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The E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation Makes \$300,000 Gift to OKC Boathouse Foundation

(January 17, 2012 – Oklahoma City) The OKC Boathouse Foundation will receive a \$300,000 gift from the E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation for the new Gaylord Media Center located in the Chesapeake Finish Line Tower on the Oklahoma River. The Gaylord Media Center includes state-of-the-art live production broadcast facilities that will be used in live streaming of Boathouse District races and regattas. The facilities are also available for local and network television production.

“We’re very grateful to the Gaylord Foundation for this generous gift and are proud to have the Gaylord name on such an important component of the Boathouse District’s race operations facilities,” said OKC Boathouse Foundation Executive Director Mike Knopp.

The Gaylord Media Center utilizes TriCaster live production technologies capable of network-quality high definition broadcasting, live streaming, projecting, and recording from up to eight cameras. The TriCaster system includes network inputs for an unlimited number of external displays, including Apple AirPlay-capable wireless iOS devices, and can simulate up to 20 network-style high definition live virtual sets.

“The Gaylord Family has played a pioneering role in Oklahoma communications, from running the state’s largest newspaper for more than a century to building the state-of-the-art Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Oklahoma. We’re proud to now be a part of their strong media tradition,” said Knopp.

The four-story Chesapeake Finish Line Tower opened in the fall of 2011 and serves as the visitor center for the Boathouse District. During rowing and kayaking events, it is utilized for race operations, including timing, race commentary and race control, while the fourth floor provides a VIP viewing gallery and observation deck. The 7,500 square-foot building meets the standards for both FISA, the international governing body for rowing, and the International Canoe Federation (ICF), the governing body for canoe/kayak worldwide.

Edward L. Gaylord and his wife Thelma established the E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation in 1994 to support a wide range of charitable activities. The Foundation continues the Gaylord's commitment to improving the lives of Oklahomans and preserving the heritage and natural resources of the state they loved.

For more information about the Chesapeake Finish Line Tower, visit boathousedistrict.org or call (405) 552-4040.

The OKC Boathouse Foundation promotes the use and development of the Oklahoma River as a world-class urban aquatic venue and provides access to rowing, kayaking and fitness programs for people of all ages and abilities. OKCBF programs pursue the highest goals of sports and embrace the principles of the Olympic spirit which inspire athletes to work toward personal excellence, embrace the power of teamwork, and practice respect for all people and the environment. To learn more or get involved, call (405) 552-4040 or visit okcbf.org.

A project of the Oklahoma City Boathouse Foundation

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