



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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# PRESS RELEASE

## **CRA AWARDED KNIGHT ARTS CHALLENGE GRANT TO CELEBRATE MUSIC AND ARTS IN OVERTOWN**

(Miami, FL) — The Southeast Overtown/Park West Community Redevelopment Agency (“CRA”) announced today that it has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, as part of its 2015 Knight Arts Challenge. The Knight Arts Challenge funds the best ideas for bringing South Florida together through the arts and the CRA will use the grant to support the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Overtown Music and Arts Festival. “The Overtown Music and Arts Festival celebrates the neighborhood’s culture and history, while ensuring that art continues to be a vital part of Miamians everyday lives,” said Victoria Rogers, vice president for arts at Knight Foundation.

Since 2011, the Overtown Music and Arts Festival has attracted thousands of attendees, shining a positive light on Overtown and promoting the neighborhood’s revitalization. Now entering its sixth year, the CRA looks to build on the growing success of the event to incorporate more local visual artists and live art, recruit higher profile music acts, further develop festival offerings, and increase marketing. “Arts and culture continue to be a tremendous driver of economic opportunity and community empowerment,” CRA executive director, Clarence E. Woods, III, said. “We appreciate Knight Foundation’s support to help grow the festival and maximize its impact.”

The Overtown Music and Arts Festival will take place in the heart of historic Overtown on NW 3rd Ave. between 9th & 11th Streets on Saturday, July 23, 2016. The family-friendly event will run from 11am to 7pm, and feature highly regarded national and local music acts, local artists and vendors, community service providers, an expanded youth zone with interactive arts activities for kids, and celebrity appearances. Admission will be free and open to the public.

### About the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Knight Foundation supports transformational ideas that promote quality journalism, advance media innovation, engage communities and foster the arts. The foundation believes that democracy thrives when people and communities are informed and engaged. For more, visit [knightfoundation.org](http://knightfoundation.org).

### About the Southeast Overtown/Park West CRA

The Southeast Overtown/Park West Community Redevelopment Agency is one of three community redevelopment agencies within the municipal boundaries of the City of Miami. The CRA was created to promote and encourage the redevelopment of the Overtown and Park West communities. The main objective of the CRA is to spearhead new development and redevelopment efforts that accomplish beneficial revitalization within its boundaries. For more information, contact (305) 679-6800 or visit the website at [www.miamicra.com/seopwcra](http://www.miamicra.com/seopwcra).