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**ROBINSON CENTER SECOND ACT LESS THAN 60 DAYS FROM GRAND RE-OPENING
NOVEMBER 10, 2016
PROJECT ON-TIME AND ON-BUDGET**

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (September 12, 2016) – The Little Rock Convention & Visitors Bureau (LRCVB) is pleased to announce that the Robinson Center renovation project – its “Intermission” - is now less than 60-days from its “Second Act” (grand re-opening) on Thursday, November 10, 2016. The official closing of the building took place on July 1, 2014, following the successful December, 2013 election to dedicate the existing 2% advertising and promotion tax to fund the project. The project remains on-budget at \$70M and is on-time for completion in November.

Mark your calendars to join us on November 10, 2016 as we celebrate Robinson Center’s “Second Act”

What: Robinson Center Grand Re-Opening Press Conference and Official Ribbon Cutting

Where: Robinson Center

When: Thursday, November 10, 2016 – 10:00am

Why: Media and the public are invited to join us as we mark the completion of this landmark restoration and expansion project. Features include a world-class performance theater with expanded lobbies, restrooms, patron amenities and back of house capabilities, as well as an all-new conference center addition, grand ballroom, meeting rooms, and 5,800 s.f. outdoor terrace overlooking the Arkansas River.

Additionally, tours of the facility to immediately follow the press conference and ribbon cutting ceremony.

More details to follow.

Little Rock Convention & Visitors Bureau President and CEO, Gretchen Hall, said she is incredibly proud to note that the project will be delivered on-time and on-budget. “When working on a construction project of this magnitude, with as many unknown variables regarding the structural integrity of a 76-year-old building, we are exceedingly grateful that we did not encounter significant unforeseen conditions, and very indebted to the team of architects, engineers and construction professionals that have worked on this project.”

“Robinson represents a unique design opportunity to restore and honor an iconic structure while reimagining public space and patron experience,” noted David Porter, Principal at Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects.

“The Robinson Center is an incredibly intricate and complex project from scheduling to logistics to cost control. We are proud of the construction workers, subcontractors, and project team’s tireless hard work to make this project a success,” said Jonathan Semans, Project Manager, CDI/Hunt Joint Venture.

Project Team:

The design team is led by Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects of Little Rock and Ennead Architects of New York. CDI/Hunt Joint Venture has served as the General Contractor and Construction Manager.

Project Highlights:

- The project's design combines historic significance with a dramatic new modern addition that takes advantage of the building's unique location on the banks of the Arkansas River.
- The exterior envelope of the original building has been restored and is now visible in multiple areas inside the new conference center addition.
- The facility will reopen as a LEED-certified structure.
- Performance Hall improvements: more acoustic volume and height, improved sight lines for all patrons, increased lobby spaces and restroom facilities, ADA accessible, and new box seating along the side walls, creating a much more intimate feel to the hall.
- Complete reorganization of the back of house support areas include: increased loading capacity, all new electrical and mechanical systems, improved and enhanced staging and lighting systems, and increased dressing and chorus room capacity, on stage level.

History of Robinson Auditorium:

The Historic Robinson Auditorium has long been a landmark in Central Arkansas. Construction of the Joseph T. Robinson Memorial Auditorium began in 1937 and officially opened in December, 1939. The structure was a WPA (Works Progress Administration) project, and is an excellent example of the Art Deco style architecture of the time. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. The facility is owned by the City of Little Rock and managed by the Little Rock Convention & Visitors Bureau.

About Little Rock Convention & Visitors Bureau (LRCVB):

The Little Rock Convention & Visitors Bureau is the official destination marketing organization for the City of Little Rock, charged with marketing and selling the city as a meeting, sports and leisure travel destination. The LRCVB also operates the Statehouse Convention Center, Robinson Center, River Market and multiple parking facilities. Visit www.RobinsonCenterSecondAct.com for more information.

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