



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**First Lady Karen Pence Unveils Watercolor Paintings at Indiana State Fairgrounds**

*Prints part of 16 watercolor painting exhibition celebrating Indiana's bicentennial*

INDIANAPOLIS – First Lady Karen Pence, Indiana's Bicentennial Ambassador, today joined Cindy Hoye, executive director of the Indiana State Fairgrounds & Event Center, at the newly-named Indiana Arts Building at the Indiana State Fairgrounds to unveil three of 16 watercolor prints created by the First Lady. The full 16-print collection will be displayed on exhibition in the Indiana Arts Building to commemorate Indiana's bicentennial during the Indiana State Fair, which runs from August 5 to 21.

"Since visiting the Indiana Arts Building has always been my first stop when I enter the Indiana State Fairgrounds, being part of the Bicentennial Display is a tremendous honor," said First Lady Karen Pence.

The Indiana Arts Building, formerly called the Home and Family Arts Building, began a five-year update to the building and its programming. Some of the updates include renovated exhibit displays, new fixtures, refurbished train cases, painting, and more. In 2016, the focus will remain on the main floor. Not only will the building's infrastructure see an improvement, the programming will also see new interactive displays, new competitions like digital photography, and a marketplace of Indiana made/owned art pieces, fashion, home décor items, and more.

"Our goal as an organization is to continue to make our property and our programming better each year to provide the best experience during the Fair and year-round, and I'm thankful the First Lady could be here today to unveil part of this bicentennial exhibition that will run during the State Fair," said Cindy Hoye, executive director of the Indiana State Fairgrounds & Event Center.

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**About the Indiana State Fairgrounds & Event Center**

The Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center is a modern public event facility that annually hosts more than 300 meetings, shows, sports and agricultural events, including the Indiana State Fair. The year-round management of the Fairgrounds is overseen by the Indiana State Fair Commission which is a quasi-governmental agency that was established in 1992, with the mission to preserve and enhance the Indiana State Fairgrounds and the annual Indiana State Fair for the benefit of all citizens of Indiana. Additional information is available at [www.indianastatefair.com](http://www.indianastatefair.com).