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LEXINGTON CENTER CORPORATION ANNOUNCES THE ACQUISITION AND RELOCATION OF JOHN HENRY'S "PUBLISHER" SCULPTURE TO CENTRAL BANK CENTER PLAZA

LEXINGTON, KY (Feb.17, 2022) – Lexington Center Corporation announced today that it has reached an agreement to acquire and relocate John Henry's "Publisher" sculpture to downtown Lexington.

"Publisher," was created by the internationally renowned, Lexington-born sculptor John Henry. The towering, 70'h linear sculpture will be moved from its current location on the lawn at *Ashland*, the Henry Clay Estate, to a new premier location on the North Plaza of the new Central Bank Center, overlooking W. Vine Street and Triangle Park.

"A significant work of Public Art has long been contemplated for the Central Bank Center Expansion Project," said Bob Elliston, LCC Board Chairman. "This is a great opportunity to acquire a sculpture that is not only complementary to the architectural design of the new CBC but is especially meaningful as a connection and tribute to one of Kentucky's most celebrated artists."

With a career spanning 55 years on five continents, John Raymond Henry is one of America's most influential sculptors. Henry was born in Lexington, KY in 1943. He began his secondary education at the University of Kentucky in 1961 and received a BFA from the Art Institute of Chicago in 1969. He received a Doctor of Arts degree from the University of Kentucky in 1996. Since 1971, Henry has produced many monumental and large-scaled works of art for museums, cities and public institutions across the United States, Europe and Asia.

"It's gratifying to know that a sculpture of mine will be sited close to the things I love, the University of Kentucky, my family and friends in the Bluegrass region and of course, the Kentucky Wildcats, "said John Henry. "Although I've lived away for most of my adult life, Kentucky is my home and where I will lay my head to rest one day," he continued.

The cost of the sculpture and associated relocation expenses is \$450,000. LCC has committed to provide financial support and to spearhead a fundraising effort for the project. The public is invited to make a tax-deductible donation to:

Publisher Relocation Project Fund c/o Lexington Center Corporation. 430 W. Vine St. Lexington, KY 40507

For more information, visit centralbankcenter.com

Photo:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/gqvjlhdv6o38ub5/Venue.pdf?dl=0

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About Central Bank Center

Located in Lexington, Kentucky, the **Lexington Center Corporation** (LCC) is a not-for-profit 501c3 corporate **a**gency of the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government established in 1974 to manage and maintain Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center, the Central Bank Center (formerly Lexington Convention Center), Triangle Park and the Lexington Opera House. One of the nation's most storied entertainment destinations, Central Bank Center venues collectively welcome an average of 1.3 million patrons annually.

Since 1976, Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center has served as the home court of the University of Kentucky Mens' Basketball team, regularly leading the national attendance average. Rupp Arena has hosted legendary artists such as Justin Timberlake, Paul McCartney, Garth Brooks, Chris Stapleton and many more. Since 2018, Oak View Group and Live Nation Arenas have provided booking services to Rupp Arena. During the last eighteen months, Rupp Arena has broken all previous audience attendance and revenue records in its storied 43-year history.

The Lexington Opera House, built in 1886, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is one of the premiere performing arts centers in the region. From its opening, the Opera House has played host to such famous stage performers W.C. Fields, The Marx Brothers, Al Jolson, Julie Harris, Steve Martin, Brian Wilson and Graham Nash. It has undergone two major renovations and remains a cultural destination in downtown Lexington.

The Central Bank Center holds over 200 meetings, trade shows and special events annually. It is currently undergoing a transformative \$275 million expansion, featuring a dramatic, light-filled architectural design. Upon completion in Spring 2022, the new Central Bank Center will offer over 200,000 SF of flexible meeting and event space.

For more, visit <u>www.centralbankcenter.com</u> or follow us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

About OVG360

OVG360, a division of the Oak View Group, which was founded by Irving Azoff, Tim Leiweke, and supported by Silverlake, specializes in event programming venue assessments, and security and emergency preparedness. OVG360 can also provide full management services for arenas, stadiums, convention centers, and performing arts

billion of deployed capital across eight projects.			

centers. Oak View Group is the largest developer of sports and entertainment facilities in the world with \$4.5