

Print

Public Art Application - Submission #32916

Date Submitted: 2/28/2026

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant First Name*

Xavier

Applicant Last Name*

Cortada

Property Address*

14275 SW 73rd Ave

City*

Palmetto Bay

State*

FL

Zip Code*

33158

APPLICATION INFORMATION

No applications are automatically scheduled for Public Art Review Committee (PARC) meetings. Applications must be determined to be complete by Staff before any processing occurs.

Meeting Dates as necessary. Applications shall be considered at the first PRAC meeting that is more than (30) days following staff's determination that the application is completed.

Application Type*

Voluntary Public Art Review

Indicate Project Type*

- New commercial
- Remodeling or reconstruction of existing commercial property.
- New residential development of two or more units built in the same tract by the same owner or developer.

Percent for Art Path*

- Placement of Artwork on Site: Artwork placement on the site of the development project, with a minimum value of 1% of the cost of the proposed development project, which shall not be less than \$5,000.00.
- In-lieu Public Art Fee: A fee of 1% of the cost of the proposed development project, with a minimum payment of \$5,000.00.
- Combination of In-lieu Public Art Fee and Placement of Artwork on Site: Artwork placement on the site of the development project when valued and combined with a payment of a public art fee, totals 1% of the cost of the proposed development project, which shall not be less than \$5,000.00

Project Number*

Project/Application Number

Total Art Fee*

Fee Amount

Artist Name*

Xavier Cortada

Artist Phone*

3054312111

Artist Email*

xavier@cortada.com

1. Artist Resume / CV*

Cortada CV.pdf

Examples of previous work.

2. Concept Narrative for Proposed Artwork*

For more than two decades, my socially engaged art practice has sought to connect communities with the ecosystems that sustain them. "The Underwater" is an ongoing public art and climate action initiative that makes the threat of sea level rise visible across South Florida. By installing sculptures that serve as elevation markers in civic spaces, the project helps residents understand their community's vulnerability while fostering dialogue, awareness, and action. The proposed artwork consists of durable, sustainable concrete sculptures, each engraved with the location's elevation above sea level. These sculptures are fabricated using seawater, recycled aggregate, and non-metallic reinforcement to model environmentally responsible construction. A QR code embedded in each marker connects visitors to digital resources showing how projected sea-level rise could impact their homes and neighborhoods, and provides opportunities to engage in climate solutions.

We would like to donate an elevation sculpture to all City of Hollywood parks, community centers, and City Hall. These sculptures are typically placed near a primary park entrance or adjacent to a recreation center so that they are visible and accessible to the greatest number of park visitors. By positioning them in these central gathering points, the artworks become natural conversation starters for families, neighbors, and visitors. They transform the simple act of entering a park into an invitation to reflect on place, environment, and future resilience. The sculptures are designed to be understated yet impactful: clean, geometric forms that integrate seamlessly with existing park landscapes while carrying a powerful message. They are not only physical markers of elevation, but also symbolic markers of collective responsibility—reminding us that preparing for sea level rise is a shared challenge that demands awareness, equity, and action. By embedding these works in the daily life of Hollywood residents, "The Underwater" seeks to create a citywide network of environmental beacons. Together, they will help cultivate a more informed and engaged public, ensuring that every resident can see their community not just as it stands today, but as it must prepare for tomorrow.

Regarding how the narrative will be displayed on site, there will be no placard or signage adjacent to the piece. There will only be an embedded QR code on top of each sculpture. The idea is that the ambiguous nature of each piece (a seemingly random number) prompts the curiosity of passersby and urges them to figure out what the number means by scanning the QR code. At that point, they are brought to the project's website where they can discover their own home's elevation, find out how they can get involved with local organizations, and learn more with the "Underwater Intel" educational resources.

Furthermore, we activate site-specific sculptures by hosting educational programming and ceremonial performances. At each dedication event, the artist leads participants, one at a time, in pouring seawater over the sculpture. In this ritualistic process, everyone commits to do what they can so that moment will be the last time saltwater makes contact there.

Describe the proposed artwork and how the narrative will be displayed on the site (QR Code, placard, etc.)

3. Images/Renderings of Proposed Artwork*

The Underwater Project Hollywood Documents.pdf

- Cover Sheet with Location Map.
- A site plan indicating property lines, rights-of-way, internal streets, sidewalks, overhead utility lines (if the artwork is three-dimensional), and parking areas immediately surrounding the intended location of the artwork.
- Plans and elevations (shall be to scale and fully dimensioned); design, media, and materials, methods of construction, and methods of application, securing, or fastening of the artwork.
- Two (2) renderings showing the anticipated final art piece in place. At minimum, one from the right-of-way (street or alley) and one highlighting the entire piece.

4. Description of Weatherproofing*

These concrete sculptures are made from seawater, recycled aggregate and non-metallic reinforcement, aiming to feature building materials that are less energy intensive and better for the environment. The sustainable concrete is weatherproof and will withstand all environmental conditions. Designed to stand the test of time, these art pieces will outlive their own accuracy, their numbers staying fixed while the elevation of their locations gradually declines. The sculptures also aim to generate exposure for sustainable concrete as a climate solution, helping the cement and concrete industry accelerate its decarbonization.

Describe how the proposed artwork is weatherproof and how it will withstand environmental conditions.

5a. Schedule Start*

6/1/2026

5b. Schedule Completion*

12/31/2026

6. Description of Maintenance Plan*

The material selection of the sculptures eliminates corrosion risk associated with steel reinforcement and significantly reduces long-term deterioration. The sculptures are monolithic, solid forms with no moving parts, coatings, applied finishes, lighting elements, or mechanical systems. As such, routine maintenance requirements are minimal.

Anticipated Maintenance Needs:

Routine Inspection: Visual inspection once annually by City staff for surface cracking, impact damage, or vandalism.

Cleaning: If needed, sculptures may be cleaned with low-pressure water and a soft bristle brush. No chemical cleaners are required.

Graffiti Removal: In the rare event of graffiti, standard concrete-safe graffiti removal methods may be used. The uncoated concrete surface allows for mechanical or environmentally safe chemical cleaning without compromising structural integrity.

Embedded QR Code Plaque: Each sculpture includes a small QR code sign embedded within a carved recess in the concrete surface. This plaque should be visually inspected during routine maintenance checks to ensure legibility and secure attachment. Due to normal weathering and UV exposure, replacement of the plaque may be required approximately every 10–15 years. Replacement is straightforward and does not require structural modification to the sculpture.

Because the sculptures are solid concrete with non-metallic reinforcement, there are no components subject to rust, electrical failure, delamination, or finish peeling. The material is UV stable, marine-environment durable, and designed for long-term outdoor exposure in South Florida conditions.

No specialized conservation procedures are required.

7. Criteria Statement*

The proposed sculptures are not buildings and do not involve the painting or application of color to exterior surfaces.

Each sculpture retains the natural tone of cured concrete. No exterior coatings, paint systems, surface treatments, or applied color finishes are proposed. As such, the work does not introduce any new painted surfaces subject to regulation under Section 3.22.

Because the sculptures remain in their natural concrete state and do not alter or repaint any existing building or structure, the proposed installation is consistent with and in full compliance with the standards governing exterior painting and color.

