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## With Grant from Wells Fargo, Wolfsonian K–12 Educational Program Zines for Progress Graduates to Sophomore Year

*Initiative with Miami-Dade County high schools  
spurs empowerment, creativity, and social activism*

**MIAMI BEACH (August 22, 2016)** — The Wolfsonian–Florida International University announces the museum has received a \$15,000 award from Wells Fargo in support of phase two of Zines for Progress, a K–12 education program that inspires teens to make positive changes in their communities through zine making and self-publication. Emboldening students to take action by tackling current-day issues such as race, gender, poverty, and climate change, Zines for Progress connects contemporary life to the past through the lens of The Wolfsonian’s collection—bringing a social-consciousness spin to traditional museum outreach. This is the second year of support from Wells Fargo, which helped launch the program with funding in 2015.

“Wells Fargo is pleased to support educational initiatives that encourage the artistic expression of our students,” said Joe Atkinson, South Florida region president at Wells Fargo. “We are proud to join The Wolfsonian–Florida International University on this important project.”

Added Heather Cook, Wolfsonian head of education: “We are thrilled to be receiving another round of generous support from Wells Fargo. This gift will provide an important creative outlet to hundreds of kids in our community who are finding their voices on the challenges that face their generation.”

Zines for Progress began last fall with a pilot program aimed at bolstering art-making and writing skills among language arts, history, and visual arts classes in grades 6–12 in Miami-Dade County. The initiative strives to engage teens by encouraging them to:

- **Examine** relevant contemporary concerns in their communities;
- **Explore** a history of social activism through past art, design, and political movements represented in the permanent collection, in class tours and presentations;
- **Craft** their own zines, either individually or as a team, in an artist-led workshop; and
- **Share** finished zines with their schools, families, and communities.

In year one, seven classes from six local schools participated, reaching two hundred students total with eighty completed zines. The digitized versions—which addressed subjects chosen by the students, ranging from women’s equality to bullying—can be viewed in the museum’s digital image catalog at [zines.wolfsonian.org](http://zines.wolfsonian.org).

As in year one, The Wolfsonian will aim to serve teachers and students from at least three Title I schools with each cycle of Zines for Progress. The program overall will shift, however, to focus on high-school classes, kicking off in September with a one-day professional development workshop for teachers at the museum and continuing with student site visits through February and zine production into April. In addition to developing and implementing a plan to distribute their zines in print and electronically, the students will have the opportunity to showcase their work at the Miami Zine Fair at the close of the program.

“As exciting as it is to watch Zines for Progress evolve, what makes the program so special are the ingenuity and thoughtfulness the students bring to their zines,” said Tim Rodgers, director of The Wolfsonian. “By thinking outside the box and connecting what they see in the collection with the world around them, they’re mastering Wolfsonian 101, and taking those skills into their personal lives and careers.”

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#### About The Wolfsonian–Florida International University

The Wolfsonian–FIU is a museum, library, and research center that uses objects to illustrate the persuasive power of art and design, to explore what it means to be modern, and to tell the story of social, historical, and technological changes that have transformed our world. The collection comprises approximately 180,000 objects from the 1850s to the 1950s—the height of the Industrial Revolution through the aftermath of the Second World War—in a variety of media including furniture; industrial-design objects; works in glass, ceramics, and metal; rare books; periodicals; ephemera; works on paper; paintings; textiles; and medals.

The Wolfsonian is located at 1001 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach, FL. Admission is \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors, students, and children age 6–12; and free for Wolfsonian members, State University System of Florida staff and students with ID, and children under six. The museum is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 10am–6pm; Friday, 10am–9pm; Sunday, noon–6pm; and is closed on Wednesday. Contact us at 305.531.1001 or visit us online at [wolfsonian.org](http://wolfsonian.org) for further information.

The Wolfsonian receives generous and ongoing support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; and City of Miami Beach, Cultural Affairs Program, Cultural Arts Council.

#### About Florida International University

Florida International University is classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as R1: Doctoral Universities - Highest Research Activity and recognized as a Carnegie engaged university. It is a public research university with colleges and schools that offers 196 bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs in fields such as engineering, computer science, international relations, architecture, law

and medicine. As one of South Florida's anchor institutions, FIU contributes almost \$9 billion each year to the local economy. FIU is Worlds Ahead in finding solutions to the most challenging problems of our time. FIU emphasizes research as a major component of its mission. FIU has awarded more than 220,000 degrees and enrolls more than 54,000 students in two campuses and three centers including FIU Downtown on Brickell, FIU@I-75, and the Miami Beach Urban Studios. FIU's Medina Aquarius Program houses the Aquarius Reef Base, a unique underwater research facility in the Florida Keys. FIU also supports artistic and cultural engagement through its three museums: Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, The Wolfsonian-FIU, and The Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU. FIU is a member of Conference USA and more than 400 student-athletes participating in 18 sports. For more information about FIU, visit [fiu.edu](http://fiu.edu).