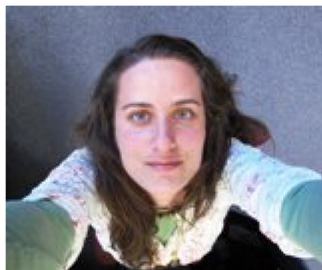


Two Museum Studies Students Picked as Final Five to be The Venice Apprentice

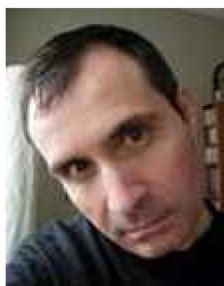


The Faculty of Information is pleased to announce that two Museum Studies students, **Valentine Moreno** and **John Rubino**, have earned a spot in the final five for a chance to be The Venice Apprentice, a highly coveted and much sought after position.

The finalists met each other and celebrated at a Venice Send-Off Party on Thursday, April 30th, in the Great Hall, Hart House, University of Toronto.

The Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, in partnership with Aeroplan and Hart House, at the University of Toronto, was pleased that one hundred applicants competed to assist the gallery in its preparations for Canada's official presentation of artist Mark Lewis at La Biennale di Venezia 2009.

One of the five finalists will be selected to accompany Commissioner Barbara Fischer and Deputy Commissioner Natalie De Vito to the 53rd Venice Biennale. The Apprentice will travel courtesy of Aeroplan and the JMB Gallery, and will work closely with Gallery staff to assist with preparations for the Canada Pavilion during installation leading up to the Biennale's prestigious Vernissage, the first week of June.



Valentine Moreno is a first-year student in the Master of Museum Studies Program who has worked in the fields of photography and arts management; and **John Rubino** is a second-year student in the Master of Museum Studies Program with a background in interior design and art direction for film.

The winner of the competition will be announced on Monday, May 11th, 2009.

During the month of April, The Venice Apprentice finalists worked at the Gallery on various tasks related to the Venice project, including international promotion and outreach, press and media, budgeting, translation, research, shipping, and preparing for the Venice Send-Off Party. Follow the finalists on their blogs, detailing their experiences on Facebook at Canada Pavilion Venice Biennale.

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