

CORCORAN

GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE *of* ART + DESIGN

EMBARGOED UNTIL 6PM
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CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART AND COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN **ANNOUNCES RANDALL SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT IN SW**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design announces the signing of a \$6.5 million Purchase and Sales Agreement (PSA) for the vacant Randall School in Southwest Washington, DC. Telesis Corporation, a well-regarded Washington DC-based urban development firm and CACB Holdings LLC, owned by the Rubell family of Miami, Fla., have entered into a joint venture to develop the site at 65 I Street SW.

The Telesis/CACB plan for the former Randall School will include a contemporary art museum, hotel and private residences. Although the Corcoran's plans for a third College campus in Southwest will not move forward, the Corcoran will collaborate with the Rubell Foundation and others on exhibitions and educational programming in SW.

The Randall School PSA will require District government review and approval, a process that could take 12-18 months.

In November 2006, the Corcoran purchased the Randall School from the District with the intent to create a mixed-use arts and residential complex. Following the bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers and subsequent default of development partner Monument Realty in September 2008, the Corcoran searched for a replacement partner for more than a year prior to moving forward with the sale of the Randall School.

Currently, the Corcoran is actively investigating alternative space in DC to allow for continued College growth.

Don and Mera Rubell are hoteliers, developers specializing in historical properties, and collectors of contemporary art. The Rubell Family Collection is on view at the Foundation's 45,000 square foot location in Miami's Wynwood neighborhood. The museum in SW will operate as a satellite of the Miami museum and will contribute to and actively participate in Washington DC's cultural community.

REGARDING *30 AMERICANS: THE RUBELL FAMILY COLLECTION*

The Corcoran Gallery of Art will present the traveling exhibition, *30 Americans: The Rubell Family Collection*, opening October 23, 2010. The Corcoran's curatorial team initiated conversations with the Rubells about contracting this exhibition more than one year before signing the PSA for the Randall School in Southwest. There are no connections between the two projects.

The exhibition will continue the Corcoran's strong tradition of exhibiting and collecting the work of contemporary African-American artists.

30 Americans is a wide-ranging survey of work by many of the most important African-American artists of the last three decades. Selected from the Rubell Family Collection, the exhibition brings together seminal figures such as Jean-Michel Basquiat and David Hammons with younger and emerging artists such as Kehinde Wiley and Shinique Smith. Often provocative and challenging, *30 Americans* focuses on issues of racial, sexual, and historical identity in contemporary culture. It explores how each artist reckons with the notion of black identity in America, navigating such concerns as the struggle for civil rights, popular culture, and media imagery. At the same time, it highlights artistic community and influence, tracing subject matter and formal strategies across generations.

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