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**PALM BEACH JEWELRY, ART & ANTIQUE SHOW HOSTS
THE FRIENDS OF THE UFFIZI GALLERY**

The United States branch of the Friends Association makes its public debut at the show

(Palm Beach, FL)— In an effort to increase awareness of its mission among art and culture enthusiasts, the Friends of the Uffizi Gallery in the United States will participate in its first public event at the Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antique Show, February 15-19 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center, showcasing three screens of important areas of the gallery in the Show's hospitality lounge. Based in Palm Beach, the United States branch of the Friends of the Uffizi Gallery is dedicated to raising funds for the restoration and preservation of the treasures in the Uffizi Gallery located in Florence, Italy.

"We are so pleased to welcome the Friends of the Uffizi Gallery to our show," said Kris Charamonde, co-owner and managing partner of the Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antique Show. "The show features the collections of more than 200 world-class dealers and attracts over 50,000 visitors with a passion for art and antiques. I cannot think of a better venue or group of individuals for the Friends to share their valuable mission with."

Throughout the show's entirety, docents will be on-site in the hospitality lounge to provide information about the screens on display, which feature the Tribune Room, ancient sculptures and portraits of Lorenzo the magnificent and Eleonora di Toledo and her son Giovanni. Information about the Association and the Uffizi Gallery will also be provided.

"We are excited to have the opportunity to share our mission with key constituents at the prestigious Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antique Show," said Lisa Marie Browne, executive director of the Friends of the Uffizi Gallery in the United States. "Increasing awareness is critical to our efforts to raise funds for the restoration of significant works that have not been seen by the public in many years."

Browne went on to say, "We look forward to continuing and expanding our relationship with the Palm Beach Jewelry, Art & Antique Show in years to come."

The Friends of the Uffizi Gallery was founded on July 9, 1993 in response to the May 27th terrorist bombing that damaged the structure and some of the works in the Uffizi Gallery with the primary goal of restoring the works damaged in the bombing. Since then, the Association has expanded its reach, opening a chapter in the United States.

Friends of the Uffizi Gallery, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization and receives support from its members and private sector contributions.

