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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF STATE MUSEUM

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**LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM - BATON ROUGE ANNOUNCES
FREE ADMISSION ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

View Through March 2, 2008

Revealing an American Wilderness: Audubon's Birds of Louisiana

Baton Rouge, LA – The Louisiana State Museum – Baton Rouge is offering free admission to the Museum the first Sunday of every month beginning January 6, 2008. Through an initiative of the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism and the Lieutenant Governor's Office, children and adults receive free entry to the Museum's two permanent exhibitions; *Grounds for Greatness: Louisiana and the Nation*, and *Experiencing Louisiana: Discovering the Soul of America*. From a Civil War submarine to Pete Fountain's clarinet these interactive exhibitions house an impressive list of artifacts. Families can witness the dramatic speeches of Huey P. Long, listen to the trumpet of Louis Armstrong and deepen their understanding of the pivotal points in Louisiana's history.

"The Louisiana State Museum houses a wealth of artifacts that illustrate or are connected to Louisiana's rich history, heritage and culture," said Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu, whose office oversees the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, and the Louisiana State Museum system. "This initiative gives the people of Louisiana a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the many treasures of their state."

Through March 2, 2008, guests will also be able to experience *Revealing an American Wilderness: Audubon's Birds of Louisiana*. This stunning exhibition of prints by John James Audubon presents twenty species of birds that Audubon drew during his time in southern Louisiana and Mississippi. Audubon's vivid detail is complemented by a display of bird specimens on loan from the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science.

"The Louisiana State Museum will waive admission on the first Sunday of the month for the foreseeable future," said Louisiana State Museum Director, David Kahn. "We want to especially encourage parents to bring their children to see the stunning Audubon exhibition, and experience all that the Baton Rouge museum has to offer."

The Museum invites visitors and the local community to experience this unparalleled exhibition of Louisiana's history and culture by taking advantage of the free first Sunday of every month.

The Louisiana State Museum – Baton Rouge is open Tuesday - Saturday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday 12 noon to 5:00 pm.

For more information, directions and programming, please call 225.342.5428. The Museum also provides school and group tours with special discounted group rates as well as building rentals. Please call 225.342.5414 for more information.

The Louisiana State Museum, a complex of national landmarks housing thousands of artifacts and works of art reflecting Louisiana's legacy of historic events and cultural diversity, is part of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, which is overseen by Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu. The Museum network includes five properties in the famous French Quarter: the Cabildo, Presbytere, 1850 House, Old U.S. Mint and Madame John's Legacy. Other sites include Baton Rouge, Patterson, Natchitoches, and Thibodaux.

For more information about the Louisiana State Museum please call 800.568.6968 or visit <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us>.

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