



## **MEADOWS MUSEUM RECEIVES CLASSROOM SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS FROM THE BBVA COMPASS FOUNDATION**

*Grants help Dallas Teachers Educate Students About the Power of Art and Creativity*

**DALLAS (SMU) October 15, 2014** – The Meadows Museum recently received a \$30,000 grant from the BBVA Compass Foundation to extend its Compass Classroom Scholarship Program. The program serves Dallas Independent School District (DISD) visual arts teachers who educate and inspire their students to study art.

The BBVA Compass Foundation has donated a total of \$120,000 since the program began in 2011. Approximately 2,500 middle and high school students this year will benefit from the grant. Nearly 1,000 of those students will visit the Museum, be introduced to the SMU campus and, more pointedly, to college education and careers in the arts.

“This generous grant from the BBVA Compass Foundation allows the Museum to greatly expand its reach into DISD art instruction. It connects students more deeply to art and opens them to seeing the world in a new way,” said Dr. Carmen Smith, the Meadows Museum’s Director of Education.

Sixteen teachers selected in the program receive professional development training through a series of workshops held at the Museum. During the workshops, they learn about the collection and special exhibitions at the Museum and are trained in art instruction methodology. The Compass Classroom Scholarship Program funds bus trips to the Meadows Museum and SMU campus for teachers and students, and provides a stipend for art supplies to be used in the classroom. The campus visits feature a guided tour of the Meadows Museum’s permanent collection or special exhibitions, and may also include sketching in the galleries or other assignments—teachers can use the Museum’s classroom space to lead studio activities while at the museum. The groups also have lunch and get an introductory tour of the Meadows School of the Arts or the SMU Campus.

“We are grateful to the BBVA Compass Foundation for helping Dallas teachers to inspire so many children to experience the power of art and learn the importance of creativity,” said Dr. Mark Roglán, the Linda P. and William A. Custard Director of the Meadows Museum and Centennial Chair, Meadows School of the Arts, SMU.

The BBVA Compass Foundation is the charity arm of BBVA Compass, a Sunbelt-based bank operating 102 branches in the Dallas-Fort Worth market. BBVA Compass and the BBVA Compass Foundation support art and art education in the communities where it operates.

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**About the Meadows Museum**

The Meadows Museum is the leading institution in the U.S. focused on the study and presentation of the art of Spain. In 1962, Dallas businessman and philanthropist Algur H. Meadows donated his private collection of Spanish paintings, as well as funds to start a museum, to Southern Methodist University. The museum opened to the public in 1965 and today is home to one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Spanish art outside of Spain. The collection includes medieval objects, Renaissance and Baroque sculptures, and major paintings by Golden Age and modern masters.

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