

WHAT'S NEW

Story Suggestions for Seattle and the Pacific Northwest Spring 2009

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Seattle Art Museum to Present Long-Revered Icons of American Art

Seattle Art Museum's new exhibition, *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness: American Art from the Yale University Art Gallery* runs through May 25, 2009 and showcases iconic objects of American history. Many of the 230 paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, furniture, silver and ceramics featured in the exhibition have never left Yale University and are only traveling for a brief period of time while Yale's American collections galleries are being renovated. Included in the exhibition are many long-revered icons of American art such as John Trumbull's original series of eight Revolutionary War scenes, including *The Declaration of Independence*, which are traveling for the first time since the artist gave them to Yale in 1832. Also on view is the oldest surviving pair of American candlesticks, a silver teapot by Paul Revere and flamboyant late-19th century Tiffany & Co. silver pieces.

*Media contact: Nicole Chism Griffin, Seattle Art Museum, (206) 654-3158;
www.seattleartmuseum.org*

Seattle Asian Art Museum Presents Newly Discovered Paintings from India

In a new exhibition at the Seattle Asian Art Museum, *Garden and Cosmos: The Royal Paintings of Jodhpur* presents little known, large scale paintings from the 17th-19th centuries of Rajasthan art. During an international tour, *Garden and Cosmos* is on view at the Seattle Asian Art Museum through April 26, 2009. Created for the private enjoyment of the Jodhpur maharajas, this exhibition features 58 artworks that have never been published and seen only by a handful of scholars since their creation. This will be the first time these paintings will be exhibited in the United States.

*Media contact: Nicole Chism Griffin, Seattle Art Museum, (206) 654-3158;
www.seattleartmuseum.org*

Jim Henson's Fantastic World Visits Experience Music Project|Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame

Experience Music Project|Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame will host a new exhibition about Jim Henson and the cast of characters he created during his career, including Kermit the Frog and Big Bird, May 23-Aug. 16, 2009. *Jim Henson's Fantastic World* features 100 original drawings, cartoons, storyboards, television and movie props and of course, puppets. The exhibition also includes photographs of Henson and his collaborators while working and original video productions, including excerpts from Henson's early career and experimental films.

Media Contact: Maggie Skinner, Experience Music Project|Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame, (206) 262-3245; www.empsfm.org.

New Jimi Hendrix Exhibit Opens at Experience Music Project|Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame

The Experience Music Project|Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame opened a new exhibition about the legendary Seattle musician Jimi Hendrix on April 26, 2008. *Jimi Hendrix: An Evolution of Sound* focuses on how Hendrix affected popular music with his innovative sound. The new exhibit chronicles the artist's career in five stages: The Seattle Scene (Nov. 1972-May 1961), The Chitlin' Circuit (his southern United States touring years of May 1961-July 1965), The Village (his time spent in New York from September 1966-July 1969) and The World Stage (July 1969-July 1970). The exhibit includes rare Hendrix films and footage, music recordings on iPods® and a sound effects interactive display that demonstrates how Hendrix created the guitar sound that he became known for. The exhibit runs through April 11, 2010.

Media Contact: Maggie Skinner, Experience Music Project|Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame, (206) 262-3245; www.empsfm.org.

Seattle Opera to Present Wagner's Ring des Nibelungen in 2009

A limited amount of tickets still remain on sale for the Seattle Opera's 2009 performance of Wagner's *Ring des Nibelungen*. Seattle Opera has presented Wagner's *Ring* for more than 30 years in a one-week cycle, which is the tradition of the Wagner Festival in Bayreuth, Germany. Both the 2001 and 2005 cycles sold out a year in advance. The 2005 cycle saw audience members from 49 states and 19 countries.

The dates for the 2009 production are:

Opera	Cycle I	Cycle II	Cycle III
Das Rheingold	Aug. 9	Aug. 17	Aug. 25
Die Walküre	Aug. 10	Aug. 18	Aug. 26
Siegfried	Aug. 12	Aug. 20	Aug. 28
Götterdämmerung	Aug. 14	Aug. 22	Aug. 30

Media Contact: Hilda Cullen, Seattle Opera, (206) 676-5543; www.seattleopera.org

Nation's Only Pan-Asian American Museum Expands

The Wing Luke Asian Museum opened a 60,000-square-foot expanded exhibit space in Seattle's Chinatown-International District in May 2008. The museum, which is a Smithsonian Institution affiliate, explores the culture, art and history of Asian Pacific Americans. Features include community portrait galleries, art galleries, historic immersion exhibits, recorded dialogues on current events and issues, a multimedia theater and the Governor Gary Locke Library and Community Heritage Center which is known as a premier resource for the regional Asian Pacific American community.