Criteria Statement indicating the consistency with all applicable criteria found in Section 3.22 Article 3 of the Zoning and Land Development Regulations entitled “standards for the painting and color of exterior surfaces of buildings and structures.”

8. Public Engagement*

Public Engagement Plan and Community Activation Strategy .pdf

Provide evidence of artwork notification to a member of the public or a local civic organization within the neighborhood where the artwork is proposed.

<https://www.hollywoodfl.org/204/Neighborhood-Association-Contact-List>

9. Owner Agreement*

No file chosen

Download, fill, and notarize the [Public Art Owner Agreement](#) and submit here.

10. Public Art Easement Agreement*

No file chosen

Attach the completed easement agreement.

11. Artwork Appraisal*

No file chosen

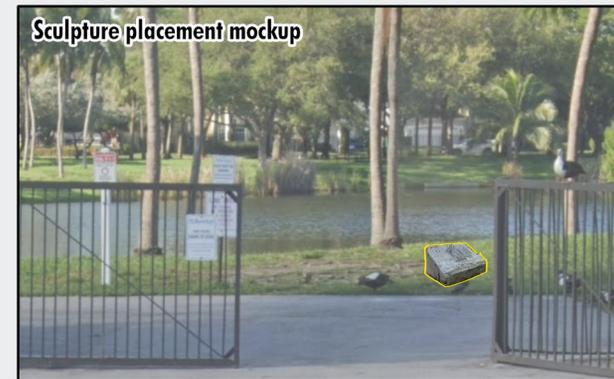
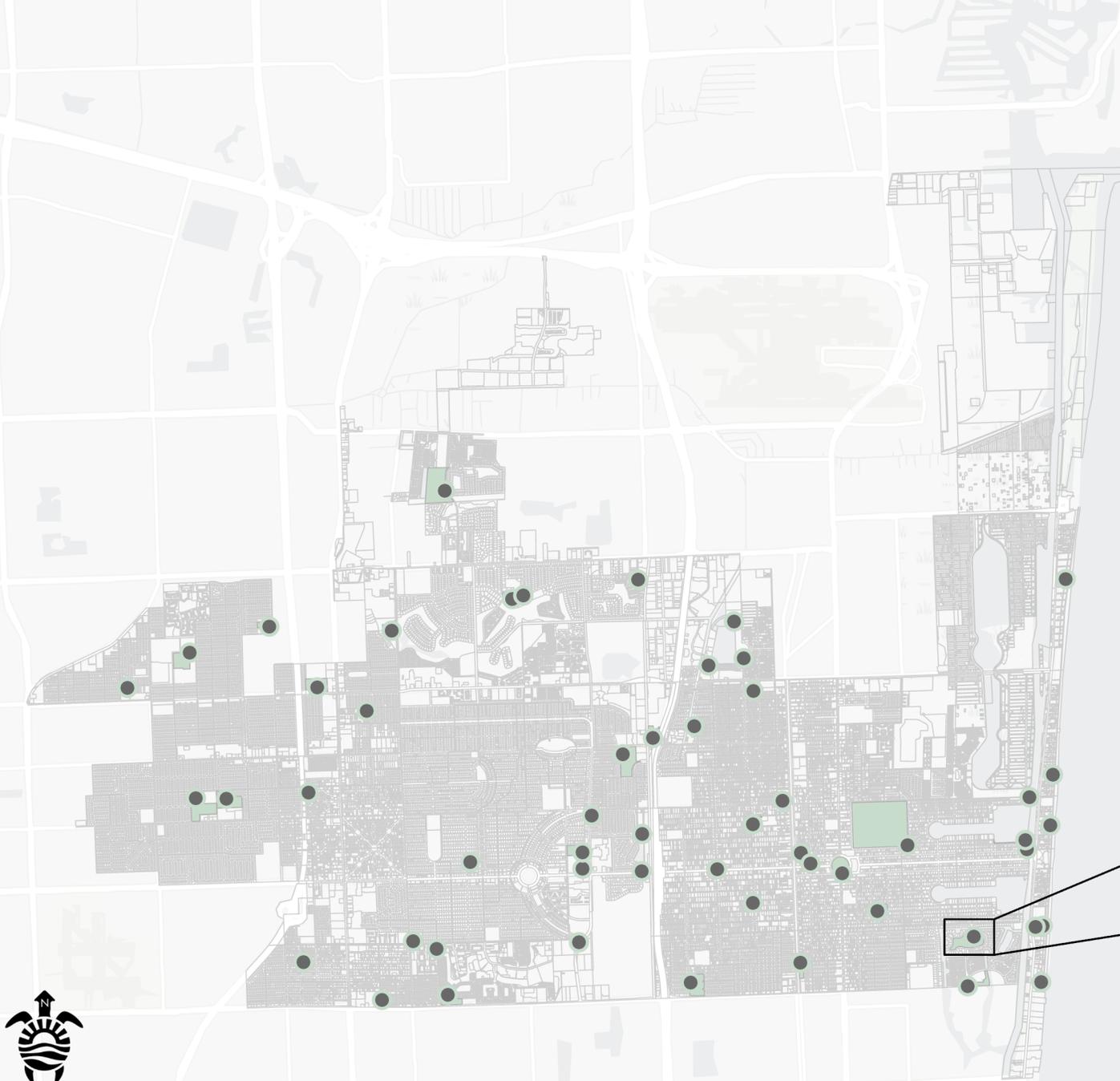
Provide evidence of the value of the proposed artwork (a contract draft showing the contract value and payment schedule will be sufficient).

