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Mississippi Museum of Art Announces Naming of the BankPlus Green in The Art Garden

(Jackson, Miss) ... The Mississippi Museum of Art (the Museum) is pleased to announce that the sprawling great lawn of The Art Garden at the Mississippi Museum of Art (The Art Garden) has been officially named the BankPlus Green. Thanks to the recent and continued support of BankPlus, funding for The Art Garden is even closer to completion. Visitors to The Art Garden are invited to congregate and enjoy the lush and expansive comfort of the BankPlus Green.

“BankPlus is proud to continue our partnership with the Mississippi Museum of Art as a lead supporter of the new Art Garden,” said Bill Ray, BankPlus President & CEO. “The BankPlus Green creates a venue for outdoor gatherings of all kinds in downtown Jackson, and we are happy to help facilitate this important new community resource.”

Officially opened on October 1, 2011, The Art Garden is Downtown Jackson’s newest and most impressive public green space. The Art Garden’s imaginative design was conceived by the late landscape architect Ed Blake, and carried to fruition through the guidance of architect Madge Bemiss. The Art

Garden was the site of the 2011 Town Creek Arts Festival, drawing thousands of enthusiastic visitors, numerous concert series featuring local performers, and personal gatherings of families and friends.

Surrounded by outdoor art installations created by some of Mississippi's most talented and renowned artists, the BankPlus Green is the physical and symbolic center of The Art Garden. The BankPlus Green encompasses almost an acre of Downtown Jackson, serving as a versatile public grove for all to enjoy.

"The generous support of BankPlus plays a huge role in our efforts to preserve and maintain the beauty and versatility of The Art Garden for generations," said Museum Director Betsy Bradley.

About BankPlus

BankPlus, with total assets of more than \$2 billion, has over 60 banking offices in 33 Mississippi communities. In addition to its Belzoni Main Office, other BankPlus offices are located in Bentonia, Brandon, Byram, Canton, Clinton, D'Iberville, Durant, Flora, Flowood, Gluckstadt, Hernando, Holly Bluff, Horn Lake, Isola, Jackson, Lexington, Madison, Meridian, Newton, Olive Branch, Pearl, Picayune, Pickens, Poplarville, Quitman, Ridgeland, Shubuta, Southaven, Stonewall, Tchula, Waynesboro, and Yazoo City. For additional information on BankPlus, please visit www.BankPlus.net.

About the Mississippi Museum of Art

For information about the Mississippi Museum of Art's exhibitions, programs, and special events, please call 601-960-1515 or 1-866-VIEW ART (843-9278), or visit www.msmuseumart.org.

The Mississippi Museum of Art and its programs are sponsored in part by the city of Jackson and the Jackson Convention & Visitors Bureau. Support is also provided in part by funding from the Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency, and in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The Art Garden and its programming are supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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