Media Contact: Joann Natalia Aquino, Wing Luke Asian Museum, (206) 623-5124 ext. 106; www.wingluke.org

Seattle's African American Museum Opens

The Northwest African American Museum opened in Seattle's Central District in March 2008, featuring exhibits, installations and programs that chronicle the African American experience throughout the region. Historic and contemporary narratives are offered through visual arts, crafts, music, literary and the culinary culture of African Americans in the Northwest from the 1840s to the present. The museum also explores youth culture and illuminates how history supports and influences contemporary life. For more information, call 206-267-4828 or visit www.naamnw.org.

Media Contact: Heather Bryant, Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau, (206) 461-5805, www.visitseattle.org

SCVB Announces New Seattle Cultural and Heritage Guides

Travelers to Seattle now have a new cultural resource available from Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB). The *Seattle African American Heritage Guide* highlights significant African American attractions, museums, heritage sites, historic background and special events information. To create this heritage guide, SCVB worked in conjunction with a review panel of community members to ensure accuracy and to provide proper cultural and historic perspective. The new guide is free of charge and can be mailed to travelers upon request. The guide is also downloadable from the SCVB web site and available at the Seattle Visitor Center and Concierge Services, located at the Washington State Convention & Trade Center, as well as at several other Seattle area locations. For more information, updates or to download a guide, visit www.visitseattle.org/cultural. The guide is supported by funding from 4Culture and the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation.

Media Contact: Heather Bryant, Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau, (206) 461-5805; www.visitseattle.org

ATTRACTIONS & TOURS

Space Needle to Join Seattle CityPass

CityPass has announced the addition of the Space Needle to its Seattle CityPass attraction book beginning April 1, 2009. The Space Needle joins other great Seattle attractions such as the Pacific Science Center, Argosy Cruises Harbor Tour, Seattle Aquarium, Woodland Park Zoo and an option ticket with the choice of visiting Experience Music Project|Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame or the Museum of Flight. The collection of passes is priced 49% less than if each ticket was purchased separately. Adult Seattle CityPasses are \$54, while youth passes (ages 4-12) are \$39.

Seattle CityPass may be purchased at Seattle's Visitor Center & Concierge Services located in the upper Pike Street lobby of the Washington State Convention & Trade Center, at any of the included attractions or online at <http://www.citypass.com/city/seattle.html>.

Media Contact: Susan Wilson, CityPass, (480) 513-4746; www.citypass.com

New Humboldt Penguin Exhibit to Debut at Woodland Park Zoo

After closing its penguin exhibit in March 2008, the Woodland Park Zoo will open a new Humboldt penguin exhibit on May 2, 2009. A colony of 20 endangered Humboldt penguins will move into a 17,000-square-foot exhibit that replicates shoreline cliffs and features viewable nesting burrows and rocky tide pools. Special windows and acrylic walls allow spectators underwater vantage points. The exhibit also features crashing waves and a beach that mimics the desert coast of Punta San Juan, Peru, home of the largest colony of wild Humboldt penguins.

As part of Woodland Park Zoo's commitment to "green" practices, the exhibit has been designed with sustainable technologies, using geothermal energy and a filtration system that will save three million gallons of water and 75 million BTUs of energy each year. The exhibit is also designed to contain and recycle all storm-water runoff, preventing the pollution of natural resources like Puget Sound. For more information on the Humboldt penguin exhibit or Woodland Park Zoo, visit www.zoo.org.

Media Contact: Gigi Allianic, Woodland Park Zoo, (206) 548-2550; www.zoo.org

EverGreen Escapes Offers New Seattle Voluntourism Experience

EverGreen Escapes, a Seattle outdoor adventure company, recently began offering a half-day voluntourism tour on Tuesday afternoons. The tour affords participating volunteers the opportunity to take part in habitat restoration in Seattle nature parks. Volunteers meet with restoration stewards and assist in habitat improvement. Depending on the season, volunteers will remove invasive plants that choke out important native species, plant native plants or conduct beach clean-ups to remove trash that is harmful to wildlife. Hotel or cruise terminal pick-up, refreshments and afternoon tea are included in the tour. For more information visit www.evergreenescapes.com.