Cortada Foundation

Voluntary art contribution by Facility location

City of Hollywood Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts

Facility	Address	Installation Coordinates
Army Community Center at Dowdy Field	906 North Dixie Highway	26.019187627088076, -80.1504889765805
ArtsPark at Young Circle	1 N Young Circle	26.01066136608794, -80.1427864705697
Beverly Park	6291 Funston Street	26.00059078296883, -80.2129583828436
Bicentennial Park	7300 Farragut Street	26.0329022719908, -80.2356495079743
Bob Butterworth Park	5202 Washington Street	26.00280509450212, -80.19547209982839
Boggs Park & Sports Fields	2310 N 23rd Ave	26.032104621264562, -80.1542240104493
Boulevard Heights Community Center and Amphitheater	6770 Garfield Street	26.01983054338067, -80.2228474237754
Carlton Montanya Park	6200 Arthur Street	26.020520812636803, -80.2116585717122
Cathy and Bob Anderson Park	5800 Thomas Street	26.030040453570845, -80.2045522102095
Charles F. Vollman Park	2933 Taft St	26.026703111846896, -80.167315537823
Charnow Park	300 Connecticut St	26.022019890291755, -80.1152823364203
David Park & Community Center	108 N. 33rd Court	26.011356493387723, -80.17656094868354
David Park Tennis Center	510 N 33rd Ct	26.013313294142794, -80.17661177940104
Dog Beach @ Hollywood Beach	4999 N Surf Rd	26.04500110654259, -80.11348058330444
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center	2400 Charleston Street	26.040268031897373, -80.15647862022534
Driftwood Community Center & Pool	3000 N. 69 Avenue	26.037030614363555, -80.22752193970857
Earl Crofford Park	900 S Park Road	26.00274967136554, -80.1770883999143
Emerald Hills Lakes Park	3901 N 30th Terrace	26.04525930396604, -80.1691421510643
Eppelman Park	701 Tyler Street	26.01328218753342, -80.11875410132119
Fillmore Street Playground	707 N Surf Rd	26.0161013776668, -80.11549794984534
Fletcher Street Park	5749 Fletcher Street	25.996081193883465, -80.2028096665181
Fred Lippman Multi-Purpose Center	2030 Polk Street	26.0304356056598, -80.148158702543
Harry Barry Park	301 Azalea Terrace	26.004307649480551, -80.11673992832405
Henry L. Graham Park	2350 Simms Street	26.03598181626862, -80.1554257040467
Holland Park	801 Johnson Street	26.0194222726062686, -80.1184079966516
Hollywood Beach Culture & Community Center	1301 S. Ocean Drive	26.00419758487892, -80.11767340337053
Hollywood Marina	700 Park St	26.014367031441754, -80.11892958738929
Humankind Park	2701 N 26th Avenue	26.035148896119803, -80.1600023810871
Jefferson Park	1501 Jefferson Street	26.0061900640038026, -80.13822845413989
Joe DiMaggio Park	1001 Three Island Boulevard	26.003123065824532, -80.12571434581811
John B. Koozer Memorial Park & Exercise Trail	1401 Polk Street	26.01390411313602, -80.13428782053955
John Williams Park / Sheridan Oak Forest	4101 Sheridan Street	26.03267684984707, -80.21096410317844
Keating Park	2500 S Ocean Dr	25.99771911415171, -80.1170350412156
Kiwanis Park	3400 Johnson Street	26.0175972962, -80.175327342853
Lincoln Park	2340 Lincoln Street	26.01645621999054, -80.15440148209618
Lions Park	3003 Hollywood Boulevard	26.011023049713407, -80.16892501217085
Mara Barman Giuliani Park	4151 N Hills Drive	26.043064549906916, -80.18550627401609
Mayor Peter Bober Centennial Park	1945 Hollywood Boulevard	26.01182024464476, -80.14691247340907
McNicol Community Center	1411 S 28th Avenue	25.99792868976174, -80.1626231250275
Monetella Park	1231 N 49th Way	26.019920849961746, -80.22688892203031
Oak Lake Community Center	3190 N 56th Avenue	26.039492289464633, -80.20123954311461
Oakridge Park	5700 SW 35th Avenue	26.055848293252583, -80.19427220833783
Poinciana Park	1301 South 21st Avenue	26.0001774072097, -80.1483203653371
Richard Blattner Mindfulness Park	4001 N Hills Drive	26.043481394711485, -80.1840782353389
Rose's Garden	501 S 24th Avenue	26.0072527526078, -80.15443875787683
Rotary Park & Sports Fields	3150 Taft Street	26.02478078354043, -80.171231233220250
Sal Oliveri Veterans Park	4701 Tyler Street	26.012256193491346, -80.19118326357618
Seminole Park	64th Avenue & Charleston Street	26.040003952898957, -80.21715466176943
Stanley Goldman Memorial Park	800 Knights Road	26.015377930210292, -80.16881363425017
Three Islands Park	NE 11 St	25.9973113863361, -80.12658503044229
Washington Park & Sports Fields	5199 Pembroke Road	25.996667970652858, -80.19423261785253
Water View Park	2660 Coolidge Street	26.028016431019726, -80.16196523817193
Zinkoff Park	5451 Washington Street	26.00298650059772, -80.19869880463537
City Hall	2600 Hollywood Boulevard	26.011179189639645, -80.1590873165634



Legend

- PRCA Facility
- Sculpture location

1 Mile





CORTADA FOUNDATION



Cortada Foundation, Inc.

3621 SW 3rd Ave. Miami, FL 33145

@cortadafoundation | www.cortadafoundation.org



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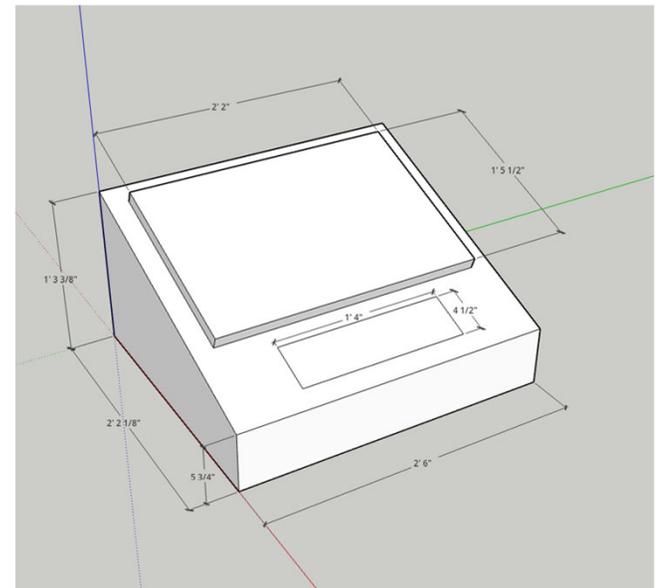
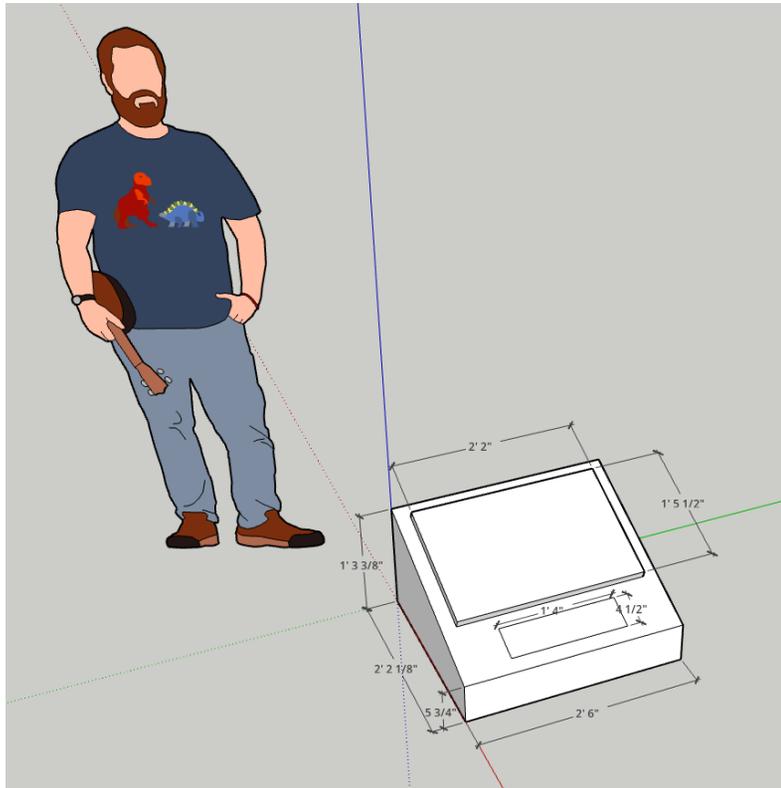


