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**FAU PRESENTS THE '2016 ANNUAL JURIED STUDENT EXHIBITION' WITH OPENING NIGHT ARTIST TALK BY JUROR NAYLAND BLAKE**

**BOCA RATON, Fla. (March 4, 2016)** - The University Galleries and the Department of Visual Arts and Art History at Florida Atlantic University will present the "2016 Annual Juried Student Exhibition" from Friday, March 25 through Friday, April 8 in the Ritter Art Gallery, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus. An opening reception will take place on Thursday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ritter Art Gallery, preceding a special opening night artist talk by the exhibition's juror, Nayland Blake, at 6:00 p.m. in General Classroom South 119. The gallery talk, opening and exhibition, are free and open to the public.

With the goal of making art available to everyone on campus, the Juried Student Exhibition is held annually and is open to all FAU students. Students may submit up to three works each in a variety of media including photography, drawing, painting, sculpture, sound, video, graphic design, architecture and multimedia installation. From the record high 140 student submissions received this year, the exhibition will present less than one-third of the submitted works. In addition, this year four chosen student artists will be selected to receive a cash prize and the opportunity to showcase their work in Art Boca Raton Contemporary Art Fair to be held at Florida Atlantic University from Thursday, March 17 through Monday, March 21.

American born artist, writer and educator, Nayland Blake, who currently lives in Brooklyn, New York, will jury the 2016 Annual Juried Student Exhibition and give a special opening night artist talk. Known for his broad range of mixed media pieces, Blake will professionally select the exhibitions artwork that represents FAU's top artistic talent as well as the full spectrum of artistic diversity and disciplines being pursued at Florida Atlantic University. His work is included in various collections including the Museum of Modern Art the Museum of Contemporary Art, LA and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. His writing has appeared in forums and magazines such as Interview Magazine, Artforum, and Out. Blake is currently the chair of the ICP-Bard Program in Advanced Photographic Studies at the International Center of Photography in New York.

With the support of the University Galleries, this exhibition is produced and organized by FAU students for FAU students with the ultimate goal of providing both an

opportunity for them to showcase their work in a professional environment as well as develop valuable professional skills as both working artists and exhibition administrators. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. The University Galleries are closed Sunday and Monday.

This exhibition is made possible in part by the FAU Student Government, the University Galleries, the Department of Visual Arts and Art History, the Painter's Forum and the Art History Society. For more information, call 561-297-2661.

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