*Media Contact: Jake Haupt, EverGreen Escapes, (206) 650-5795;
www.evergreenescapes.com*

Seattle's Culinary and Tour Communities Offer New Food Tours

Taste Pike Place offers an evening "Food & Wine" tour featuring select appetizers from local restaurants and premium wine tastings of regional and imported boutique wines. Private breakfast and lunch food tours are also available. For reservations, email info@tastepikeplace.com or call (206) 725-4483.

*Media Contact: Steve Corless, Taste Pike Place, steve@tastepikeplace.com;
www.tastepikeplace.com*

Savor Seattle Tours offers a two-hour guided walking tour of the Pike Place Market, offering an insider's view to the historic market. Samples of alderwood smoked salmon, Columbian hot chocolate, artisan handmade cheese, cherry-inspired treats and fresh seasonal produce, to name a few, can be tasted along the tour route. For more information on the tour, visit www.savorseattletours.com

Media Contact: Kirsten Bell, [greenrubino](http://greenrubino.com), (206) 957-4272; www.savorseattletours.com

Flying Heritage Collection Lands at Paine Field Airport

The Flying Heritage Collection celebrated the grand opening of its new location at Paine Field Airport on June 6, 2008, coinciding with the 64th anniversary of D-Day. The 15-plane, three-artifact collection is housed in a restored 51,000-square-foot hangar on the grounds of the airport. The Flying Heritage Collection is a collection of rare World War II-era military aircraft owned by Microsoft co-creator and philanthropist Paul G. Allen. It is one of the world's largest collections of vintage aircraft to be restored to flying condition and features planes from the five major combatants of World War II - the United States, Britain, Japan, Germany and Russia. Paine Field Airport is located in Everett, 20 miles north of Seattle, and is also the home to the Future of Flight Aviation Center and Boeing Tour.

*Media Contact: David Postman, Flying Heritage Collection, (206) 342-2000;
www.flyingheritage.com*

HOTELS

MTM Luxury Lodging to Manage New Property Opening in 2012.

MTM Luxury Lodging has announced that it will manage the Bellevue Park Hotel, a new property in Bellevue, WA being developed by Hydra Developments, LLC. The 100-room hotel is expected to open in spring 2012.

Hyatt @ Olive 8 Opens in Downtown Seattle

The Hyatt brand has expanded its holdings in downtown Seattle with the opening of a \$175-million, 39-story hotel-condominium project located one block north of the existing Grand Hyatt Hotel. Opened January 30, 2009, Hyatt at Olive 8 features 231 condominiums on the upper 22 floors and 346 hotel rooms on the lower 17 floors. The entire building will be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified, with high efficiency building mechanical systems, dual flush toilets and a green housekeeping program. On-site amenities available to both condominium owners and hotel guests include the locally-sourced restaurant Urbane, an eco-friendly spa, saltwater pool, housekeeping, drying-cleaning services, valet parking and 24-hour room service, in addition to separate lobbies and elevators for the hotel and condominium components of the building. Hyatt at Olive 8 also contains 11,000 square feet of meeting and banquet space.

Media Contact: Caitlin Haedicke of Duo PR, caitlin@duopr.com, 206-957-8305; www.olive8.hyatt.com

Four Seasons Returns to Seattle

Four Seasons returned to Seattle on Nov. 3, 2008 with a 21-story hotel and condominium tower in the heart of downtown, adjacent to Pike Place Market and the Seattle Art Museum. The luxury hotel features 134 guestrooms, 13 suites, a signature water-view restaurant and event and meeting space, including an expansive ballroom and an outdoor pool overlooking Elliott Bay. The hotel's restaurant, ART Restaurant & Lounge, has a "best source" philosophy of using the freshest local ingredients, not only in its main dining room, but also in its in-room dining and catering menus. Overseeing the food and beverage for the hotel is acclaimed Seattle chef and Four Seasons veteran, Executive Chef Kerry Sear. The project was developed by The Seattle Hotel Group LLC, which is comprised of local investors John Oppenheimer, president and CEO of Seattle-based Columbia Hospitality; former Seattle mayor Paul Schell; and entrepreneur Bruce McCaw.

