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CARLOS MUSEUM’S 18th “VENERALIA” – PATRONS PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE FUNDRAISING EVENT

...we will find ways to support our core mission and enhance the educational and cultural landscape of this great city...

ATLANTA, Georgia—The Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University prepares for its signature fundraising event, “Veneralia.” The event will be held in the Pharaoh’s Palace, at the Boisfeuillet Atlanta Civic Center on April 4, 2009. This gala, bringing together the generous community of Atlanta, will honor Joanne and Charles Ackerman, long-time, stalwart supporters of the Carlos Museum. Carlos Museum patrons and the Atlanta community at large will have another opportunity to commemorate the cultural, educational, and artistic significance of “Tutankhamun: The Golden King and The Great Pharaohs,” while paying tribute to the partnerships behind this exhibition.

Charles Ackerman, board co-chair of the Carlos Museum, has played an instrumental role in bringing “Tutankhamun: The Golden King and The Great Pharaohs” to Atlanta and has served as a strong leader in generating appreciation for the ancient lands of Egypt and highlighting Egypt and Emory University collaborations as well as the renowned expertise of the Carlos Museum curators. Distinguished guests and patrons will convene at “Veneralia,” organized by event chairs, Dr. Bill Torres, Jack Sawyer, Sacha Taylor and Monica Dioda and host committee chairs, Todd Tautfest and Louise Sams.

Guests will enjoy a sumptuous dinner, featuring the culinary expertise of Tony Conway of A Legendary Event, complemented by the artistic décor of Robert Long. As a philanthropic event, proceeds from “Veneralia” will support the education and outreach initiatives that the Museum undertakes each year, reaching over 30,000 school children and countless schools across Georgia. For 18 years “Veneralia” has served as a signature celebration of the Carlos Museum and a vital gathering of art and culture patrons and enthusiasts. The number 18 takes on further significance as the boy-king, Tutankhamun, belonged to the 18th Dynasty of ancient Egyptian pharaohs and died at the young age of 18. For more information on “Veneralia,” including ticket prices, visit http://www.carlos.emory.edu/benefit-events.

Director of the Carlos Museum, Bonnie Speed, said, “This year’s ‘Veneralia’ is especially important as we gather to recognize all those who have been part of this extraordinary journey. The insight and commitment of our partners, board members, and patrons have shone through every step of the way. Together, even during trying economic times, we will find ways to support our core mission and enhance the educational and cultural landscape of this great city.”

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About the Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University

Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University brings to the Atlanta community priceless treasures mapping an extraordinary breadth of ancient cultures, customs, and legacies. 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.

Located at the heart of Emory University’s Atlanta campus and exhibited in the landmark building designed by noted architect Michael Graves, these works of art and artifacts reveal the Carlos Museum’s meticulous care for the legacy of ancient civilizations and the learning opportunities innate in each artifact.

A 1985 interior renovation, along with a 35,000-square-foot expansion in 1993 made the in-depth display of the museum’s permanent collections possible, and transformed the Carlos Museum into a destination for special exhibitions. From locally organized exhibitions to those from nationally and internationally celebrated institutions, including the Louvre, British Museum, and Israel Museum, the Carlos Museum serves as the South’s premier museum of ancient art.

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.

The Carlos Museum’s conservation program is unique in the Southeast. 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.

Founded in 1919, the Michael C. Carlos Museum has long been dedicated to collecting, preserving, exhibiting, and interpreting art and artifacts from antiquity to the present. The museum aims to provide unique opportunities for education and enrichment in the community, and to promote interdisciplinary teaching and research at Emory University.

Location: 571 South Kilgo Circle, Atlanta, Georgia 30322, U.S.A. Telephone: 404-727-4282 Fax: 404-727-4292 Hours: Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday 12 noon – 5 p.m. (Closed on Mondays and university holidays) Admission: $7 donation. Free for Carlos Museum members and Emory University faculty, students, and staff. Public Tours: Free docent-led tours of the Museum depart from the Rotunda on Level One every Sunday at 2:30 p.m. during the Emory academic year (call 404-727-4282 to confirm).

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