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FUNDACIÓN CATEDRAL DE SANTIAGO AND THE MEADOWS MUSEUM SIGN A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT TO PRESENT AN ART EXHIBITION FOCUSED ON THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO TO MARK THE HOLY YEAR 2027

Ceremony presided over by Archbishop Francisco José Prieto Fernández, SMU President Dr. Jay Hartzell, and Meadows Museum Director Amanda W. Dotseth

DALLAS (SMU) – Oct. 7, 2025 – Today, Fundación Catedral de Santiago and the Meadows Museum, SMU, signed a collaboration agreement which will bring an unforgettable exhibition to Texas from February to May 2027 featuring treasures from the cathedral's collections that highlight the importance of the Camino de Santiago and the cathedral at the end of the journey. The exhibition at the Meadows Museum, which celebrates its 60th anniversary this year, will be a unique opportunity to introduce visitors to the rich heritage of this beautiful site—one of the most important European pilgrimage destinations for visitors worldwide—in the heart of the premier museum for Spanish art in the United States. The historic agreement is a tremendous display of generosity on the part of the cathedral, which in 2027 will be celebrating a Jacobean Holy Year, a time of heightened visitation during which pilgrims to the cathedral may be granted plenary indulgences.

The agreement was signed in the Meadows Museum's Virginia Meadows Galleries, presided over by the Most Reverend Francisco José Prieto Fernández, Archbishop of Santiago de Compostela and Chair of the Board of Fundación Catedral de Santiago; Ilmo. Sr. Don Manuel Jesús Formoso Fernández, Dean-President of the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela and Vice President of Fundación Catedral de Santiago; M. I. Sr. Don Daniel Carlos Lorenzo Santos, Director of Fundación Catedral de Santiago; Ramón Yzquierdo, Director of the Cathedral of Santiago Museum; Dr. Jay Hartzell, President of SMU; Dr. Rachel Davis Mersey, Provost of SMU; Dr. Samuel S. Holland, dean of the Meadows School of the Arts, SMU; and Dr. Amanda W. Dotseth, Linda P. and William A. Custard Director of the Meadows Museum and Centennial Chair in the Meadows School of Arts, SMU. Representatives from The Meadows Foundation and the Meadows Museum Advisory Council were also present for the occasion.

Jointly curated by Dotseth and Yzquierdo, this important exhibition will bring together approximately 70 objects showcasing the beauty of this Romanesque temple, a universally admired jewel visited every year by hundreds of thousands of worshippers and devotees of its artistic and religious heritage. These include archaeological artifacts, sculptures, paintings, and manuscripts, all illustrating the richness, beauty and spirituality of one of the most beautiful cathedrals in Europe.

Work began on the cathedral in the 11th century and ended with its consecration in 1211. The Cathedral of Santiago was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985. The exhibition will also include works that illustrate the additions made to the cathedral over the centuries and demonstrate its continuous use from the Middle Ages to today.

A highlight of the exhibition will be works by Master Mateo, the great artist of the Cathedral of Santiago, creator of the world-renowned Portico of Glory, a masterpiece of European medieval art. His *Saint Matthew*, *Horses from the Retinue of the Three Kings*, and *King David*, among others, will travel to Dallas.

Additional jewels from the cathedral museum's collection that will be part of the exhibition are the tympanum *Adoration of the Three Kings; St. James the Pilgrim* by Iohannes Roucel; the reliquary of Santiago Alfeo (attributed to Rodrigo Eáns); and the cross of Archbishop Gaspar de Zúñiga y Avellaneda.

In addition to the exhibition, the agreement provides for a series of research initiatives including the publication of a book, an international symposium, a series of conferences, academic presentations and educational programs with both institutions working in close collaboration, among other activities. The goal is to bring this group of masterpieces from Spanish art history, ranging from antiquity to early modern periods, closer to the American public and highlight the importance of the Cathedral of Santiago as the final destination of the Camino de Santiago.

About the Cathedral of Santiago and Fundación Catedral de Santiago

The Cathedral of Santiago is the mother church of the Diocese of Santiago de Compostela, capital of Galicia in northwestern Spain. It houses the sepulcher and relics of the Apostle James the Elder and is a worldwide destination for pilgrimages, as well as an important center of faith and culture. Since 2008, Fundación Catedral de Santiago has been responsible for the management and maintenance of the vast historical and artistic heritage that the cathedral houses, in addition to supporting restoration and conservation work throughout the cathedral. The Cathedral of Santiago Museum exhibits archaeological and architectural artifacts, sculptures and paintings, as well as exemplars of textile art and goldsmithing. These objects represent a range of historical moments and artistic styles spanning more than 1,200 years of history of the Jacobean Basilica, the final destination of the Camino de Santiago. For more information visit visitas.catedraldesantiago.es/en

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's vision to create "a small Prado for Texas." Today, the Meadows is home to one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Spanish art outside of Spain. 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. For more information visit meadowsmuseumdallas.org.

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