Media Contact: Meg Paynor, Paynor PR, (206) 913-3848; www.fourseasons.com/seattle

Historic Arctic Club Hotel to Become Doubletree® Hotel in May 2009

The owners of the Arctic Club Hotel have announced that the historic property will become a Doubletree® Hotel. The hotel will be renamed Doubletree Arctic Club Hotel Seattle-Downtown beginning in mid-May. The Hotel Group will continue to manage the property as it has since the hotel opened in July 2008. The Arctic Club Hotel has 120 rooms, 5,800 square feet of meeting space and fitness center. The hotel is located in the historic Arctic Building, which is on the National Register of Historic Places and once housed a fraternal men's club. The building's taste of early 1900s architecture including a foyer and stairwells lined with Alaskan marble, 23 molded walrus heads wrapping the third floor exterior and the Northern Lights Dome Room, featuring Rococo gilt ceiling, ornamental cornices and a stained glass dome, with effects reminiscent of the Northern Lights, will remain untouched. Operation under the Doubletree® banner will prompt a change of JUNO, the on-property restaurant from upscale to an urban casual dining experience.

Media Contacts: Doubletree Hotels Media Relations: Thomas Wingham, (310) 205-4545; www.hiltonworldwide.com

Arctic Club Hotel/The Hotel Group: Tamara Wilson, Wilson Public Relations, (206) 838-8977; www.arcticclubhotel.com

Hyatt Place Hotel to Open in 2009

Development of a mixed-use Hyatt Place hotel is occurring at Sixth Avenue and Denny Way, in the South Lake Union neighborhood. The hotel/condominium project will have 160 hotel rooms and 56 condominiums. Hyatt Place is scheduled to open fourth quarter 2009.

Media Contact: Amy Patti, Hyatt Corporation, (312) 780-5620; www.hyatt.com.

Tulalip Resort Casino Opens New Hotel and Spa

Tulalip Resort Casino, located 40 minutes north of Seattle, celebrated the grand opening of its 370-room luxury hotel and spa on August 15, 2008. The resort provides a location for meetings, conferences, weddings and retreats, as well as overnight accommodations for casino visitors. The hotel features specialty suites such as the 2,000-square-foot Player's Suite with a professional-size pool table, dart board and arcade games and two Asian-themed suites designed on the principles of feng shui but with a Northwest twist. The hotel also offers 13 meeting rooms, a 5,000-square-foot junior ballroom and a 15,000-square-foot ballroom, totaling up to 30,000 square feet of meeting and reception space. There are two restaurants in the hotel, as well as a cocktail bar located in the hotel lobby. The 14,000-square-foot T Spa features men's and women's lounges with saunas, steam rooms and rainwater showers. The spa also has couples and group treatment rooms for up to six people. Authentic tribal art, valued at more than \$1 million, is incorporated into the hotel's interior design.

Media Contact: Danielle Zarrella, Richmond Public Relations, (206) 682-6976; www.tulalipcasino.com

Sheraton Seattle Opens New Hotel Tower

The Sheraton Seattle Hotel celebrated the official opening of its second tower on June 8, 2007. The new Union Street Tower is 25-stories and has 420 new guestrooms, bringing the total number of guestrooms for the property to 1,258. This makes the Sheraton Seattle the largest hotel in Seattle. The new tower also has 16 new meeting rooms that add an additional 12,000 square feet of function space to the hotel. The project also included renovation of pre-function areas and ballrooms in the hotel's existing space. The Grand Ballroom was enlarged from 14,200 to 18,300 square feet with banquet seating for 1,400 people. The Metropolitan Ballroom doubled in size from 4,700 square feet to 9,440 square feet, with seating for 800.

The Sheraton Seattle is located in the heart of the downtown Seattle retail and entertainment district, one block from the Washington State Convention & Trade Center.

Media contact: Kimberly Jones, Richmond Public Relations, (206) 682-6979; www.starwood.com

AIR TRANSPORTATION

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Inaugurates New Runway

The new, third runway at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) began use on November 20th 2008. Sea-Tac was one of three major airports in the United States to add new runways on November 20. Dulles International Airport in the Washington, D.C area and O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, IL also christened new runways that day.

