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## **USJ ART GALLERY AWARDED CT HUMANITIES COUNCIL GRANT TO PRESENT LATIN-AMERICAN EXHIBITION AND RELATED PUBLIC PROGRAMMING**

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (August 10, 2015) – The Art Gallery at University of Saint Joseph (USJ) was recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$23,068 from Connecticut Humanities Council to support the touring exhibition *Pan American Modernism: Avant-Garde Art in Latin America and the United States* and related educational programming. The University will open the tour and will be the sole venue in the Northeast. Developed by the Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami (Fla.), with the tour developed by International Arts & Artists, Washington, D.C., this exhibition examines the many cultural and artistic exchanges that characterized art in the Americas between 1919 and 1979. It includes 69 artists working across the Americas (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, Venezuela, and the United States).

The exhibition opens with a reception on Thursday, September 24, 2015 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and will be on view through Sunday, December 20, 2015 in the Art Gallery, located in the Bruyette Athenaeum on the University's West Hartford campus at 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, Conn.

This exhibition provides USJ an unprecedented opportunity to showcase the highest quality Latin American and U.S. art by many important masters whose works are not represented in local museums and are rarely displayed together. Because of the stories the exhibition tells about travel, migration, cross-cultural exchange, and the influence of literary and political movements, *Pan American Modernism* offers rich opportunities for humanities programming and is of particular relevance to communities with growing Latino populations and residents of Afro-Caribbean heritage.

The grant from Connecticut Humanities Council will also support exhibition-related educational programming for the public, including bilingual (English/Spanish) lesson plans that will be available free of charge on the Art Gallery's website; bilingual Family Guides designed to enhance family visits to the Art Gallery and promote inter-generational conversation; an original Poetry Contest for students in grades 9-12 culminating in a public reading in spring 2016; and presentations at adult community organizations, with follow-up visits to the Art Gallery for tours in Spanish or English.

University President Rhona Free, Ph.D., said, "We are honored to have the opportunity to host this important exhibition and privileged to be the only venue in the Northeast showcasing the work of these

highly acclaimed Latin-American and American artists. This generous grant from Connecticut Humanities Council encompasses educational programming — which is free and open to the public — and is aligned with the University’s longstanding commitment to diversity and outreach.”

Connecticut Humanities Council, a nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, supports cultural and historic organizations that tell the state’s stories, build community, and enrich lives.

For further information on the *Pan American Modernism* exhibition and programming see [www.usj.edu/artgallery](http://www.usj.edu/artgallery) or call 860.231.5743. The Art Gallery, University of Saint Joseph is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; and Sunday: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; closed Monday. Admission is free.

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LOWE ART MUSEUM



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*The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master’s and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University’s two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 25 majors and seven pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at [www.usj.edu](http://www.usj.edu).*

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