



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Smithsonian American Art Museum Announces *Ghosts Of A Chance*—
A Creative Initiative at its Luce Foundation Center for American Art**

Open call for participants beginning September 8, 2008
Interactive event on October 25, 2008

The Smithsonian American Art Museum's Luce Foundation Center for American Art presents *Ghosts Of A Chance*, an interactive display designed to promote new ways of engaging with the museum and its collection.

Starting today (September 8), the Luce Foundation Center will ask participants to create and then submit a series of artifacts to the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM). Certain objects will be chosen for temporary display both online and at SAAM's Luce Foundation Center. These artifacts will be on public view at the Museum for one day only, October 25.

The *Ghosts Of A Chance* Creative Initiative is open to anyone who chooses to participate, and the Luce Foundation Center welcomes submissions from museum patrons and artists alike. The Initiative will conclude with a special interactive event at SAAM, occurring in the galleries from noon until 5 p.m. on October 25.

Ghosts Of A Chance is conceived and curated by Daniel Libbe and Daisy Fortunis, graduate students at the Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities.

"*Ghosts Of A Chance* provides a unique opportunity to explore the Luce Foundation Center and interact with the Museum's varied collection in an entirely novel way," said Mr. Libbe. "We hijack the voice of the Museum with its timeless authority, demanding that participants create and then surrender precious artifacts to us. Our hope is to have people creating objects that embody histories."

Details about the *Ghosts Of A Chance* Creative Initiative and instructions for object submissions are available online at ghostsofachance.com or e-mail daniel@ghostsofachance.com.

Credit

Ghosts of a Chance is organized by the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C.

About the Luce Foundation Center

The Luce Foundation Center at the Smithsonian American Art Museum is a visible storage facility and study center that displays more than 3,300 artworks in floor-to-ceiling glass cases. Information on every single artwork and artist as well as hundreds of media assets can be found on interactive touch-screen kiosks dotted around the Center. The Luce Foundation Center is a dynamic facility, with a dedicated staff that answers visitor questions, coordinate an active schedule of public programs, and update the printed and online interpretation.

It is located on the third floor of the Museum's historic main building at Eighth and F streets N.W., near the Gallery Place/Chinatown Metrorail station. Public hours are 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, except Dec. 25. Admission is free. Luce Foundation Center Information: (202) 633-8532. Web site: americanart.si.edu/luce.

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