The runway is expected to reduce flight delays and allow the airport to remain on time when the runways are covered in low clouds. The runway allows landings on two runways at the same time in all but the worst weather, increasing the airport's efficiency and decreasing passenger delays.

The third runway completes a 4.1-billion capital improvement program that the airport has undergone over the past ten years. Upgrades have included an enhanced transportation system, new terminals, enhanced security, updated retail, new concession areas and additional curbside baggage check-in locations. According to the Port of Seattle, which operates the airport, Sea-Tac set a new record for numbers of passengers in 2008, with 32 million passengers passing through.

Media contact: Perry Cooper, Port of Seattle, (206) 431-4923; www.portseattle.org.

Icelandair to Begin New Non-Stop Seattle to Reykjavik Route

Icelandair announced that it will begin new service between Seattle and Reykjavik on July 22, 2009. Icelandair will offer four flights a week, departing Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. As the only Nordic airline to serve the West Coast, the carrier will serve as a gateway to Scandinavian countries, including non-stop connections through Reykjavik to Copenhagen, Oslo, Stockholm, as well as other European destinations. Icelandair is the fifth airline to fly non-stop from Sea-Tac to a European destination.

Media Contact: Terri-Ann Betancourt, Port of Seattle, (206) 248-7494; www.portseattle.org

Hainan Airlines Chooses Seattle as First United States Destination

Hainan Airlines, China's largest privately-owned air carrier, began offering non-stop service between Beijing, China and Seattle, four times weekly, on June 9, 2008. Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is the first United States destination served by Hainan Airlines. Hainan Airlines inaugurated service with an Airbus A330-200 but has ordered Boeing 787s for future use.

Media Contact: Nyhus Public Relations, (206) 323-3733; <http://global.hnair.com/>

Alaska Airlines to Begin Seattle-Austin Service

Alaska Airlines will begin nonstop flights from Seattle to Austin on Aug. 3, 2009. Flights will leave Seattle at 9:45 a.m. Pacific time and arrive at 3:40 p.m. Central time. Flights to Seattle will leave Austin at 4:40 p.m. Central time and arrive at 6:45 p.m. Pacific time.

Media Contact: Alaska Airlines Corporate Communications, (206) 392-5101; www.alaskaair.com

Alaska Airlines Inaugurates Service from Seattle to Hawaii

Alaska Airlines inaugurated two new routes between Seattle and the Hawaiian Islands in 2008. The airline commenced service to Maui and Kona, using a Boeing 737-800, accommodating 16 first class passengers and 141 in the main cabin. Routes also began from Seattle to Honolulu and Lihue in October 2007.

Media Contact: Alaska Airlines Corporate Communications, (206) 392-5101; www.alaskaair.com

Alaska Airlines Begins Seattle to Minneapolis Route

Alaska Airlines began offering year-around, twice-daily flights between Seattle and Minneapolis on Oct. 26, 2008.

Media Contact: Alaska Airlines Corporate Communications, (206) 392-5101; www.alaskaair.com

JetBlue Begins Two New Routes to Seattle

JetBlue inaugurated two new routes to Seattle on May 21, 2008. Daily non-stop service from Long Beach, CA, uses both the 150-seat Airbus A320 and the 100-seat EMBRAER 190 aircraft. JetBlue also began service from San Diego's Lindbergh Field.

Media Contact: JetBlue Corporate Communications, (718) 709-3089; www.jetblue.com

Lufthansa Now Offering Direct Flights from Germany

Lufthansa Airlines began daily non-stop service between Frankfurt, Germany and Seattle beginning on March 30, 2008. Lufthansa is the largest carrier of international passengers in the world and Frankfurt Airport is the eighth largest airport in the world. The route is served by a 221-seat Airbus A330-300 aircraft.

Media Contact: Ralph Lockwood, Huson International Media, (408) 879-6666; www.lufthansa.com.

Virgin America Offering Flights Between Seattle and San Francisco and Los Angeles

Virgin America began service between San Francisco International Airport and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) on March 18, 2008, with three daily roundtrip flights. The airline also began three daily roundtrips between Los Angeles International Airport and Sea-Tac in April, followed by a fourth flight in May.

Media Contact: Abby Lunardini, Virgin America, (650) 533-7576; www.virginamerica.com

Air France Sets up Shop at Sea-Tac

Air France inaugurated the first daily, non-stop service between Paris and Seattle in June 2007. The more than 50,000 people who make the journey between Paris and Seattle annually will no longer need to connect through another city. The new route makes Paris the fourth European city, along with London, Amsterdam and Copenhagen that is directly accessible by air from Seattle.

