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1/ST RACING AND MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB ESTABLISH ART COMPETITION WITH MARYLAND INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF ART IN CELEBRATION OF PREAKNESS 147

BALTIMORE, MD – 1/ST and the Maryland Jockey Club have partnered with the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) to launch *The Art of Racing*, a unique art competition to honor the second jewel of the Triple Crown Series and its impact on Baltimore. Established more than four decades ago, the relationship between the Maryland Jockey Club and MICA takes a step forward with this community-wide call for entries of original, two-dimensional visual art that depicts the unique elements of Thoroughbred horse racing and the legendary Preakness Stakes.

From today's launch until the submission deadline of March 1st, 2022, artists may submit their entries to www.preakness.com/the-art-of-racing, after which all submissions will be available for public viewing. From March 2nd through March 20th, visitors to *The Art of Racing* website can cast their vote for their favorite work of art. The top 10 vote-getters will then be entered into the finalist category, with the winning piece selected by an esteemed panel of judges representing the artistic, business, philanthropic and political communities that allow Park Heights to thrive as the home of Preakness 147.

The winning artist of the inaugural competition will receive a \$4,000 stipend and two tickets to Preakness 147 on May 21st, 2022. In addition, their work will be reproduced on Preakness 147 merchandise with the Park Heights Renaissance as the beneficiary of all sales proceeds, which will be used to support the activities of the non-profit organization as it pursues affordable housing for families and provides employment opportunities for members of the Park Heights community.

The Art of Racing is part of the ongoing partnership between 1/ST and the Park Heights Renaissance that included honoring the late community advocate George E. Mitchell through the George E. Mitchell Black-Eyed Susan Stakes and the George E. Mitchell Park Heights Community Fellowship Grant. *The Art of Racing* builds upon the legacy of these initiatives by recognizing and honoring individuals who, much like Mitchell himself, demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to the Park Heights community.

"The visual elements behind the Preakness Stakes captivate the imagination both on race day and year-round," said David Wilson, Chief Marketing Officer, 1/ST. "*The Art of Racing* commemorates and celebrates one of the most iconic sporting events in Maryland, and nationwide. It also represents the opportunity for a modern visual interpretation of the Preakness Stakes as we redefine the sport to connect with a new generation of fans."

"The Preakness is one of the most esteemed public events for Maryland and this inaugural competition celebrates its importance in a unique way," said Dr. Leslie King-Hammond, the

founding director of the Center for Race and Culture at MICA and a member of the judging panel for *The Art of Racing*.

There is an illustrious history between MICA and the Preakness Stakes that began in the 1970s when then-MICA professor Raoul Middleman led his classes in painting murals of Pimlico Race Course. The seven murals Middleman created with his students, which live in perpetuity behind the course's grandstand, provide an intimate look at a tradition defined by history and character.

"Raoul Middleman enriched the lives of his students by giving them the hands-on opportunity to experience commercial artmaking," said Dr. Tiffany Holmes, MICA's Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. "*The Art of Racing* builds upon Professor Middleman's legacy by commissioning artists from MICA and across Maryland to provide their interpretations of Maryland's time-honored tradition of Thoroughbred racing."

For more information on *The Art of Racing*, please visit www.preakness.com/the-art-of-racing or follow @PreaknessStakes and #Preakness on social media.

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About The Stronach Group and 1/ST

The Stronach Group is a world-class technology, entertainment and real estate development company with Thoroughbred horse racing and pari-mutuel wagering at the core. The company's consumer facing brand **1/ST** (pronounced "First") powers The Stronach Group's forward-thinking **1/ST RACING**, **1/ST CONTENT**, **1/ST TECHNOLOGY**, **1/ST EXPERIENCE**, and **1/ST PROPERTIES** businesses, while advocating for and driving the **1/ST HORSE CARE** mission. **1/ST** represents The Stronach Group's continued movement toward redefining Thoroughbred horse racing and the ecosystem that drives it. **1/ST RACING** drives the best-in-class horse racing operations at the company's premier racetracks and training centers including: Santa Anita Park, Golden Gate Fields and San Luis Rey Downs (California); Gulfstream Park – home of the Pegasus World Cup Championship Invitational Series, Gulfstream Park West and Palm Meadows Thoroughbred Training Center (Florida); the Maryland Jockey Club at Laurel Park, Pimlico Race Course - home of the legendary Preakness Stakes, Rosecroft Raceway and Bowie Training Center (Maryland). **1/ST CONTENT** is the newly formed operating group for **1/ST's** media and content companies including: Monarch Content Management, Elite, GWS and XBTV. **1/ST TECHNOLOGY** is horse racing's largest racing and gaming technology company offering world-class products via its AmTote, Xpressbet, **1/ST BET**, XB SELECT, XB NET, PariMAX and Betmix brands. **1/ST EXPERIENCE** blends the worlds of sports, entertainment and hospitality through innovative content development, elevated national and local venue management and hospitality, strategic partnerships, sponsorships, and procurement development. **1/ST PROPERTIES** is responsible for the development of the company's live, work and play communities surrounding its racing venues including: The Village at Gulfstream Park (Florida) and Paddock Pointe (Maryland). As the advocate for critical industry reforms and by making meaningful investments into aftercare programs for retired horses and jockeys, **1/ST HORSE CARE** represents The Stronach Group's commitment to achieving the highest level of horse and rider care and safety standards in Thoroughbred horse racing on and off the track. For more information, please visit www.1st.com.

About MICA

Acknowledged nationally as a premier leader in art and design education, MICA is deliberately cultivating a new generation of artist – one that is capable of seamlessly integrating innovation, entrepreneurship and creative citizenship with contemporary approaches to art, design and media. MICA is redefining the role of the artists and designers as creative, solutions-oriented makers and thinkers who will drive social, cultural, and economic advancement for our future.

As the oldest continuously degree-granting college of art and design in the nation, MICA is located in Baltimore, deeply connected to the community. It is a leading contributor to the creative economy regionally and a top producer of nationally and internationally recognized professional artists and designers. For more information, please visit www.MICA.edu.