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HUNDREDS PAINTING BOXES FOR COMMUNITY MURAL IN NASHVILLE

Mural to be revealed during "Fall Fest at The Hermitage"

Nashville, Tenn (July 11, 2013) – Hundreds of Middle Tennesseans are pulling out their paint brushes to take part in a mural made of individually-painted, 18-inch cardboard boxes stacked at various heights and lengths to create a larger-than-life art installation. The collaborative art piece could set a Guinness World Record.

Nashville artist Myles Maillie, famous for his colorful impressionist style, envisioned the box mural project. "We have been amazed at the response from the community," said Maillie. "From schools and churches to offices and private parties, we are seeing more than a thousand boxes painted by the community."

The public-art piece will be a focal point of an art and music event, "Fall Fest at The Hermitage" held on October 5-6, 2013 on the grounds of The Hermitage, Home of President Andrew Jackson in partnership with Metro Nashville Arts Commission as part of its "Artober" happenings.

In addition to massive walls that will be comprised of boxes painted by individuals, independent box sculptures are also being painted. One example is a giant Rubik's Cube painted by the Nashville Pet Community Center.

Anyone living in Middle Tennessee has an opportunity to participate in the project, and organizers of the project have made an effort to ensure that boxes and supplies are easily accessible. Each box costs \$5 to paint, and a portion of each box purchased will be donated to The Hermitage.

"This project has truly taken on a life of its own and there are so many ways to participate" said Matt Fischer, Art's Chair for the Fall Fest. "Many groups have reached out with ideas for box sculptures. We are also pre-designing pieces so groups can paint by number."

Individuals or groups can participate by:

- attending a scheduled box-painting party at various locations throughout town including The Hermitage, *Picture This! Custom Framing and Gallery*, and Metro Community Centers.
- purchasing a box at *Picture This!* or The Hermitage gift shop to paint at home.
- attending the "Fall Fest at The Hermitage" and painting a box during the festival. .

All public painting events can be found at the group's Facebook page, [Facebook.com/StackedBoxCommunityMuralProject](https://www.facebook.com/StackedBoxCommunityMuralProject) or at www.fallfestatthehermitage.com.

“This will be unlike anything Nashvillians have seen,” said Maillie. “This collaborative art piece will be a sprawling and beautiful achievement by the community.”

To sponsor a box painting event, contact Matt Fischer at (615) 889-5640. For tickets and information on “Fall Fest at The Hermitage,” or to donate online, visit www.fallfestatthehermitage.com. All proceeds from the event will assist with operations at The Hermitage. Tickets are \$5 for adults. Children under age 11 are admitted free. For vendor or sponsorship information contact “Fall Fest at The Hermitage” Marketing at 615-889-2941 ext. 255. *Picture This! Custom Framing and Gallery* is the official sponsor of the Community Box Mural Project.

About “Fall Fest at The Hermitage”

“Fall Fest at The Hermitage” celebrates Tennessee’s cultural and historical heritage with variety of visual art, performance art, food and music, all on the ground of President Andrew Jackson’s 1,120 acre plantation. More than 100 artists and crafters from across the state and region will attend and display work including photography, basketry, ceramics, paintings, jewelry and woodwork. Visitors will be able to watch many of the artists and crafters at work, like a master blacksmith forging with Jacksonian-era materials. Throughout the weekend, the festival will highlight the sounds of rock and roll, southern rock, bluegrass, jazz and country music, and an array of local food vendors will be on site during the festival to offer a sampling of signature dishes, as well as selections of local beer and wine. For more information, visit www.fallfestatthehermitage.com.

About The Hermitage

The Hermitage, Home of President Andrew Jackson, is one of the largest and most visited presidential homes in the United States. In 1856, the State of Tennessee purchased the property from the Jackson family, entrusting it to the Ladies’ Hermitage Association in 1889 to operate as one of America’s first historic site museums. Today, The Hermitage is a 1,120-acre National Historic Landmark with more than 30 historic buildings, including restored slave cabins. Thanks to efforts of this nonprofit organization, the mansion is the most accurately preserved early presidential home in the country. The Hermitage is a national model for authenticity, conservation, and historic preservation. In recent years, new interpretive initiatives and educational programs such as archaeology and the history of slavery have enhanced the experience of some 180,000 annual visitors, including 30,000 school children, from all 50 states and many foreign countries; in fact, we interpret The Hermitage mansion in five foreign languages. The property also receives 30,000 annual visits from the local community, including more than 1,000 children who play Little League baseball at The Hermitage’s Rotary Park. The Hermitage is a “Partner Place” with the National Trust for Historic Preservation; and a site along the National Park Service’s Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. For more information, visit www.thehermitage.com.

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