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UNDERWATER PROTOTYPE 2026





3 D prints will be engraved in concrete surface



Facility Name	Address	Elevation
Armory Community Center at Dowdy Field	906 North Dixie Highway	10
ArtsPark at Young Circle	1 N Young Circle	12
Beverly Park	6291 Funston Street	10
Bicentennial Park	7300 Farragut Street	3
Bob Butterworth Park	5202 Washington Street	8
Boggs Park & Sports Fields	2310 N 23rd Ave	8
Boulevard Heights Community Center and Amphitheater	6770 Garfield Street	7
Carlton Montayne Park	6200 Arthur Street	5
Cathy and Bob Anderson Park	5800 Thomas Street	7
Charles F. Vollman Park	2933 Taft St	4
Charnow Park	300 Connecticut St	6
David Park & Community Center	108 N. 33rd Court	8
David Park Tennis Center	510 N 33rd Ct	9
Dog Beach @ Hollywood Beach	4999 N Surf Rd	7
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center	2400 Charleston Street	6
Driftwood Community Center & Pool	3000 N. 69 Avenue	6
Earl Crofford Park	900 S Park Road	8
Emerald Hills Lakes Park	3901 N 30th Terrace	6
Eppelman Park	701 Tyler Street	3
Fillmore Street Playground	707 N Surf Rd	5
Fletcher Street Park	5749 Fletcher Street	10
Fred Lippman Multi-Purpose Center	2030 Polk Street	8
Harry Berry Park	301 Azalea Terrace	6
Henry L. Graham Park	2350 Simms Street	3
Holland Park	801 Johnson Street	1
Hollywood Beach Culture & Community Center	1301 S. Ocean Drive	4
Hollywood Marina	700 Polk St	8
Humanity Park	2701 N 26th Avenue	6
Jefferson Park	1501 Jefferson Street	4
Joe DiMaggio Park	1001 Three Island Boulevard	5
John B. Kooser Memorial Park & Exercise Trail	1401 Polk Street	1
John Williams Park / Sheridan Oak Forest	6101 Sheridan Street	5
Keating Park	2500 S Ocean Dr	8
Kiwanis Park	3400 Johnson Street	4
Lincoln Park	2340 Lincoln Street	10
Lions Park	3003 Hollywood Boulevard	3
Mara Berman Giuliani Park	4151 N Hills Drive	5
Mayor Peter Bober Centennial Park	1945 Hollywood Boulevard	8
McNicol Community Center	1411 S 28th Avenue	10
Monetella Park	1231 N 69th Way	7
Oak Lake Community Center	3190 N 56th Avenue	5
Oakridge Park	5200 SW 35th Avenue	7
Poinciana Park	1301 South 21st Avenue	6
Richard Blattner Mindfulness Park	4001 N Hills Drive	4

Rose's Garden	501 S 24th Avenue	9
Rotary Park & Sports Fields	3150 Taft Street	3
Sal Oliveri Veterans Park	4701 Tyler Street	8
Seminole Park	64th Avenue & Charleston Street	7
Stanley Goldman Memorial Park	800 Knights Road	2
Three Islands Park	NE 11 St	5
Washington Park & Sports Fields	5199 Pembroke Road	11
Water View Park	2660 Coolidge Street	4
Zinkil Park	5451 Washington Street	8
City Hall	2600 Hollywood Boulevard	12



Public Engagement Plan and Community Activation Strategy

Public engagement is the central purpose of The Underwater initiative. The project is designed to use art as a catalyst for education, dialogue, and eco-action across the City of Hollywood.

Some elevation sculpture installations will include a coordinated community activation event in partnership with City staff and local stakeholders. Programming may include engagement with nearby public schools, afterschool programs, youth sports teams that use adjacent park facilities, older adult programs, and neighborhood associations. At each dedication, participants are invited to take part in a ceremonial seawater pouring. One by one, community members pour seawater over the sculpture and publicly commit to doing what they can to prevent saltwater from reaching that elevation in the future. This ritual establishes a memorable moment and reinforces collective responsibility.

The embedded QR code on each sculpture connects residents to digital tools that allow them to identify their home's elevation above sea level, understand projected sea level rise impacts specific to Hollywood, access Underwater Intel educational resources, and connect with local organizations working on resilience and climate preparedness. This digital component ensures that engagement continues well beyond the installation event.

An important objective of the project is to inspire residents to install elevation yard signs at their homes. These signs extend the artwork into neighborhoods throughout the city and encourage peer-to-peer conversations among neighbors, friends, and family members. The sculptures serve as visible civic anchors, and the yard markers expand the initiative into a distributed network of environmental awareness across Hollywood.

The Cortada Foundation will coordinate outreach with schools, recreation programs, civic organizations, and neighborhood groups surrounding each park and community center location. Public communication may include direct invitations to local stakeholders, collaboration with park programming staff, and coordinated announcements through community channels.

The Underwater is structured as a citywide public engagement platform. The sculptures function as educational tools, conversation starters, and organizing devices intended to cultivate informed participation and long-term civic awareness regarding sea level rise and climate resilience.



Xavier Cortada, Miami's pioneering eco-artist, leverages art's elasticity to work across disciplines and engage communities in addressing environmental and social concerns. A Florida Artists Hall of Fame inductee, Cortada raises awareness of critical issues such as climate change, sea level rise, and biodiversity loss. Over his three-decade career, the Cuban-American artist has created more than 150 public artworks and projects, including installations at the North and South Poles. His collaborations with scientists have earned him recognition, including the 2024 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Excellence in Science Communication Award. Notable projects include The 150,000-year Journey, a time-marking piece at the South Pole; The Reclamation Project, a coastal reforestation eco-art initiative; and The Underwater, a climate action campaign highlighted in the White House's 5th National Climate Assessment and featured in his 2022 TED Talk.

PROFESSIONAL

- **Artist** (1994-present)
- **Research Fellow**, Princeton University Center for Migration and Development (2024-present)
- **Artistic Director**, Xavier Cortada Foundation (2022-present)
- **Inaugural County Artist**, Office of the Mayor, Miami-Dade County, Florida (2022-2024)
- **Professor of Professional Practice and Artist-in-Residence** (secondary appointment), **School of Law, University of Miami**, Miami, FL (2021-2024)
- **Professor of Professional Practice**, (secondary appointment), **Department of Pediatrics**, Miller School of Medicine, **University of Miami**, Miami, FL (2020-2024)
- **Professor of Practice**, University of Miami, Department of Art and Art History (2019-2024)
- **Artist-in-Residence**, Pinecrest Gardens, Pinecrest, FL (2017-2024)
- **Artist-in-Residence**, Florida International University (2011-2018), College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts (CARTA), College of Arts, Sciences & Education (CASE) | School of Environment, Arts and Society (SEAS)

EDUCATION

- **Juris Doctor**, University of Miami School of Law Coral Gables, FL (1991).
- **Master of Public Administration**, University of Miami Graduate School, Coral Gables, FL (1991).
- **Bachelor of Arts in Psychology**, Univ of Miami College of Arts & Sciences, Coral Gables, FL (1986)

