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For Immediate Release

**With the Beauty of Spring Comes Flourishing Events and Activities at
Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District in March**

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. – March 2, 2015 – During the first month of spring, Riverwalk A&E District partners are presenting fresh ways to enjoy Fort Lauderdale’s abounding culture. In March, The District partners – Broward Center for the Performing Arts, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, Historic Stranahan House Museum and Bonnet House Museum & Gardens – are pleased to offer many events and activities for all ages, including:

What better time is there than spring for a boat ride on the New River and historical tour? The Historic Stranahan House Museum is hosting its River Ghost Tours on Sundays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 7:30 p.m. Presented by Historic Stranahan House Museum and Water Taxi, the hour-long tour includes a visit inside Stranahan House and a boat ride on the New River. Guests are fascinated by tales of spirits. The cost is \$25 per person; reservations are required. For more information, visit www.stranahanhouse.org/visit/river-ghost-tours.

On Thursday, March 12 at 7 p.m., the melodies of the Florida Atlantic University Latin Vocal Ensemble will fill the air during Bonnet House Museum & Gardens’ **Concert Under the Stars**. Taking place on the Veranda Lawn beneath the moon and stars, the concerts present a beautiful evening of sweet music from various musical performances and complimentary wine, dessert and coffee among the delightful setting of the Bonnet House. The Concert Under the Stars series take place once a month on Thursday evenings through April. The events are sponsored by Whole Foods Market. For more information and pricing, visit www.bonnethouse.org/music-series.

Delightful opera and delicious seafood ... the perfect combination for a wonderful night out, thanks to the **“Songs of the Sea” promotion**. The promotion, available Thursday, March 12 and Saturday, March 14, combines two orchestra level tickets to Florida Grand Opera’s “The Pearl Fishers” at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, and a \$50 voucher to Wild Sea Oyster Bar & Grille at the Riverside Hotel on Las Olas. The promotion includes guests’ choice of either an oyster appetizer or red velvet beignet dessert, plus complimentary valet parking, all for \$150. For more details, visit www.gotoriverwalk.com.

March is Women’s History Month, and the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society is pleased to share the story of Frankee Lewis, an outstanding early woman pioneer. During this free **Women’s History Month lecture** at the New River Inn Museum of History, attendees will learn about Lewis, who left her Virginia home for the Bahamas and eventually Southeast Florida. History notes that the Lewis family became the first white American settlers in Fort Lauderdale in the late 1700s, and after Mrs. Lewis lost her husband and a son during a storm in 1819, as a single mother, she managed property, animals and crops as her livelihood. For more information, visit www.fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org.

It's a H-I-L-A-R-I-O-U-S spelling bee! "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is on stage at the Broward Center for Performing Arts now through Sunday, April 19, during evening and matinee performances. With two Tony Awards® and three Drama Desk Awards, this Broadway smash is complete with audience participation. Follow the cast of six awkward adolescents through a daunting and delightful championship quest. The New York Times calls it, "Irresistible! Riotously funny!" Arrive 90 minutes before the performance and enjoy drinks and a modern menu of tapas-style plates with table service. Bring your date, coworkers and friends for an evening of food, fun and theater! For more information, visit <http://browardcenter.org/events/detail/the-25th-annual-putnam-county-spelling>.

At NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale through Sunday, May 31, paintings by Frida Kahlo (1907–1954) and Diego Rivera (1886–1957), two of the most celebrated artists of the early 20th century, will be on view in a group exhibition of 75 works. The exhibition **Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection & 20th Century Mexican Art from the Stanley and Pearl Goodman Collection** will showcase the rich artistic traditions of Mexico and the passionate and patriotic pride of its artists. The exhibition features masterworks by Kahlo and Rivera along with paintings, sculptures, and works on paper by other influential Mexican artists involved in the country's political and social struggles. Visit www.moaf.org for more information.

These and many more March activities are highlighted on The District's vibrant, award-winning consumer website, www.riverwalkae.com, a one-stop resource for those planning a trip to Fort Lauderdale or locals who want to see what's happening in the area.

About Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District

Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District is a unique partnership of arts and entertainment organizations located along the New River in downtown Fort Lauderdale with the express mission of promoting cultural tourism in South Florida. Presenting over 1000 individual events each year, The District attracts well over 1 million visitors annually. Partners of The District Consortium include Broward Center for the Performing Arts, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, the Historic Stranahan House Museum and Bonnet House Museum & Gardens. It is supported by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. For more information about The District and its partners, visit www.riverwalkae.com.

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Editor's Note: The 2014–2015 comprehensive The District calendar listing all confirmed events and high-res images are available upon request.