



City of McKinney Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Life-sized dinosaur visits Historic Downtown McKinney

McKinney-based Billings Productions, Inc. delivers dino Oct. 27

McKINNEY, TEXAS (Oct. 26, 2009) – McKinney Main Street has partnered with Day 6 Creative and Billings Productions to feature a life size Dilophosaurus “two-crested lizard” dinosaur in Historic Downtown McKinney. The McKinney-made dinosaur will be delivered to Historic Downtown McKinney at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27, just in time for Halloween and the family favorite Scare on the Square. It will remain at the corner of Louisiana and Kentucky through the end of the month.

Billings Productions is a McKinney-based company that manufactures the dinosaurs for displays and installations across the world, including at the perennially popular *Dinosaurs Alive!* at the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary in McKinney. That event is going on now through Jan. 31. The company’s goal is to encourage discovery and create awareness of prehistoric life by making learning fun and entertaining with accurate, animated life-size creatures. The Dilophosaurus visiting downtown is a replica of a creature that measured around 20 feet and may have weighed half a ton.

"We were excited and honored when the city of McKinney approached us about placing one of our dinosaurs in the downtown area for this event. The Dilophosaurus allows us to bring a little extra scare to the Halloween event while allowing people to get an idea of just how amazing these creatures really were," said Robby Gilbert, Prehistoric Display Advisor, Billings Productions Inc.

Scare on the Square takes place on Friday, Oct. 30 from 4 to 6 p.m. on the downtown streets. In addition to the treats given by shop owners, kids and adults can win prizes for their costumes at the new ‘Be Green on Halloween’ costume contest. The city’s Office of Environmental Stewardship (OES) encourages residents to make their own costume using items already around the house, or make an environmental statement by creating a costume from reused or recyclable items. Prizes will be given for green and traditional costumes, and also for creatively decorated pumpkins.

Main Street partners once again with 3E this year to benefit the Food Pantry. Canned food can be dropped off at the McKinney Performing Arts Center anytime between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. through Friday, Oct. 30. The specific canned food needs include 15-ounce cans of fruits and vegetables.

Admission is free and parking can be found throughout the historic downtown area. Visit www.downtownmckinney.com for more information or contact McKinney Main Street at 972.547.2660. For more information on Billings Productions visit www.billingsproductions.com.

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About McKinney

McKinney, Texas, is unique by nature. As one of the fastest-growing cities in the U.S., McKinney has a current population of 122,000. Incorporated in 1848, the city is located 30 miles north of Dallas and is the county seat of Collin County. McKinney offers rolling hills, lush trees, a historic downtown square and unique neighborhoods and developments, and it was recently ranked as one of the Top 10 Best Places to Move by Forbes Magazine. Visit the city's Web site at www.mckinneytexas.org.

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