



## **City of McKinney Press Release**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

### **McKinney hosts Earth Day Events**

McKINNEY, TEXAS (March 4, 2010) – This April marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day, and to celebrate the landmark occasion, the City of McKinney, Collin College and the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary are teaming up to host an Earth Day event across McKinney.

The festivities kick off Friday, April 23, with guest speaker Fabien Cousteau, grandson of famed oceanographer Jacques Cousteau. His free presentation “One Water One People” starts at 7:30 p.m. at Boyd High School. To reserve your free tickets, please visit [www.mckinneyperformingartscenter.org](http://www.mckinneyperformingartscenter.org).

“Earth Day celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> birthday this year with a long line of environmental accomplishments. To kick off the next four decades in McKinney, we are very excited to be partnering with the Heard and Collin College to celebrate Earth Day and offer a comprehensive, community-wide green experience. We are thrilled this year to provide a variety of events for all ages. From a presentation by Faubien Cousteau to energy efficient vendors to the children’s tent at the Heard, this year there is something green for everyone,” said McKinney Environmental Stewardship Manager Julie Smith.

Then on Saturday, April 24, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Green Living Family Festival will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary. McKinney residents receive free admission to the event that includes “green” vendors, presentations, children’s area and live entertainment. In addition, guests will enjoy the Heard’s hiking trails, the “Live Animals of the World” exhibit and the last chance to see the indoor “Treasures from The Earth: Diamonds, Gold and Dinos” before it leaves. AT&T will be giving away recycled event bags to all guests.

“The Green Living Family Festival is the celebration of our very own 43 year-old mission statement of ‘Bringing Nature and People Together.’ The festival highlights and encourages us to become aware of why we should take care of the most precious gift we are given, namely the earth, and to preserve it for the next generation,” said Sy Shahid, Director of the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary.

If you have a green product or service and would like to participate as a vendor at this event, please visit the Heard’s website at [www.heardmuseum.org](http://www.heardmuseum.org) for exhibitor information and registration. Please note that early-bird, discounted registration is available now through March 31.

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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. Visit the city's Web site at [www.mckinneytexas.org](http://www.mckinneytexas.org).

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