LEADERSHIP

- Observer, **United Nations Climate Conference (COP26)**, Glasgow, Scotland
- Chair, **Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council**, Miami, FL (2018-2020)
- Councilor, Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council, Miami, FL (2005-2020)
- Councilor, Vice Chair (2012), **Florida Council on Arts and Culture**, Tallahassee, FL (2008-2012)
- Executive Committee, **Miami-Dade Community Relations Board (CRB)** (2000-2003)
- Board of Directors, **University of Miami Alumni Association**, Coral Gables, FL (2017-2022)
- Board Member, **South Arts**, Atlanta, GA (2016-2019)
- Board of Trustees, **Historical Museum of Southern Florida**, Miami, FL (2000-2003)
- Board Member, Vice Chair (1990-97), and President (1989-90), **Regis House** Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Abuse Center, Miami, FL



CORTADA

AWARDS

- 2024 **Florida Artists Hall of Fame**, Florida Department of State
- 2024 'Arts & Environment' Award, Miami-Dade County
- 2024 **Most Treasured Citizen**, WPLG Local 10 Don't Trash Our Treasure
- 2024 **Hall of Fame**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS)
- 2024 **National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Excellence in Science Communication Award**
- 2023 Arts Resilient 305 Prize: The Underwater, Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Department
- 2023 **#100Latinos2023** – 100 Latinos Most Committed to Climate Action by Sachamama and EFE
- 2023 **The Ellies | Creator Award**, Oolite Arts
- 2022 **Creative Capital Award**
- 2022 **Grist 50**
- 2022 University of Miami **Fellowship in Art and Humanities**
- 2021 **Environmental Law Institute National Wetlands Award**
- 2021 University of Miami **Excellence in Civic Engagement Faculty Award**
- 2020 Doris Leeper Leadership Award, Florida Alliance for Arts Education
- 2012 **Cintas Fellowship in Art**, Finalist
- 2008 **New York Foundation for the Arts sponsored artist**, 90N (North Pole) Installation, Plan(T)
- 2006 **Child Welfare League of America** Champions for Children Award
- 2000 Millennium International Volunteer Award, **United States Department** of State/USA Today
- 1999 **Florida International Volunteer Corps** 1999 Outstanding Achievement Award
- 1992 Price Waterhouse/South Florida Magazine UP & Comers Award
- 1982 Miami Herald Silver Knight Award

SELECTED PUBLIC ART COMMISSIONS

- 2024 **City of Frankfort, KY**, *Floral River*
- 2024, **Jacksonville Beach, FL**, *Water Columns*
- 2023 **City of Deerfield Beach**, *Shoal*
- 2022 **McKee Botanical Gardens**, *Love, Joy, Reverence | Strength, Resilience*
- 2022 "Native Flora," **Miami-Dade Art in Public Places**, Liberty Square, Miami, FL
- 2019-2020 Flower Force, **Art and Public Places, Palmetto Bay, FL**, Palmetto Bay, FL
- 2015-17 **Miami-Dade Housing Authority, Miami, FL** (Stirrup Plaza 2: Sunburst Woodstorks; Jack Orr Plaza: Diatom Mural; Smathers Plaza: Diatom Fountain)
- 2014 **Miami-Dade Housing Authority, Miami, FL** (Stirrup Plaza: Wading Birds, Heron; Pineiro Apartments: Las Libelulas, Dragonflies on Blue, Los Caballitos del Diablo; Collins Park Apartments: Julia's Blossoms, Flor, Orange Blossoms, 500)
- 2013 **Miami-Dade Housing Authority, Miami, FL** (Dante Fascell Apartments: Mangrove Cove, Seedlings, Mangroves (On Blue), Raices, Entangled, Roots; South Miami Plaza: Sawfish, Horseshoe Crab March, Sea Star Light, Sea Stars, Night Swimming, Octopus; Joe Moretti Apartments: Flores de Cocuyos, Baile de las Mariposas, Odonata)
- 2012 & 2014 **Broward County Public Art and Design Program**, Ft. Lauderdale, FL (Port Everglades Terminal 2: Starfish Shuffle; Port Everglades Terminal 4: Pelican Path)
- 2012 **Miami-Dade Art in Public Places**, Miami Gardens, FL (City of Miami Gardens Aquatic Center: Splash!)



CORTADA

RESIDENCIES

- 2022 Oolite Home & Away's Residency at **Anderson Ranch Arts Center**, Snowmass, CO
- 2017-2022 **Pinecrest Gardens** Artist-in-Residence (Artist's Studio), Pinecrest, FL
- 2016 **H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest** Artist-in Residence, Willamette National Forest, (near) Blue Rivers, OR
- 2015 **The Robert Rauschenberg Residency: Rising Waters Confab**, Captiva, FL
- 2014 **The Studios Key West**, Key West, FL
- 2013 **Art @ CMS** (Compact Muon Solenoid) | European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) **Large Hadron Collider**, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2013-present **Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest** Artist-in Residence, Compton, NH
- 2012 **Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire Artist-in Residence**, White Mountains National Forest, Center Sandwich, NH
- 2011 **Kaohsiung International Container Art Festival**, Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
- 2010 ECHO (Education through Cultural and Historic Organizations), **Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum**, Honolulu, HI
- 2009 Paths and Traces/Chemins et Tracés, **Fondation Derouin – Symposium 2009, Les Jardins du Précambrien**, Val-David, Quebec, Canada
- 2009 **Natuurkunst Drenthe Hunebedcentrum** (Neolithic Graves Museum), Borger, The Netherlands
- 2008 **50 years of Victory Icebreaker** (New York Foundation for the Arts sponsored artist), North Pole and the Arctic
- 2006-2007 **NSF** (National Science Foundation) **Antarctic Artists and Writers Fellowship**, McMurdo Station and South Pole Station, Antarctica

SELECTED MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

- Permanent collection of the **Peréz Art Museum Miami**, Miami, FL
- Permanent collection of the **NSU Museum of Art Ft. Lauderdale**, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- Permanent collection of the **Whatcom Museum**, Bellingham, WA
- Permanent collection of the **Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum**, Miami, FL
- Permanent collection of the **MDC Museum of Art + Design**, Miami, FL
- **The World Bank**, Washington, DC
- **Department of State Art Collection**, Tallahassee, FL

SELECTED GROUP AND SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Xavier Cortada: Climate Science Art, **National Academy of Sciences**, Washington, DC
- 2022 Fire and Ice, **Wildling Museum**, Solvang, CA
- 2021 Earthly Observatory, **School of the Art Institute of Chicago Gallery**, Chicago, IL
- 2019 *Plan(T)*, 50 installations across **50 libraries, all libraries in Miami-Dade County Public Library System**, Main Library, Miami, FL
- 2019 *UNTITLED*, *Art Fair's Futurescape Miami: Skyline to Shoreline*, **Facebook Art Department and Facebook Analog Research Lab**, Miami Beach, FL
- 2018 *Forest to Forest: Bicknell's Thrush*, a cluster project exhibit at the **Museum of the White Mountains**, Plymouth, NH (featuring Cortada's "Bicknell's Thrush")



