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20th annual Flint Hills Family Festival to feature “greatest hits” from the last 19 years

Milestone festival coming to downtown Saint Paul in May of 2020

SAINT PAUL, Minn. – As the excitement of another successful [Flint Hills Family Festival](#) winds down, Flint Hills Resources and the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts are looking ahead to hosting next year’s families, students and educators for a special celebration of the Festival’s 20th anniversary.

A fixture in the Saint Paul community for almost two decades, the Flint Hills Family Festival is an annual, multi-day event organized by the Ordway that welcomes families to experience regional and international performing artists to downtown Saint Paul for little to no cost. The 2019 Festival – which wrapped up Saturday – featured 116 performances over five days, representing more than 25 countries and cultures, and drew more than 33,000 people to the parks and public spaces of downtown Saint Paul.

“When Flint Hills Resources and the Ordway first envisioned what this extraordinary event could be, our top priority was to bring high-quality arts and entertainment to families in an accessible, affordable way,” said Heather Rein, director of community affairs at the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery in Rosemount. “We have not lost those original priorities. We’re proud of our continued partnership with the Ordway and are looking forward to celebrating next year’s milestone with many more children and families.”

To celebrate the Festival’s 20th anniversary next year, the Festival will welcome back the most popular performers – from outdoor artists and singers and dancers, to acrobats and puppeteers – over the past 19 years for a “Greatest Hits” compilation. Aided by other never-before-seen performances, the 2020 event will be a blend of old and new, and the best Family Festival to date.

“Twenty years far exceeds the average age of a family festival of this caliber,” said Jamie Grant, president and CEO of the Ordway. “The Flint Hills Family Festival has survived and thrived because the Ordway cares about creating unforgettable experiences for families, and Flint Hills Resources cares about improving the quality of life in Minnesota. We are grateful for our strong long-term partnerships with our corporate sponsors and the communities we serve.”

Founded in 2001, the Festival is made possible by a 19-year partnership between the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts and Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery in Rosemount. It is one of the largest

and longest-standing events of its kind in the country. Since its inception approximately 1 million people have attended, including more than 21,000 students and teachers each year for field trips leading up to the Festival Family Weekend. The Festival's successful longevity is a testament to the strong relationship between Flint Hills Resources and the Twin Cities arts community.

About Ordway Center for the Performing Arts

Recognized as one of the country's leading not-for-profit performing arts centers, the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts presents and produces a wide variety of live performances throughout the year that encompass the finest in Broadway musicals, concerts, comedy, dance and vocal artists. The Ordway serves over 60,000 children each year through its education programs and presents the annual Flint Hills Family Festival. The performing arts center houses a 1,900-seat Music Theater, a 1,100-seat Concert Hall and magnificent lobbies. The Ordway is a proud member of the Arts Partnership, a collaboration comprising the Ordway, Minnesota Opera, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Schubert Club.

About Flint Hills Resources

Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery produces transportation fuels used throughout the Midwest, including most of Minnesota's gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, as well as other products people rely on such as propane and asphalt. Located 17 miles southeast of Minneapolis, Pine Bend has a capacity of 345,000 barrels per day and is among the cleanest, most efficient and safest oil refineries in the country. Flint Hills Resources directly and indirectly supports more than 4,000 Minnesota jobs and has invested nearly \$1.7 billion on upgrades and improvements to its Minnesota facilities since 2010. With more than 1,000 full-time employees, the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery is one of the largest employers in Dakota County. More information about the company is available at pinebendrefinery.com.

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