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**The Trinity Trust Announces Plans for Opening of Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge Celebration**

DALLAS, Texas, February 24, 2011 – On February 8, The Trinity Trust hosted more than 150 River Rat and Rat Pack members and prospective members to hear the latest exciting plans for the opening of the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge. The celebratory weekend is set for Oct. 14-16, 2011, on the bridge connecting downtown Dallas to West Dallas over the Trinity River. Community leader **Lynn McBee, The Trinity Trust** and **Trinity Commons Foundation** are leading the planning for this momentous occasion.

**Lyda Hill**, daughter of Margaret Hunt Hill and head of The Trinity Trust Rat Pack, welcomed everyone and said, “This weekend celebration will be the first time to put your feet on the bridge, so we want you to join us.”

McBee added, “Put October 14, 15 and 16 on your calendar now. On October 14, we’ll have a bridge party with yummy food, delicious cocktails, entertainment, and of course, fabulous fireworks.” On Saturday, October 15, we’ll have a car parade, ribbon cutting, entertainment, a street fair and fireworks. This day is free, and all the money we’ve raised will help ensure that every citizen can attend on Saturday. On Sunday, we’ll have the bridge open so everyone can walk on it one final time before it’s opened to cars.”

McBee then introduced **Melanie Ferguson**, The Trinity Trust’s new director of outreach and development. “We’ve stolen her from the Getty in L.A.,” added McBee. Ferguson added, “This project is dynamic. We are reviving the river, and we want your help. We want all of you here to take ownership of the Trinity landscape and to get other fellow citizens involved. We will soon kick off ‘It’s My Trinity,’ a campaign to get people closer to Trinity-related events like the bridge openings and the natural amenities of the forest and river. For example, we may pull abandoned

*Honorary Event Chairs*

The Honorable Ron Kirk

The Honorable Laura Miller

The Honorable Tom Leppert

*Event Chair*

Lynn McBee

*Underwriting Chairmen*

Mike Boone

Becky Bright

*Event Committee*

Toni Chapman Brinker

Janie R. Bush

Crystal Chipman

Mary McDermott Cook

Juliette Coulter

Heather Dickie

Melanie Ferguson

Todd Fiscus

Al Hill Jr

Lyda Hill

Craig Holcomb

Tierney Kaufman

Judy Kelly

Ann E. Schooler

Linda Slaughter

Gale Sliger

Gail Thomas

Alinda Wikert

*Hosts*

City of Dallas

The Trinity Trust

Trinity Commons Foundation

tires out of the Great Trinity Forest, which is the largest urban hardwood forest in the country, and Dallas' natural heritage. Stay tuned for more details.”

The honorary event chairs for the grand opening weekend include the three Dallas mayors who have worked and continue to work on The Trinity project: **The Honorable Ron Kirk**, **The Honorable Laura Miller**, and **The Honorable Tom Leppert**. As Mayor of Dallas, Kirk began the vision of reclaiming the Trinity River. Miller secured support locally, statewide and federally. Leppert has continued the master plan of The Trinity project that his predecessors began.

About The Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge:

Designed by internationally known artist, architect and engineer Santiago Calatrava, the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge is his first vehicular bridge to be built in the United States. The world-class bridge is being constructed to seamlessly connect Singleton Boulevard in West Dallas across the Trinity River to Woodall Rodgers (Spur 366) in downtown Dallas. Already an icon of Dallas, this gleaming 400-foot white arch is the mainstay of the cable-stayed portion of the bridge, with 58 cables ranging in size from four to eight inches in diameter. Each cable, attached to the arch, will be secured back down into the center spine of the bridge bed itself, thus holding itself in suspension. The cables are scheduled to be installed on the bridge in the next few months.

Sponsorships and underwriting will be available soon. For more information on the weekend, contact Janie Bush at 214.740.1616 or visit [www.thetrinitytrust.org](http://www.thetrinitytrust.org).

ABOUT THE TRINITY TRUST FOUNDATION:

The Trinity Trust raises private funds and public awareness to implement the Balanced Vision Plan for The Trinity project in conjunction with the City of Dallas. The Trinity Trust has established The Trinity Center as the gathering place for all civic and non-profit groups working to revitalize the Trinity River in Dallas. It houses the offices of The Trinity Trust Foundation, Groundwork Dallas and Trinity Strand Trail, and hosts meetings, workshops and events for these organizations and the Trinity Commons Foundation. The Trinity Center facilitates collaboration between these entities and the City of Dallas and encourages seamless integration of all the components of The Trinity project. More information, including Rat Pack and River Rat membership, can be found by calling 214.740.1616, by emailing [info@thetrinitytrust.org](mailto:info@thetrinitytrust.org), or by visiting [www.thetrinitytrust.org](http://www.thetrinitytrust.org).

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