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October 9, 2006

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**History meets art in new community landmark for the Fifth Ward**

(Houston, TX) – From Congress to heavy weight boxing to rap mega-stardom, the arts, politics and culture will be on display in Fifth Ward when the Museum of Cultural Arts-Houston (MOC AH) and the History Channel dedicate the “Fruits of Fifth Ward Mosaic Mural Project.” The historic preservation art project will be unveiled at a public dedication on Saturday, October 21, 2006 at 10am in front of the mural, located at 1500 Schwartz Rd at Lyons Avenue behind Crawford Elementary School. The dedication will precede the Third Annual Fifth Ward Cultural Arts Festival. All Events are FREE and welcome audiences of all ages.

The project brings together MOC AH with students from Phyllis Wheatley High School and the WorkSource, to develop a 900 square foot brilliantly colored tile mosaic mural featuring 21 leaders from the historic Fifth Ward community. The public art project will be celebrated with a special event hosted by historian and Save Our History spokesman Marc Aronson, whereby the mural will be unveiled for the public and a formal dedication will take place. Guests scheduled to appear include Mayor Bill White, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, County Commissioner El Franco Lee and many others. Several of the living legends featured in the massive art project will be on site to share their history and experience with the Fifth Ward community.

“This event is a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate that Fifth Ward is not just a poor and disenfranchised neighborhood but a community rich in history and heritage,” said Reginald Adams, executive director of MOC AH. “The Fifth Ward area has historically been very vibrant as the intersection of African American business, art, culture, politics and entertainment. This well traveled corner is the perfect setting for a community landmark that depicts the depth of civic, educational and political leaders that this neighborhood has offered to the city of Houston and our country.”

The mural project is sponsored in part by support from the History Channel; the Mayor’s Office; the Cultural Arts Council of Houston/Harris County; WorkSource; Fiesta; HEB; United Way; Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation; Strasburger & Price LLP; Kellogg Brown & Root; Amaco; DaiTile; Powell Foundation; Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson LLP; JP Morgan Chase; Hubbard Financial Services; Washington Mutual; and Time Warner Cable.

For additional information about the project, contact Reginald Adams at 713.224.2787 or email reginald@mocah.org. View the work-in-progress online at www.mocah.org