



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Initiative for Public Art - Reston to participate in Founder's Week Celebration Honoring Reston Founder Robert E. Simon, Jr.

Reston, VA (March 15, 2016) - Robert E. Simon, Jr. passed away on September 21, 2015 at his home on Lake Anne Plaza. Bob was 101 years young and left a community that experienced his death as a shock despite his age. As community civic and non-profit organizations began planning for Reston's annual Founder's Day event in 2016, it became evident that the scope and number of commemorative activities would expand. Thus Founder's Day for 2016 has evolved into Founder's Week. From Sunday, April 3 at Lake Anne Plaza, to Sunday, April 10 at Reston Town Center, and throughout the week at many locations throughout the community, we will remember our founder, his incredible life and the legacy he leaves. Few people can claim to have established not just a "new town" but even more remarkably, a new way of living in the United States. Planned events will celebrate Bob's vision, his love of the arts, the impact of his bold venture on land use in the United States and how his fervent desire to create a thriving community has been realized in Reston.

The Founder's Week celebrations will give those who live, work and play in Reston a chance to reconnect to Bob and the spirit of his life.

The Initiative for Public Art - Reston is proud to honor Reston's founder by presenting:

Documentary Screening: *Levitated Mass*

By Doug Pray

Tuesday, April 5 • Free

7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

the CenterStage – RCC Hunters Woods (2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA)

Levitated Mass is the story of a rock star; the artist behind the sensation; and the international media storm that ensued – but not in the way you might expect. Prominently displayed outside the Los Angeles Museum of Art, renowned and reclusive land artist Michael Heizer's *Levitated Mass* gained worldwide recognition during its installation in 2012. Over the course of 10 nights, a 340-ton solid granite boulder crawled through Southern California neighborhoods on a 294-foot-long, 206-wheeled trailer, drawing

hundreds of camera crews and cell phone shooters alike to document its journey. Tens of thousands of people came out to watch the megalith travel through their communities to its final resting place over a 456-foot-long negative space formed by a concrete slot. **Levitated Mass** is one of the only pieces of art in recent history to inspire such a reaction in pop culture, bringing together the art community, public officials, and the general population to debate the merits and pitfalls of a giant stone suspended above their heads.

This movie is presented by Reston Community Center in collaboration with the Initiative for Public Art – Reston (IPAR). IPAR seeks to inspire an ongoing commitment to public art and create a new generation of artworks in Reston. Thanks to RCC's support, IPAR developed this documentary film series to present exceptional public art projects. Visually stimulating and thought-provoking, the movies are shown to foster a community conversation about public art.

Founder's Day

Saturday, April 9 • Free; certain activities may require a fee.

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Lake Anne Plaza

Join the Reston Historic Trust & Museum as we celebrate Robert E. Simon, Jr. and our community. Founder's Day will feature a 50-foot Ferris wheel sponsored by Reston Association (RA), children's activities, children's art projects in cooperation with the Initiative for Public Art - Reston (IPAR), musical entertainment for all ages provided by local artists and schools, guided walks around Lake Anne Plaza in cooperation with IPAR and RA, and remarks by local elected officials. The event will be fun for the entire family.

On this special Founder's Day, Lake Anne of Reston Condominium Association (LARCA) and IPAR partnered to commission a new version of **The Wooden Horse** originally created by artist Gonzalo Fonseca in 1965. The sculpture was first installed on grass, as in a pasture, and was later moved to a brick walkway, not far from *The Building*, another sculpture created by Fonseca. Because both sculptures were made of wood, they have been lost to the effects of time. Like the other sculptures at Lake Anne Plaza, *The Horse* was meant to be played on. This new version of *The Wooden Horse* was constructed by Reston artist Marco Rando. Please check out the dining and drink specials at Lake Anne all week.

Presented by Reston Historic Trust and Museum, Reston Association, Reston Community Center, Initiative for Public Art - Reston, and Lake Anne of Reston Condominium Association

MORE INFORMATION: 703-709-7700, restonmuseum@gmail.com or www.restonmuseum.org

Documentary Screening: *Fun, Beauty, Fantasy: Reston's Public Art*

Directed by Rebekah Wingert-Jabi

Saturday, April 9 • Free

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Screening every 15 minutes)

Jo Ann Rose Gallery – RCC Lake Anne (1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston, VA)

Fun, Beauty, Fantasy: Reston's Public Art is a short documentary (15 minutes) produced by the Initiative for Public Art - Reston and directed by Rebekah Wingert-Jabi. The film was developed to accompany the exhibit about Reston's public art entitled *Reston: The Art of Community*. It includes historic footage and information about the sculptures and fountains at Lake Anne and Reston Town Center, as well as the mosaic work at the Glade Drive underpass. The documentary features interviews with Reston's founder, Robert E. Simon Jr., artists Saint Clair Cemin, Caio Fonseca, and Valerie Theberge, as well as others in the community.

Presented by Initiative for Public Art – Reston

MORE INFORMATION: www.publicartreston.org/public-art/reston-the-art-of-community

A full schedule of Founder's Week events may be found at

www.restoncommunitycenter.com/foundersweek.

Founder's Week is a collaborative community effort with activities presented by the following organizations:

Audubon Quartet
Boston Properties
Cornerstones
Fairfax County Government
Family & Friends of Robert E. Simon, Jr.
Greater Reston Arts Center
Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce
Hughes Group Architects
Hyatt Regency - Reston
Initiative for Public Art – Reston
Lake Anne Plaza
Lake Anne of Reston Condominium Association
League of Reston Artists

Moonflicks Outdoor Movies
Mon Ami Gabi
Red Velvet Cupcakery
Reston Association
Reston Art Gallery and Studios
Reston Community Center
Reston Historic Trust & Museum
Reston Town Center
Reston Town Center Association
Storycatcher Productions
Tavern 64
Washington West Film Festival

The Initiative for Public Art - Reston seeks to inspire an ongoing commitment to public art and create a new generation of artworks in Reston.

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www.facebook.com/PublicArtReston

