

MEDIA ALERT

November 16, 2010

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James Surls Sculpture "Standing Vase With Five Flowers" to be Unveiled by the City of Houston

Standing Vase With Five Flowers Latest Addition to COH Art Collection

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department with Mayor Annise Parker and internationally known Texas artist James Surls will unveil the latest addition to the City of Houston Art Collection on Thursday, November 18th at 5:30pm at the Houston Parks and Recreation Department's Gragg Park Campus, 2999 South Wayside. Artist James Surls spent his early years in Splendora, Texas, and is the founder of the Lawndale Arts Center at the University of Houston in the 1970's. He currently resides in Carbondale, CO.

- Who:** Mayor Annise Parker
Artist James Surls
Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department
- What:** Unveiling of sculpture "Standing Vase With Five Flowers" the latest addition to City of Houston Art Collection.
- When:** Thursday, November 18, 2010
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. Unveiling Ceremony with Mayor Annise Parker and Artist James Surls
- Where:** Gragg Park Campus – Gragg Building
2999 South Wayside - Houston, Texas 77023
- Why:** To meet internationally known Texas Artist James Surls and unveil the latest addition to the City of Houston's art collection. James Surls founded the Lawndale Arts Center at the University of Houston in the 1970's. His wood-and-steel sculptures are in many major art museums throughout the country, including the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Museum of Modern Art, Albright Knox, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Surls has been the recipient of an NEA Grant, *Texas Artist of the Year* (1991), and was given the *Living Legend Award* by the Dallas Visual Art Center in 1993.

About the Houston Parks and Recreation Department

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 38,992 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.