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CONTACT:

Erin Barrier, GolinHarris
213-438-8707, ebarrier@golinharris.com

**‘TUTANKHAMUN: THE GOLDEN KING AND THE GREAT PHAROHS’ MAKES U.S. DEBUT
NOVEMBER 15 FOR SEVEN-MONTH RUN AT THE ATLANTA CIVIC CENTER**

ATLANTA (November 10, 2008) — “Tutankhamun: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs,” a new National Geographic exhibition featuring more than 130 ancient Egyptian treasures, will premiere at the Atlanta Civic Center on November 15, 2008, and will run through May 25, 2009. The exhibition will feature artifacts from the tomb of the celebrated pharaoh King Tutankhamun and other ancient sites representing 2,000 years of ancient Egyptian history. The exhibition in Atlanta is developed in partnership with the Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University.

“Tutankhamun's magic still captures the hearts of people all over the world, even though more than 85 years have passed since the discovery of his amazing tomb,” said Zahi Hawass, secretary general of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities. “America has welcomed the golden king, and now he returns, bringing with him all the great pharaohs of Egypt. This exhibition will raise much-needed funds for the preservation of Egypt's monuments and the construction and renovation of museums throughout the country. I always say that Egyptian antiquities are the heritage of the world and that we are only their guardians.”

The touring exhibition is organized by National Geographic, Arts and Exhibitions International and AEG Exhibitions, with cooperation from Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities. Northern Trust is the presenting sponsor of the tour, and American Airlines is the official airline.

The exhibition features an audio tour and National Geographic video documentary, both narrated by award-winning actor, Harrison Ford.

Proceeds from the tour will go toward antiquities preservation and conservation efforts in Egypt, including the construction of a new grand museum in Cairo.

“Egypt's ancient treasures are among the world's greatest cultural legacies,” said Terry Garcia, executive vice president, National Geographic Society. “Even with the great wealth of research that already exists, new technologies continue to open up the past in ways never imagined. Visitors to this exhibition will not only see stunning artifacts spanning 2,000 years of ancient Egyptian history, but they will also learn more about the life and death of Tutankhamun through recent CT scans conducted on his mummy.”

To correspond with the King Tut exhibition at the Atlanta Civic Center, a slate of Egyptian-themed experiences and programming will take place throughout the city, including “Wonderful Things: The Harry Burton Photographs and the Discovery of the Tomb of Tutankhamun” at the Michael C. Carlos Museum. On view November 15, 2008, through May 25, 2009, this photography exhibition features 50 photographs taken by Harry Burton, the photographer who accompanied explorer Howard Carter on the Tutankhamun expedition and documented the moment-by-moment discovery of King Tut’s untouched tomb.

“The discovery of Tutankhamun’s tomb was an unforgettable moment in recent history. We look forward to highlighting, through educational programs and our special exhibition ‘Wonderful Things,’ the magic of that discovery and the profound impact it had on our understanding of ancient Egyptian culture and its significance today,” said Bonnie Speed, director of the Michael C. Carlos Museum.

Also during the exhibition run, Giant Screen Films will offer “Egypt 3D: Secrets of the Mummies,” a 22-minute 3D movie presented by Dolby® 3D Digital Cinema that follows researchers and explorers as they piece together the archeological and genetic clues of Egyptian mummies. The movie will show in a custom theater adjacent to the exhibition space every half-hour, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., seven days a week.

Additionally, more than 100 businesses throughout the city are participating in a “Tutlanta” affinity card that comes with King Tut ticket purchases, entitling cardholders to more than \$900 worth of Egyptian-themed offerings and discounts at participating locations. A full listing of offers is available at www.Tutlanta.com.

“Tutankhamun has been welcomed to Atlanta with open arms, which is evidenced by the outpouring of support from local businesses and community leaders, as well as rapid ticket sales for this new exhibition,” said John Norman, president, Arts and Exhibitions International. “There is an enduring interest in Egypt’s heritage, and this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Atlanta residents and visitors to see a collection of world treasures that represent a veritable who’s who of ancient Egypt.”

The exhibition is made possible in part by support from Northern Trust and American Airlines.

“For nearly 120 years, Northern Trust has strived to increase social interaction and a sense of community, and integrate the arts into education and other outreach activities,” said Frederick H. Waddell, president and chief executive officer of Northern Trust Corporation. “We look forward to sharing this extraordinary event with the Atlanta community, as well as visitors from around the world.”

Exhibition organizers anticipate the exhibition will attract visitors throughout the region.

“American Airlines is thrilled to have a role in bringing ‘Tutankhamun: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs’ to its Atlanta premiere,” said Dan Garton, executive vice president of marketing for American Airlines. “As the official airline of the exhibition, we are pleased that American Airlines is helping to make it possible for these extraordinary objects to be seen by thousands of visitors.”