CORTADA

- 2018 *Endangered Species: Artists on Front Line of Biodiversity*, Whatcom Museum, Bellingham, WA
- 2018 *Water Paintings*, **Artistree Gallery**, Pomfret, VT
- 2018 *Arrived*, **Lighthouse ArtCenter Gallery**, Tequesta, FL (featuring Cortada's "Endangered World")
- 2018 *Vanishing Ice: Alpine and Polar Landscapes in Art* Weisman Art Museum at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
- 2017 *PLATFORM 450*, **Deering Spring Contemporary**, Deering Estate, Palmetto Bay, FL (featuring Cortada's "Native Flags" and "5 Actions to Stop Rising Seas")
- 2017 "Temperature Check: Body of Evidence", MACLA, San Jose, CA
- 2015 *CLIMA*, **Milander Center for Arts and Entertainment**, Hialeah, FL
- 2015 *In Deep With Diatoms*, **Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum**, Miami, FL (featuring Cortada's "Diatoms-Silica")
- 2015 The National Weather Center Biennale, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
- 2014 *Vanishing Ice: Alpine and Polar Landscapes in Art, 1775 – 2012*, **Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Canada and El Paso Museum of Art**, El Paso, TX (featuring Cortada's "Astrid")
- 2012 *CINTAS Foundation Finalists exhibition*, **Miami Dade College Art and Design Museum**, Freedom Tower, Miami, FL (featuring Cortada's "Endangered World")
- 2012 *Turn Here: Artist Promoting Environmental Awareness*, **The Borowsky Gallery**, Philadelphia, PA (featuring Cortada's "Longitudinal Installation")
- 2011 *Kaohsiung International Container Art Festival*, **Kaohsiung Museum of Art**, Kaohsiung, Taiwan (featuring Cortada's "Bloom" and "Native Flags")
- 2010 *Art in Embassies*, **Malabo, Equatorial Guinea** (featuring Cortada's "Mangroves at Sunset" and "Seedlings")
- 2010 *The Liberators Project/Liberadores (Denver Biennial of the Americas)*, **Museo de las Américas**, Denver, CO
- 2009 *Water: Three States*, **Auburn University Art Gallery**, Auburn, AL (featuring Cortada's "Reclamation Project")
- 2009 *Antarctica: Collection from the Bottom of the World*, **Maryland Science Center**, Baltimore, MD
- 2008 *The Green Project* (presented by the **Claire Oliver Gallery**), Miami, FL (featuring Cortada's "North Pole Dinner Party" performance, "Endangered World," and "Longitudinal Installation")
- 2008 *Ancestral Dinner Party (The Genographic Project)*, **Miami Science Museum**, Miami, FL
- 2008 *Polar Attractions*, **Peabody Essex Museum**, Salem, MA
- 2007 *South Pole Installations*, Centre Gallery, **Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus Gallery**, Miami, FL
- 2007 *Antarctica*, **Kunsthaus Miami Contemporary Art Space**, Wynwood Arts District, Miami, FL
- 2007 *Weather Report*, **Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art**, Boulder, CO, Curator: Lucy Lippard
- 2007 *Envisioning Change*, presented by the **Natural World Museum** and the **United Nations Environment Programme** at the **Nobel Peace Center**, Oslo, Norway (June-August 2007), and the **BOZAR Center for Fine Arts**, Brussels, Belgium (October- December 2007), and the **Ministry of Culture** in Monaco (February 2008)
- 2006 *Miami in Transition*, **Miami Art Museum**, Miami, FL (featuring Cortada's "Absence of Place")
- 2005 *Mangroves*, **Miami-Dade College North Campus Gallery**, Miami, FL
- 1997 *Compartiendo con Bolivia*, **Museo Tambo Quirquincho** (La Paz), and **Museo Historico Regional** (Santa Cruz), Bolivia
- 1997 "inter/cambios," **Museum of Contemporary Art**, Cusco, Peru



CORTADA

SELECTED MEDIA

- “In the galleries: Floating through art focused on climate change,” by Mark Jenkins, **Washington Post**, August 23, 2024
- “These yard signs offer an inconvenient truth about sea level rise,” by Nicolás Rivero, **Washington Post**, December 13, 2023.
- Miami artist aims to open eyes about sea rise risks with Art Week installations, by Ashley Miznazi, **Miami Herald**, December 7, 2023.
- “Tackling climate change is art, not just science,” by Stephanie Hanes and Pavithra Rajesh, **The Christian Science Monitor**, January 13, 2022
- ‘Infiltrate through art.’ Miami-Dade’s first artist-in-residence wants you to get creative,” by Amanda Rosa, **Miami Herald**, August 17, 2022.
- “These extreme artworks embody the climate crisis,” by Amy Funderburk, **Art & Object**, September 6, 2022.
- “In Miami Corona Project, Artist Xavier Cortada creates daily journal of city’s plague year,” by Elisa Turner, **Artburst Miami**, August 12, 2020.
- “The Road to Change: America’s Climate Crisis,” with Chief Climate Correspondent Bill Weir, **CNN**, April 25, 2020.
- “Xavier Cortada Describe Su Arte Ecológico,” **CNN en Español**, November 6, 2019.
- “The Art of Tackling Climate Change,” by Ethan Oberman, **NPR National Radio** (WYNC Studios), The Takeaway, September 19, 2019.
- “In sign of the times, ‘underwater homeowners’ mobilize on climate change,” by **Associated Press**, Boston Globe, April 2, 2019.
- “Miami Artist Repurposes Campaign Signs To Spark Conversation About Sea Level Rise,” by Elise Hu, **NPR Here and Now**, November 12, 2018.
- “Art Against Climate Change,” by Tina Daheley, **BBC Cultural FrontLine**, October 19, 2018.
- “T Agitprop: 12 Artists on Climate Change,” by Zoë Lascaze, **New York Times**, **T Magazine**, August 22, 2018.
- “Art in the Anthropocene,” by Alan C. Braddock and Renée Ater. Source: **American Art**, Vol. 28, No. 3 (Fall 2014), p. cover2. Published by: The University of Chicago Press on behalf of the Smithsonian American Art Museum
- “When Science Meets Art,” by the Editorial Staff at COSMOS Magazine, **COSMOS 77** — Summer 2018, April 25, 2018.
- “Painting the Genome for the Public,” **Science**, 4 February 2011: Vol. 331 no. 6017 p. 548
- “Green Museum,” by Allison Compton, **Public Art Review**, Issue 40, pp 52-55 (Spring/Summer 2009).
- “Global Warnings,” by Suzaan Boettger, **Art in America**, Issue No. 6, pp. 154-161, 206- 207, June/July 2008.
- “Kunsthhaus Miami exhibit,” Review by Milagros Bello. Published in **arte al día** (International Magazine of Contemporary Latin American Art), edition 119, (July 2007).

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Painting Constitutional Law: Xavier Cortada’s Images of Constitutional Rights,
Keiden, The Netherlands: Brill | Nijhoff, 2021.

