Dennis Scholl: Making a Difference
By Raymond Elman

CRITICAL THINKING:  2:09 min.
By Raymond Elman

Making a Difference
Dennis Scholl:

EDUCATION:  1:37 min.
VALUES FIRST-RATE

ACHIEVEMENT:  1:33 min.
STRONG DRIVE FOR

ACHIEVEMENT:  0:49 sec.
STRONG DRIVE FOR

NEEDS:  1:33 min.
UNDERSTANDS ARTISTS’ AUDIENCE’S PERSPECTIVE:
UNDERSTANDS THE EDUCATION OF ARTISTS’ AUDIENCE’S PERSPECTIVE:

The videos below are organized by topic and run between 30 seconds and 4 minutes. Click on any video. You must be connected to the Internet to view the videos.

Scholl became the President and CEO of ArtCenter/South Florida in 2010. He has an eye for what's original, what's international, what connects to the Internet to view the videos.

Tongue Shiraz, which produce award-winning wines in Australia and France.

Scholl is a filmmaker, and has received 11 regional Emmy awards for his cultural documentaries, including films about Tracey Emin and the Whitney Biennial. He is also an accomplished filmmaker, and has served on the faculty of Harvard University's School of Art, North Miami; the Pérez Art Museum Miami; and the Linda Pace Foundation. He has been named three times to the annual WESTAF list of the Most Powerful and Influential Leaders in the Nonprofit Arts, and along with his wife, Debra, received the Knight Foundation’s Art Leadership Award.

Scholl launched the foundation’s arts program, leading it to national acclaim and overseeing close to $200 million in grants. At the Knight Foundation, he also developed and oversaw the organization’s role in serving the city’s growing cultural community.

In the spring of 1984, ArtCenter celebrated its grand opening on Eighteenth Street and Collins Avenue, situated on the site of the former Liberty City, home of the original Lincoln Road in Miami Beach. In the years following its founding, the organization has become a major arts and cultural institution, dedicated to building the contemporary art collections of museums and connecting artists and the public through informal education and arts programming. ArtCenter has, in the words of the Knight Foundation, been responsible for creating and evolving a cultural community, and it has been named one of the top 20 cultural organizations in the United States.

Ibargüen, president, Knight Foundation.

I'm looking forward to watching him transform ArtCenter into a world-class arts program. He has an eye for what's original, what's international, what connects to the audience’s perspective, and he understands the education of artists’ audience’s perspective.

Although at this early stage of his ArtCenter leadership, Scholl has already oversaw hundreds of patron gift commitments, and national and local attention to the organization’s arts programming. His approach to arts leadership is to make a difference.

ArtCenter artists took up residence in 21 storefronts on a then-nearly abandoned and severely dilapidated Lincoln Road. The windfall of selling part of the organization’s endowment to fund art acquisitions for these institutions.

In 2015, ArtCenter sold its landmark Lincoln Road building, providing the organization with an $88 million endowment to expand its role in serving the city’s growing cultural community.

ArtCenter artists took up residence in 21 storefronts on a then-nearly abandoned and severely dilapidated Lincoln Road. The ArtCenter was one of the catalysts in the renaissance of Lincoln Road, which was a key part of the revitalization of Miami Beach.

The way you described the Renaissance of Lincoln Road in Miami Beach as an organization addressing visual artists’ workspace and community needs. With Community Development Block Grant funds from the City of Miami Beach, ArtCenter transformed 21 storefronts into studio spaces and the neighboring vacant lot into a public art park.

In 2015, ArtCenter/South Florida went into crisis after 21 years of losses, and Scholl was named President and CEO.

In the spring of 2014, he launched the “Inspicio” program developed by Ira Wolf, which packages key arts programs designed to impact Miami’s cultural community and bring ArtCenter artists to South Florida.”

Videography, Photo & Design: Raymond Elman.

How can publications like The Art Newspaper and Artforum provide support for ArtCenter’s programs and initiatives?

How were you approached to take the job at ArtCenter/South Florida?

Describe how your diverse experiences in the arts have prepared you for your current role.

Is the ArtCenter planning to work with South Florida universities to advance the quality of their fine arts programs?

Is the ArtCenter planning to work with museums in other parts of the country?

What have been the most important priorities for you since you arrived at ArtCenter?

How will the huge financial windfall of selling part of the organization’s endowment to fund art acquisitions for these institutions?

If all of your dreams for the ArtCenter come true, what will be the impact on Miami?

What is the most interesting or inspiring thing you have seen or experienced in your role at ArtCenter?

If you had to sum up in one sentence what ArtCenter is all about, what would you say?

What is a mentor or role model who has influenced you in your career?

How do you think the artistic community in Miami has changed over the past few years?

What is the current state of the arts scene in Miami?

What do you see as the future of the arts in Miami?

If you were a Knight Foundation president, how would you approach Miami’s arts community?

How has the “Inspicio” initiative impacted the arts community in Miami?

If your most important art collection was stolen, what would you do?

How do you define success at ArtCenter?

What do you think the role of the arts should be in a city like Miami?

What is the mission of ArtCenter and how is it being fulfilled?

What advice would you give to someone who wants to become a major art collector?

What are some of the biggest challenges you face in your role at ArtCenter?

What is the most important thing you have learned about the arts community in your time at ArtCenter?

What do you think would be the most important thing to focus on in the next five years at ArtCenter?

How do you measure the impact of ArtCenter’s programs on the community?

What do you think is the most important thing you have accomplished at ArtCenter?

How do you see the role of the arts in Miami changing in the next 10 years?

What is the most important thing you have learned about the arts community in your time at ArtCenter?

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