.mocanomi.org) or call 305.893.6211.

Exhibitions and programs at MOCA are made possible through grants from the City of North Miami, the Florida Arts Council, the Department of State, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, Cultural Affairs council, the Mayor and Miami-Dade County Commissioners. The Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami is accredited by the American Association of Museums.