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[High-res images available upon request]

Ralph Brennan re-opens Courtyard Café at New Orleans Museum of Art

For first time post-Katrina, museum visitors experience delicious taste of New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS, La. (November 20, 2009) - On Saturday, November 14, 2009, the Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group re-opened the "Courtyard Café" for the first time since Hurricane Katrina as part of a four month partnership with the New Orleans Museum of Art (NOMA.) The opening coincides with the *Dreams Come True: Art of the Classic Fairy Tales from the Walt Disney Studio* exhibition showing at NOMA November 15, 2009 - March 14, 2010, and the 72-seat Courtyard Café will be serving breakfast, lunch and snack items during regular NOMA business hours of Wednesdays noon - 8 p.m. and Thursday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

"We were thrilled to learn about the Disney exhibit at NOMA and flattered to be invited by NOMA to provide foodservice to the estimated 80,000 attendees of this blockbuster show," said Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group owner Ralph Brennan. "The Café's floor-to-ceiling picture windows and spectacular view of the live oaks, magnolia trees and lagoons of City Park offer art fanatics the opportunity to relax and enjoy delicious food, and we are proud to provide our snack, breakfast and lunch items to them."

NOMA approached the Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group for this partnership not only due to their culinary prowess, but also for their experience with the Disney brand. For the last nine years, the Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group has worked with the Walt Disney Company as an operating participant at the Disneyland® Resort in Southern California with its restaurant Jazz Kitchen which includes an adjacent quick service Jazz Kitchen Express.

"We are pleased to have one of New Orleans' finest restaurateurs bring life back to our Courtyard Café," said E. John Bullard, Director of the New Orleans Museum of Art. "The Ralph Brennan Group is a great neighbor to City Park and the Museum, as well as a Disney affiliate. The partnership is a natural fit."

Menu standouts include:

- Turtle Soup by Ralph's on the Park
- Alligator Sausage & Seafood Gumbo by Red Fish Grill
- Roasted Gulf Shrimp Salad with lemon parmesan dressing by Bacco
- Turkey Club Sandwich with tarragon-dijon on sourdough
- Vegetable Focaccia of grilled squash, zucchini, baby greens, tomatoes, avocado and rosemary aioli.

Kid's 'Prince and Princess' menu includes Peanut Butter and Jelly Rolls and a Goey Grilled Cheese on Texas Toast.

About Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group

The New Orleans-based Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group is owned and operated by Ralph Brennan and includes French Quarter restaurants BACCO and Red Fish Grill, Ralph's on the Park in Mid-City New Orleans and Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen at the Disneyland® Resort in Southern California. Each of these award-winning restaurants celebrates the cuisine and hospitality of classic and contemporary New Orleans.

The Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group is engaged in a partnership with the New Orleans Museum of Art to operate the on-site Courtyard Café in conjunction with the *Dreams Come True: Art of the Classic Fairy Tales from the Walt Disney Studio* exhibition from November 15, 2009 - March 14, 2010 and also provides exclusive catering services to the French Quarter-based Hermann-Grima Historic House and Courtyard.

About the Dreams Come True Walt Disney Studio Exhibition

From now until March 14, 2010, the New Orleans Museum of Art (NOMA) presents *Dreams Come True: Art of the Classic Fairy Tales from the Walt Disney Studio*, a major exhibition featuring more than 600 rarely seen original artworks that brought legendary fairy tales to the screen, including Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, The Little Mermaid and Beauty and the Beast.

About NOMA and the Besthoff Sculpture Garden

The New Orleans Museum of Art, founded in 1910 by Isaac Delgado, houses more than 30,000 art objects encompassing 4,000 years of world art. Works from the permanent collection, along with continuously changing temporary exhibitions, are on view in the Museum's 46 galleries Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m. and Thursdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission to the adjacent Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden, featuring work by 58 artists, including several of the 20th century's great master sculptors, is always free during public hours. **Please note the Sculpture Garden is closed for renovation until early 2010.** Please call for more information.

The New Orleans Museum of Art is fully accessible to handicapped visitors and wheelchairs are available from the front desk.

For more information, call (504) 658-4100 or visit www.noma.org.

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