Editors: M.C. Mirow and Howard M. Wasserman



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“The Underwater: Using Art to Engage Communities Around Climate Action,” 78 *U. Mia L. Rev.* 519. Xavier Cortada (2024)
<https://repository.law.miami.edu/umlr/vol78/iss2/8>

“The Intersection of Socially Engaged Art, Concrete, and Climate Action,” *Concrete International* 46, no. 3, March 1, 2024, Roberti, Adam, Xavier Cortada, and Francisco De Caso.
<https://www.concrete.org/publications/getarticle.aspx?m=icap&pubID=51740578>

“Practitioner perspectives on climate mobilities in South Florida,” Katharine J Mach, Jennifer Niemann, Rosalind Donald, Jessica Owley, Nadia A Seeteram, A R Siders, Xavier I Cortada, Alex Nyburg, Adam Roberti, Ian A Wright, *Oxford Open Climate Change*, Volume 3, Issue 1, 2023, kgad015, <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfclm/kgad015>
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“Communities that Care”: *Incorporating Socially Engaged Artistic Practices into Clinical Legal Education*, Bernard L. Perlmutter, Xavier Cortada, *Clinical Law Review*, Vol 29, No. 2, 2023.

“Underwater Homeowners Association: Using socially engaged art to problem-solve in an imperilled, polarized and imperfect world,” Cortada, Xavier, Roberti, Adam and Deering, Ryan, *Journal of Environmental Media*, 3:1, pp. 163–70, (2022),
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Katharine J. Mach, Xavier I. Cortada, Nicholas Mignanelli, Jessica Owley & Ian A. Wright (2021), *World Art*, DOI: 10.1080/21500894.2021.1911839
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Career Narrative

Xavier Cortada is a socially engaged artist. Particularly environmentally focused, the work Cortada develops is intended to generate awareness and action toward issues of global climate change, sea level rise, and biodiversity loss. The Cuban American artist was born in **Albany, New York**, in **1964** and grew up in **Miami, Florida**, from the age of three. He holds three degrees from the **University of Miami: Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts and Sciences (1986), Master of Public Administration, Miami Herbert Business School (1991), and Juris Doctor, School of Law (1991).**

As an emerging artist in the **1990s**, Cortada often partnered with local non-profit organizations to engage, educate, and empower community members to solve local problems. Primarily focused on issues such as mental health, drug abuse, and youth gang violence, the artist worked to find creative ways of providing a sense of agency and amplifying marginalized voices. Cortada also volunteered with **U.S. embassies** across four continents to produce numerous collaborative art projects, including peace murals in **Cyprus** and **Northern Ireland**, child welfare murals in **Bolivia** and **Panama**, AIDS murals in **Switzerland** and **South Africa**, and juvenile justice murals in **Miami** and **Philadelphia**. He completed this work with the support of various entities, including the **U.S. State Dept.** and **USAID**.

For this work, Cortada received numerous awards, including the "**Millennium International Volunteer Award**" from the **U.S. Department of State & USA Today** and the "**Florida International Volunteer Corps 1999 Outstanding Achievement Award.**" In **February 2000**, invited by the **Holy See**, Cortada traveled to the **Vatican** to participate in the **Jubilee Day for Artists** and meet **Pope John Paul II**. That summer, he was invited to **Washington, D.C.**, to create a collaborative mural for the **White House Conference on Minority Homeownership** with **President Bush** as one of the featured participants. In **2006**, the **Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)** honored him with the coveted "**Champion of Children Award**" in **Washington, D.C.**

Inspired by his **2003 "Florida Mangrove" Hispanic Heritage Mural** (which **Governor Bush** unveiled at the Capitol), Cortada led 800 volunteers in painting the "**Miami Mangrove Forest**" in **2004**. A metaphoric reforestation of downtown **Miami**, they painted Cortada's images of mangrove seedlings on dozens of columns beneath **I-95**, each seedling functioning as a visual metaphor of the immigrant: floating to a new shore, putting down roots, and contributing to a fertile new home community. Two years later, he launched the "**Reclamation Project**," asking volunteers to create vertical gardens (grid-like installations of mangrove seedlings in clear, water-filled cups dangling on retail windows) across **Miami Beach's Lincoln Road** and then planting them along **Biscayne Bay**. This effort pioneered eco-art in **South Florida** and launched Cortada's eco-art practice.

These successful habitat restoration activities continue today through the **Frost Science Museum's Museum Volunteers for the Environment (MUVE)** program. Since the inception of the "**Reclamation Project**," over 8,000 volunteers have restored more than 25 acres of coastal habitats. An iteration of this project focused on planting salt-tolerant trees inland in preparation for saltwater intrusion, "**Plan(T)**," saw eco-art installations and programming in all 45 of **Miami-Dade County's public libraries** and dozens of schools. The culmination of these efforts recently earned Cortada the **Environmental Law Institute's 2021 "Wetlands Hero Award."**

Cortada, the son of Cuban refugees, worked to shed light on the cruelty of Cuba's authoritarian regime and share the stories of exiles by creating a Cuban monument to freedom in **2004**. The *"Painted Cuban Plane & Freedom Luggage Installation"* features his painting on a **Russian Antonov-2 Colt airplane** that brought a family from **Cuba** to the **United States** and was confiscated by **U.S. Marshals**. In this work, Cortada presented 45 pieces of luggage numbered sequentially from **1959** to **2004**, representing every year since the beginning of the Cuban diaspora. Each painted suitcase included letters from exiles describing what they left behind in **Cuba** and found when they arrived in **America**.

As a **National Science Foundation Antarctic Artists and Writers Program Fellow**, Cortada traveled to the **South Pole** in **2007** to create a series of new works addressing humanity's interconnectedness with the natural world. Using the moving ice sheet that blankets the **South Pole** as an instrument to mark time, the artist created *"The Markers"* and *"150,000-year Journey,"* projects that juxtapose human and geologic time frames, explore the evolution of human civilization, and invite reflection on the role of individuals as custodians of the planet. With the support of scientists stationed in **Antarctica**, Cortada used sea ice, glacier, and sediment samples to create a series of *"ice paintings."* These works aimed to draw attention to the fragility of the **Western Antarctic Ice Sheet** and the vulnerability of coastal communities to the threat of sea level rise. Cortada also placed 24 identical shoes in a circle around the **South Pole**, each serving as a proxy for someone impacted by climate change in one of the world's 24 time zones. He recited their quotes in a ritualistic performance, the *"Longitudinal Installation,"* conceptually bringing global strangers together to share their climate stories at a place where all longitudes converge.

In **2008**, as a **New York Foundation for the Arts Sponsored Artist**, Cortada traveled to the **North Pole** and became the only artist to create works at both of the Earth's poles. While there, he planted a green flag to reclaim the world below for nature and launched *"Native Flags,"* a global reforestation campaign that mobilizes neighbors to rebuild native ecosystems. Since **2009**, local students from each and every one of **Miami-Dade County's 300+ public schools** have annually planted a native tree and green project flag on school grounds to celebrate Earth Day, effectively empowering thousands of students and teachers to regrow their community's native tree canopy. Cortada gave **Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen** a *Native Flag* for her to give to every one of her 435 colleagues in **Congress** asking them to plant the green flag and a native tree in their respective districts across the country.

Cortada's practice dove further into collaborations with scientists in **2010** as he worked with population geneticist **Spencer Wells** and **National Geographic** on a project exploring humanity's ancestral journeys within and out of **Africa** 60,000 years ago and molecular biologist **Dr. Kalai Mathee** to synthesize an actual DNA strand made from a sequence randomly generated by 400 participants visiting his museum exhibit, a project featured in the academic journal, *Science*. At **CERN** in **2013**, Cortada worked with physicist **Pete Markowitz** to develop a site-specific art installation capturing the five search strategies which the CMS experiment used to discover a new Higgs-like particle, referred to as the "God particle." The five large banners hang at the very location where the particle was discovered. Cortada also served as artist-in-residence and on the **Committee of Scientists at Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest**, the site of acid rain's discovery, where he worked with scientists in developing a water cycle visualization project driven by real-time data collected at a watershed in **New Hampshire's White Mountains**.

