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LAKELAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RELEASES FIRST “LIONS” INTO THE WILD

Four Painted Fiberglass Lions Installed at Lakeland Civic Landmarks

Lakeland, TN, November 7, 2022– The Lakeland Chamber of Commerce will install four unique, hand-painted fiberglass lions at locations in the heart of Lakeland as a show of civic pride and support for the City’s institutions. The Lion is the mascot of Lakeland School System’s two schools Lakeland Elementary (K-4) and Lakeland Preparatory School (5-9 with additional high school grades being added each of the next three years). As the City of Lakeland has continued to grow residentially, commercially, and educationally, the emergence of the Lions symbolizes the community’s support for Lakeland’s successful school system and the City’s identification with its mascot as a symbol for all of Lakeland.

The Lions will be installed on Tuesday, November 8th, and there will be a formal “unveiling” of the City Hall Lion at 10001 Highway 70 on Thursday, November 10th at 4:00 PM. The other three Lions will be installed at Lakeland Elementary School (10050 Oak Seed Lane), Lakeland Preparatory School (5020 Lions Crest Drive), and the International Harvester Managerial Clubhouse (4523 Canada Road). Chris Woods Construction, which has partnered with Lakeland School System in the construction of both the middle and high school phases of Lakeland Preparatory School, donated the installation of the Lions, along with Wright Construction and Phillips Auto Body which also donated materials and labor.

Lakeland Preparatory School art teachers Jared Parham and Rachel Nanney worked with LPS students to design and paint the LPS and IH Clubhouse Lions. Lakeland Elementary School art teacher Stephanie Robinson supervised the design and creation of the LES Lion. Lakeland resident and artist Megan Dupuy designed and created the art for the Lakeland City Hall Lion.

Lakeland Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Brittney Buchanan said, “To see the vision of our Chamber board member and Lakeland business owner, Kevin Bailey – Fireworks City, come to fruition is truly exciting.

Kevin's support of the Lakeland community is an example of what makes our City special. These lions represent the spirit of Lakeland and the pride of our business and residential community coming together!"

Lakeland Chamber of Commerce President Wil Ashworth said, "Watching the identity of our city take form is a remarkable experience. This is just another step forward for our community as a whole."

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Brittney Buchanan at 901.867.6141 or email at brittney@mylakelandchamber.org.