Media Contact: Kristen Loughman, Air France U.S., (212) 830-4356; www.airfrance.com

CRUISE

Seattle's New Cruise Facility to Open for the 2009 Cruise Season

Seattle's new cruise facility, recently named Smith Cove Cruise Terminal, will open April 24, 2009. The facility is located at Pier 91, 15 minutes from Seattle's downtown core. The new terminal provides two, 1,200-foot berths, both equipped with shore power facilities that eliminate the need for vessels to run their diesel engines while docked. This will create savings in fuel costs for the cruise lines and translate into an environmental benefit of no air admissions while docked. The new terminal will serve as homeport for Holland America Line, Princess Cruises and Royal Caribbean International. The existing Bell Street Cruise Terminal at Pier 66 will continue to serve Celebrity Cruise and Norwegian Cruise Line. For more information on Smith Cove Cruise Terminal, visit www.portseattle/seaport/cruise

During the 2009 cruise season, 211 vessels will dock in Seattle with a projected passenger volume of 413,000. Cruise lines leaving from Seattle offer seven and 14-day Alaska trips, as well as three and four-day cruises to British Columbia.

Media Contact: Charla Skaggs, Port of Seattle, (206) 728-3235; www.portseattle.org.

Carnival Cruise Line to Enter Seattle Cruise Market in 2010

Carnival Cruise Line has announced that it will operate a schedule of seven-day, round-trip Alaska cruises from Seattle beginning in May 2010. The 17, week-long cruises aboard the 2,124-passenger Carnival Spirit will depart Seattle on Tuesdays from May 11 - Aug. 31, 2010. Port calls include the Alaskan towns of Skagway, Juneau and Ketchikan, as well as Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

Media Contact: Jennifer de la Cruz, Carnival Cruise Line, (800) 438-6744 or (305) 599-2600 ext. 16000; www.carnival.com.

Holland America Line to Debut 14-Day Cruises from Seattle in 2010

Holland America Line announced it will also begin a new 14-day, round-trip "Alaskan Adventurer" cruise from Seattle beginning in 2010. The route will be served by the 1,380-passenger ms Amsterdam and will include a port call in Anchorage, marking the first time a major cruise line will regularly call upon the city. The cruise will depart Seattle May 17-Sept. 6, 2010 and will make port calls in Ketchikan, Skagway, Sitka, Anchorage, Kodiak, Juneau and Victoria, British Columbia.

Media Contact: Holland America Media Relations, (800) 637-5029; www.hollandamerica.com

CONVENTION NEWS

Team-Building Takes on a Whole New Adventure

EverGreen Escapes, a local outdoor adventure company, is now offering private team-building retreats throughout the Seattle region for corporate groups. Programs are customized in order to meet the needs and objectives of each group. Sustainability, wilderness and adventure are the basis for these hands-on challenges that encourage leadership, communication and problem-solving skills. Some activities include scavenger hunts using GPS and/or maps and compasses, team survival or rescue, kayaking, rock climbing, wine tasting and much more. Each group is led by a professional naturalist who is dedicated to educating people on sustainable travel.

Media Contact: Jake Hauptert, EverGreen Escapes, (206) 650-5795; www.evergreenescapes.com

Washington State Convention & Trade Center to Purchase Additional Space

The Washington State Convention & Trade Center (WSCTC) acquired approximately 50,000 square feet of additional meeting and exhibit space with the purchase of the 800 Pike Street building within the Convention Center complex. The interior of the building will undergo a complete redesign and renovation prior to its anticipated opening in second quarter 2010.

Media Contact: Michael McQuade, WSCTC, (206) 694-5105; www.wsctc.com

Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau Builds New Visitor Center

Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau opened the new location of the Seattle Visitor Center and Concierge Services (formerly the Citywide Concierge Center), in the upper Pike Street lobby of the Washington State Convention & Trade Center, in January 2008. The new, highly-visible location allows the center to assist more visitors and convention attendees. The center features large plasma-screen displays of Seattle information and real-time Seattle-Tacoma International Airport flight information.

Media Contact: Heather Bryant, Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau, (206) 461-5805; www.visitseattle.org

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