To commemorate **Florida's quincentennial in 2013**, Cortada launched a participatory art, nature, and history project known as "*FLOR500*." Utilizing his role as faculty and artist-in-residence at **Florida International University**, he partnered with the **Florida Department of State**, the **Museum of Florida History**, local history museums, libraries, and state universities across the state to bring the effort to life: Cortada invited 500 **Florida** artists to paint 500 native wildflowers selected by botanists from across the state. He asked historians to select 500 people who helped shape **Florida's history**, and 500 gardens were planted in their memory. Through this effort, Cortada engaged thousands of Floridians in reflecting on those who shaped **Florida's history** and helping shape **Florida's future** by regrowing the critically important wildflowers that the state was named after. His "*FLOR500*" exhibitions took him across **Florida** from **Amelia Island** to **Panama City**, from **Ft. Myers** to **Titusville**, from **Gainesville** to **Miami**. The work is in the permanent collection of the **Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum** in **Miami**.

Over the course of his career, Cortada has created dozens of public artworks that range from free-standing and suspended sculptures to ceramic tile murals, as well as mosaics, paintings, and large-scale digital works. In **2015**, he created permanent art installations in three **Florida Turnpike plazas**, each focused on a different aspect of the sunshine state's natural beauty: endangered animals (**Ft. Drum Plaza**), sunshine (**Turkey Lake Plaza**), and wildflowers (**West Palm Beach Plaza**). Cortada has been commissioned to create art for the **World Bank**, **Miami City Hall**, **Miami-Dade County Hall**, **Miami-Dade Housing Authority**, the **Frost Science Museum**, the **Museum of Florida History**, **Florida Botanical Gardens**, and the **Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum**. Cortada's art is also in the permanent collection of various museums, including the **Peréz Art Museum Miami**, **NSU Museum of Art**, **Whatcom Museum**, **Frost Art Museum**, and **MDC Museum of Art + Design**.

In an effort to make sea level rise impossible to ignore during **Art Basel 2018**, Cortada partnered with the **Village of Pinecrest**, a municipality within **Miami-Dade County**, to create the "*Underwater Homeowners Association*." Using an app, residents discovered their property's elevation above sea level and installed an '*Underwater Marker*' (a yard sign depicting their house's elevation) in their front yard. In addition to the personalized signs, Cortada worked with local public high schools to paint elevation murals on four major intersections along **Pinecrest's Killian Drive**, temporarily renamed "*Elevation Drive*." Cortada's "*Antarctic Ice Paintings*" served as the backdrop to the signs and murals, both working to grab the attention of passersby and spark conversations about rising seas. This initiative received international recognition, including media coverage from the **New York Times**, **Washington Post**, **PBS Newshour**, **Miami Herald**, **CNN**, **BBC**, **NPR**, **Forbes**, and the **Associated Press**, among others.

Cortada's leadership extends beyond his art projects. In **2005**, he was appointed to the **Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council**, where he served from **2005 to 2020** – his last two years as Chairman, the first artist ever in that role. At the state level, he was appointed by the **Florida Speaker of the House** to serve on the **Florida Arts Council**. He served from **2008 to 2012** – his last two years as Vice Chair. At the national level, Cortada served as a board member of **South Arts** from **2016 to 2019**.

Between **2019 and 2024**, Cortada served as a **professor of practice at the University of Miami Department of Art and Art History**, with secondary appointments in the University's **School of Law** and **Miller School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics**. In that role, he co-led an interdisciplinary research team studying climate migration and retreat in **South Florida** and the **Caribbean basin**. In

2020, he served as **Principal Investigator** for the “*Miami Corona Project*,” a socially engaged art initiative created to assess and address the coronavirus pandemic in **Miami**, presented as part of the **University of Miami’s COVID-19 Rapid Response effort**. Through the **School of Law**, Cortada traveled to **Glasgow, Scotland**, as an official observer of **COP26 (2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference)**, where he engaged delegates with “*HELLO*,” an interactive art project that challenged participants to reframe how they viewed one another and their shared vulnerability to climate change.

Painting Constitutional Law: Xavier Cortada’s Images of Constitutional Rights is a book published by **Brill** in **2021** in which scholars of constitutional law analyzed ten of Cortada’s paintings and the landmark **U.S. Supreme Court** cases he portrayed. The contributing scholars from across the **United States** described the law surrounding the cases and how Cortada captured those foundational decisions, their people, and events on canvas, exploring new connections between contemporary art and constitutional law. Originally exhibited in a **2004** solo show in the rotunda of the **Supreme Court of Florida**, the works are now on long-term loan to the **Florida International University College of Law**.

In **2022**, Cortada received a **Creative Capital Award** to support his newest socially engaged art project, “*The Underwater*,” which he began implementing with over 2,000 students from his alma mater, **Miami Senior High School**. This initiative coincided with the launch of the artist’s non-profit, the **Xavier Cortada Foundation**, which works to scale the reach and impact of Cortada’s social practice. By immersing people in artistic experiences, the foundation aims to foster inclusive communities that are not only informed but also inspired to find common ground and drive meaningful change.

In **August 2022**, **Mayor Daniella Levine Cava** appointed Cortada as the inaugural **artist-in-residence for Miami-Dade County** with the goal of growing a cadre of creative problem-solvers, driven by empathy and love of community. In **October 2022**, Cortada delivered a **TED Talk** in **London**, “*A Creative Approach to Community Climate Action*,” which has since garnered over 1.3 million views. His talk focused on how socially engaged art can pique curiosity, create moments of experiential learning, and ultimately mobilize people to take collective action in addressing the climate crisis.

In **2023**, Cortada launched the **Cortada Science Art Academy**, an after-school program aimed at developing engaged citizens by teaching students to use art and science to address environmental concerns. Additionally, Cortada partnered with **MISSION** and **Miami-Dade County’s Chief Heat Officer** to create the **#KeepCoolMiamiDade** campaign, raising awareness about the dangers of extreme heat. “*The Underwater*” gained national attention, being featured in the **White House’s 5th National Climate Assessment** and the **American Academy of Arts and Sciences’ “2023 Forging Climate Solutions” report** as a case study highlighting the role of public art in fostering climate action.

In **2024**, Cortada was awarded the prestigious **Excellence in Science Communications Award** from the **National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine**, and was inducted into the **Florida Artists Hall of Fame**. “*The Underwater*” expanded with installations of sustainable concrete elevation sculptures set for over 250 **Miami-Dade parks** and grew into public schools across **Broward County**. Cortada was also inducted into the **Miami-Dade County Public Schools Alumni Hall of Fame** and delivered the **Kim and Judy Davis Dean’s Lecture** at **Harvard’s Radcliffe Institute**. His solo exhibition, “*Xavier Cortada: Climate Science Art*,” opened at the **National Academy of Sciences** in **Washington, D.C.**, further cementing his influence in the intersection of art and climate science.