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MEADOWS MUSEUM ANNOUNCES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

*2015 Is the Official Golden Anniversary for Renowned Spanish Art Museum at
Southern Methodist University*

DALLAS (SMU) (April 14, 2014) – The Meadows Museum at Southern Methodist University has announced it will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2015 with a series of special Golden Anniversary exhibitions and programs. The centerpiece of the celebration will be a series of public and private events April 16-18, 2015, during SMU’s annual Founders’ Day Weekend. The Meadows Museum will also mark its 50th by unveiling a special anniversary logo and website in the coming months. The Meadows’ 50th celebration in 2015 coincides with the 100th Anniversary of SMU’s opening in 1915.

“The 50th anniversary represents a landmark moment in time for the Meadows Museum, and we’re thrilled to celebrate it with a series of special exhibitions,” said Linda Perryman Evans, President and CEO of The Meadows Foundation. “Thanks to the extraordinary vision of Algur H. Meadows and the support of SMU and museum donors, the Meadows has become one the most comprehensive museums of Spanish art in the world. As we lead up to this special anniversary, we look forward to expanding its distinguished permanent collection even further.”

The celebration will include exhibitions of works by Spanish painter and print-maker Francisco Goya (1746-1828) -- one of the world’s most gifted artists -- and acclaimed Texas-born painter John Alexander, who was inspired by Goya. Details will be announced soon about other programs during the year, including a major loan exhibition from a distinguished Spanish collection. The Meadows Foundation has graciously provided seed funding to support special programs and exhibits for the 50th Anniversary.

The Meadows also announced the appointment of Stacey S. McCord as the Chair of the 50th Anniversary Year.

“In the last half century, the Meadows has become a crown jewel of the arts community and one of the finest university museums in the country,” said Linda P. Custard, Chair of the Meadows Museum Advisory Council. “As it grows, the Meadows Museum will continue to serve a broad audience, both at SMU and around the world.”

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Special 50th Anniversary events will include the following exhibitions (titles for the exhibitions have yet to be announced):

Goya Print Series: From Sept. 28, 2014 to March 22, 2015, the Meadows will present an exhibition drawn entirely from the Museum's rich collection of Goya's printed work. It will feature complete first edition sets of Goya's four major print series, *Los Caprichos* (The Caprices), *La Tauromaquia* (Bullfighting), *Los Disparates* (The Follies), and *Los Desastres de la Guerra* (The Disasters of War). This extraordinary collection of prints belonged to the noble Spanish family of the Dukes of Lerma before it was acquired by Mr. and Mrs. Algur Meadows and The Meadows Foundation. in 1967. The exhibition will also include a rare proof state from Goya's *Disparates* and his lithographs of *The Bulls of Bordeaux*.

Goya "Conversations": From Feb. 1 to May 3, 2015, the museum will expand its homage to Goya by mounting a series of "conversations," pairing prominent Goya paintings from other institutions with works in the Meadows' permanent collection, bringing to life new insights about this great artist. These loans will form the basis of a collaboration between the Meadows Museum and the Musée du Louvre in Paris.

50-Year Timeline: From April 18 to July 19, 2015, the Meadows will present an extensive didactic exhibition including archival material, photographs and works of art to document the 50-year history of the museum.

John Alexander and Goya: In 2015 the museum will present an exhibition by prominent painter and SMU alumnus John Alexander, examining his works which have been closely inspired by Goya.

"The Meadows Museum plays an important role as an educational and cultural center. It provides a unique educational resource for SMU and our region, visiting scholars from around the world and area schools and other colleges," said SMU President R. Gerald Turner. "The 50th anniversary celebration gives us the opportunity to expand the Museum's educational outreach and show our appreciation for the visionary impact and ongoing support of The Meadows Foundation."

"The upcoming celebration is a testament to just how much the Meadows Museum has grown and expanded its scope and range over the last 50 years," said Mark A. Roglán, the Linda P. and William A. Custard Director of the Meadows Museum and Centennial Chair, SMU's Meadows School of the Arts. "Last year, we acquired Goya's *Portrait of Mariano Goya, the Artist's Grandson*, and thanks to the generosity of Alan B. Coleman, we will soon add another important work by Goya to our permanent collection. Today, the Meadows has become one of the world's major repositories of Goya's works, and we'd like to thank the Louvre for collaborating with us in our upcoming Goya 'Conversations' exhibition."

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About the Meadows Museum

The Meadows Museum is the leading U.S. institution focused on the study and presentation of the art of Spain. In 1962, Dallas businessman and philanthropist Algur H. Meadows donated his private collection of Spanish paintings, as well as funds to start a museum, to Southern Methodist University. The Museum opened to the public in 1965, marking the first step in fulfilling Meadows' vision to create "a small Prado in Texas."

Today, the Meadows is home to one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Spanish art in the world. The collection spans from the 10th to the 21st centuries, and includes medieval objects, Renaissance and Baroque sculptures, and major paintings by Golden Age and modern masters. Since 2010, the Museum has been engaged in a multidimensional partnership with the Prado, which has included the exchange of scholars, exhibitions, works of art, and other resources.

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