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**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT & WARNER BROS. "GREEN LANTERN"
LEAVE "GREEN" LEGACY WITH \$10,000 GIFT TO LAFAYETTE SQUARE CONSERVANCY**
Grant will assist with resodding of New Orleans' Second Oldest Park

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14, 2011—New Orleans— The Downtown Development District of New Orleans and Warner Bros. will present the Lafayette Square Conservancy with \$10,000 for the resodding of Lafayette Square. The gift is a result of a collaboration between the DDD, the City of New Orleans, and the Warner Bros. film "The Green Lantern," which recently wrapped filming in New Orleans and is set to release on June 17, 2011.

The Downtown Development District is leading an effort to improve and increase green space in Downtown New Orleans.

"Creative Class research recently completed by the DDD shows conclusively that one of the most important factors in choosing a place to live is the prevalence and accessibility of green space," says **DDD President & CEO Kurt Weigle**. "This significant gift from Warner Bros. not only helps us in our mission to help "green" Downtown New Orleans, but also shows how industries like film, non-profit, and government can collaborate to leave a lasting impression long after projects have wrapped."

The grant money will be used to improve the park where increased usage and heavy foot traffic have taken their toll. The park is home to popular annual events like the Young Leadership Council's Wednesday at the Square twelve week spring concert series, the Second Harvest Food Bank's Harvest the Music eight week fall concert series, the Blues & BBQ Festival, New Orleans Seafood Festival and other special events like the Mayor's inauguration celebration in 2010 have .

"This is a marvelous way to give back to the city and improve Downtown's most used green space," said Babs Johnson, the Lafayette Square Conservancy's President. "The Conservancy is extremely grateful to Warner Bros. for its generosity and recognition of our need."

ABOUT THE DDD

Commissioned by the State Legislature in 1974, the Downtown Development District (DDD) is America's oldest Business Improvement District. Funded by a special property tax, the DDD provides enhanced services in economic development, cleaning, and public safety. The DDD is bounded by Claiborne, the Mississippi River, the Pontchartrain Expressway, and Iberville Street. For more information, visit www.neworleansdowntown.com.

ABOUT THE LAFAYETTE SQUARE CONSERVANCY

The Lafayette Square Conservancy is an all volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and improvement of Downtown New Orleans' premier park. For more information, visit www.lafayette-square.org.

ABOUT THE FILM:

In a universe as vast as it is mysterious, an elite, powerful force has existed for centuries. Protectors of peace and justice, they are called the Green Lantern Corps. Warriors sworn to keep intergalactic order, each Green Lantern wears a ring that

grants him the ability to create anything his mind can imagine. But when a new enemy called Parallax threatens to destroy the balance of power in the Universe, their fate and the fate of Earth lie in the hands of their newest recruit, the first human ever selected: Hal Jordan.

Bringing the enduringly popular superhero to the big screen for the first time, "Green Lantern" stars Ryan Reynolds in the title role, under the direction of Martin Campbell. Campbell directed the film from a screenplay by Greg Berlanti & Michael Green & Marc Guggenheim and Michael Goldenberg, story by Greg Berlanti & Michael Green & Marc Guggenheim, based upon characters appearing in comic books published by DC Comics. The film also stars Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard, Mark Strong, Angela Bassett and Tim Robbins. It was produced by Donald De Line and Greg Berlanti. Herbert W. Gains and Andrew Haas served as executive producers.

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