“Tutankhamun: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs” is the second National Geographic touring exhibition dedicated to the remarkable treasures of King Tutankhamun and ancient Egyptian royalty. It will travel next to Indianapolis following the Atlanta run. The first exhibition, “Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs,” drew nearly 5 million visitors and broke records at the five venues it visited from June 2005 through August 2008, and recently began a three-city encore tour in Dallas.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Premiering November 15, 2008, to May 25, 2009, at the Boisfeuillet Jones Atlanta Civic Center, “Tutankhamun: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs” features striking objects from some of the most important rulers throughout 2,000 years of ancient Egyptian history, from the 4th Dynasty into the Late Period (about 2600 B.C. – 660 B.C.). Derived from a variety of contexts, including temples and royal and private tombs, many of these artifacts have never before visited the United States.

Tutankhamun was one of the last kings of Egypt’s 18th Dynasty and ruled during a crucial, turmoil-filled period of Egyptian history. The boy king died under mysterious circumstances around age 18 or 19, in the ninth year of his reign (1323 B.C.).

The exhibition highlights more than 50 treasures from Tutankhamun’s tomb and more than 70 artifacts representing other pharaohs and notables, along with the latest scientific research about King Tut. The storyline follows the splendor of the Egyptian pharaohs, their function in the earthly and divine worlds, and what kingship meant to the Egyptian people.

Four galleries devoted to King Tut correspond to the four rooms of his nearly intact tomb, where the treasures were discovered by British explorer Howard Carter in 1922. Legendary artifacts from the antechamber, the annex, the treasury and the burial chamber include Tutankhamun’s golden sandals, jewelry, furniture, weaponry and statuary.

The final gallery features CT scans of Tutankhamun that were obtained as part of a landmark, Egyptian research and conservation project, partially funded by National Geographic, that will CT-scan the ancient mummies of Egypt. The Tutankhamun scans were captured through the use of a portable CT scanner, donated by Siemens Medical Solutions, which allowed researchers to compile the first three-dimensional picture of Tutankhamun and discover more about his life and death.

VISITOR AND TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets to the exhibition at the Atlanta Civic Center can be purchased for visits every day of the week, on the half-hour from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. (galleries close at 7 p.m.). Single tickets range from \$16.50-\$32.50 and are available at the exhibition box office, 1-877-TUT-TKTS (1-877-888-8587) or www.Ticketmaster.com. Group tickets for 10 or more are available at 1-866-52GROUP (1-866-524-7687) or www.kingtut.org. Audio tours (\$7) and tickets for “Egypt 3D: Secrets of the Mummies” (\$5) can be added at the time of purchase or at the exhibition.

The “Cairo Café,” a walkup location featuring light fare including soup, salads, sandwiches, snacks and beverages, is located in the lobby and is open from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Hotel packages, including VIP tickets for anytime access that are not available to the general public, are being offered at Atlanta-area Marriott hotels, including Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta Marriott Suites Midtown, Renaissance Atlanta Hotel Downtown, Courtyard Atlanta Midtown/Georgia Tech, Residence Inn Atlanta Midtown/17th Street, Residence Inn Atlanta Midtown/Historic, Residence Inn Atlanta Downtown, JW Marriott Hotel Buckhead Atlanta, Springhill Suites Atlanta Buckhead, Atlanta Marriott Century Center, Residence Inn Atlanta Buckhead, Residence Inn Atlanta Buckhead/Lenox Park, Atlanta Marriott Perimeter Center, Atlanta Marriott Downtown and Courtyard Atlanta Executive Park/Emory. Packages also are available at The Ritz-Carlton, Atlanta (Downtown) and The Ritz-Carlton, Buckhead. More information is available at www.kingtuthotels.com or www.kingtut.org.

ABOUT THE MICHAEL C. CARLOS MUSEUM OF EMORY UNIVERSITY

The Michael C. Carlos Museum, founded in 1919, has long been dedicated to collecting, preserving, exhibiting, and interpreting art and artifacts from antiquity to the present. Some 16,000 artifacts from ancient Egypt, the Near East, Greece, Rome, the Americas, Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa, as well as works on paper from the Renaissance to the present day, provide visitors with a glimpse into the art and history of world cultures. The museum aims to provide unique opportunities for education and enrichment in the community, and to promote interdisciplinary teaching and research at Emory University. The Carlos Museum's educational programming--with an active schedule of lectures, symposia, workshops, performances, and summer camps--benefits all who interact with the museum community. Annual participation from 100,000 visitors, 30,000 children, and almost 1 million internet users of *Odyssey Online*, Carlos Museum's interactive Web site accessed by English-speaking classrooms around the world, reveals the Museum's commitment to making art and artifacts relevant and accessible to all. In addition to conducting scientific analysis and treatment of museum collections, the Carlos Conservation Laboratory also offers teaching and training opportunities for students interested in pursuing careers in art, conservation, preservation, and science. Located at the heart of Emory University's Atlanta campus, the Carlos Museum serves as the South's premier museum of ancient art.

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