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World Chess Hall of Fame Debuts New Exhibition Celebrating Works of Leading Saint Louis Artists Inspired by the Game of Chess

Opening Reception Thursday, March 23

SAINT LOUIS (March 7, 2017) — The <u>World Chess Hall of Fame</u> (WCHOF) in Saint Louis proudly debuts an innovative new exhibition, *The Imagery of Chess: Saint Louis Artists*, on **Thursday, March 23**, with a special public opening reception from 6-8 p.m. The exhibit will be on view through September 24, 2017.

<u>The Imagery of Chess: Saint Louis Artists</u> features 20 leading local artists, writers, designers, musicians and composers whose commissioned artwork, compositions and performances celebrate the game of chess. The multi-media exhibit draws its inspiration from the groundbreaking 1944 exhibition *The Imagery of Chess*. This exhibit embodies the WCHOF's mission to interpret the game of chess and its cultural and artistic significance and marks another significant event in the history of Saint Louis as the U.S. Capital of Chess.

"It is a privilege to work with these 20 talented artists to help bring their visions to life for *The Imagery of Chess: Saint Louis Artists* and showcase the rich creative talent in the Saint Louis community," said Shannon Bailey, chief curator.

Artists featured in the exhibit include: Eugenia Alexander, Brandon Anschultz, Jessica Baran & Nathaniel Farrell, Martin Brief, Bruce Burton, Juan William Chávez, Deborah Douglas, Michael Drummond, Kristin Fleischmann Brewer, Nicholas Gates, Meghan Grubb, Gregg Louis, Adam Maness & Bjorn Ranheim, Peter Manion, Nika Marble, Adrienne Outlaw, Yuko Suga and Adrian Octavius Walker. This year commemorates the fifth anniversary of the WCHOF. The organization has welcomed more than 60,000 visitors since its opening. Its widespread acclaim has been complemented by the efforts of its sister organization, the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, an educational institution that focuses on teaching and promoting the game of chess. The combined efforts of the Saint Louis chess campus led the United States Senate, in 2014, to declare Saint Louis the national capital of chess.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Interviews with the Chief Curator and artists and tours of the exhibit are available upon request.

Admission to exhibit is complimentary with a suggested donation of \$5.

WCHOF Hours: Monday–Tuesday and Saturdays (10 a.m.–5 p.m.), Wednesdays–Fridays (10 a.m.–9 p.m.) and Sundays (noon–5 p.m.) Proceeds from Q Boutique, the gift store of the WCHOF, support the exhibitions and education programs of the WCHOF.

About the World Chess Hall of Fame

The World Chess Hall of Fame is a nonprofit organization committed to building awareness for the cultural and artistic significance of chess. It opened on Sept. 9, 2011, in the Central West End after moving from previous locations in New Windsor, New York; Washington, D.C.; and Miami. The World Chess Hall of Fame is located at 4652 Maryland Avenue, housed in an historic 15,900 square-foot residence-turned-business, and features the U.S. and World Chess Halls of Fame, displays of artifacts from the permanent collection and exhibitions highlighting the great players, historic games and rich cultural history of chess. The World Chess Hall of Fame partners with the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis to provide innovative programming and outreach to local, national and international audiences.

For more information, please visit the World Chess Hall of Fame online at <u>www.worldchesshof.org</u> or call (314) 367-9243(WCHF).

Visit our social channels: Facebook (@WorldChessHOF), Twitter (@WorldChessHOF), Instagram (@worldchesshof), and YouTube (www.youtube.com/worldchesshof), 5th Year Anniversary hashtag: #5YearsofChess. Exhibit hashtags: #ImagerySTLChess and #ComicsChess.