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Art in Exile: Navigating Real and Imagined Homelands

Richard Blanco

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The Exile Studies Program

In Collaboration with

The Betsy-South Beach Hotel

The Department of English & The College of Arts, Sciences & Education

Presents

The Betsy-FIU Exile Studies Program Scholar/Writer-In-Residence Lecture

Art in Exile: Navigating Real and Imagined Homelands

Professor Richard Blanco

Florida International University

Monday, October 9, 2017 at 6:45 p.m.

Modesto Maidique Campus—GC 243 (Graham Center)

Welcoming Remarks:

Dr. Kenneth G. Furton, Provost & Executive Vice President, FIU

Dr. Evelyn E. Gaiser, Executive Director, School of Environment, Arts and Society, FIU

Dr. Heather Russell, Chairperson, Department of English, FIU



Mr. Richard Blanco is a highly acclaimed poet, essayist, and public speaker. He is the fifth presidential inaugural poet in U.S. history—the youngest, first Latino, immigrant, and gay person to serve in such a role. Mr. Blanco was born in Madrid to Cuban exiled parents and raised in Miami. His educational background is closely associated with FIU: he holds a bachelor of science in Civil Engineering and a master of fine arts in Creative Writing, both from FIU. He is the author of the memoirs *The Prince of Los Cocuyos: A Miami Childhood* and *For All of Us, One Today: An Inaugural Poet's Journey*.

He published several chapbooks and collections of poetry, *Matters of the Sea*, *One Today*, *Boston Strong*, *Looking for the Gulf Motel*, *Directions to the Beach of the Dead*, and *City of a Hundred Fires*, among them. With Ruth Behar, he is co-creator of the blog *Bridges to/from Cuba: Lifting the Emotional Embargo*. Blanco's many honors include the Agnes Starrett Poetry Prize from the University of Pittsburgh Press, the Beyond Margins Award from the PEN American Center, the Paterson Poetry Prize, a Lambda Literary Award, and two Maine Literary Awards. The Academy of American Poets named him its first Education Ambassador in 2015. He received honorary doctorates from Macalester College, Colby College, and the University of Rhode Island. In his talk, Mr. Blanco will discuss a number of issues that characterize his body of work.

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For more information call Dr. Asher Z. Milbauer, Director of The Exile Studies Program, at (305) 348-3155
Program is free and open to the public.