



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT
Jennifer Castleberry
916-263-3066 Office
916-496-7323 Mobile
jlcastleberry@calexpo.com

**SEPTEMBER 11 ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED AT CAL EXPO
WITH NEW HANDCRAFTED BENCHES AND CEREMONY**

(Sacramento, CA) On Friday, September 11, in observance of the tragic events of that day in 2001, the Cal Expo 9/11 Memorial will be open to the general public from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The memorial honors the victims lost 14 years ago.

This year a series of handmade benches made by high school students from the ACE Program (Architecture, Construction and Engineering), an after school mentoring program across California, will be installed at the Memorial as a quiet comfortable space for reflection and contemplation. These benches are all unique and hand crafted from a variety of woods and materials.

Also new this year will be a stunning display of more than 1,000 newspapers from around the country from September 12, the day after the attacks, showing the headlines and horror that swept our country and the world. Cal Expo's 9/11 Memorial Plaza is an outdoor, permanent exhibit that marks the tragic events of September 11, including the Flight 93 crash, the Pentagon attack and the World Trade Center attack. Central to the exhibit is a fountain with a granite ball inscribed with all of the names of the September 11 victims. Also in the plaza is a carillon bell tower and a reflection of the World Trade Center.

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Construction of the Cal Expo memorial began a year after the attack, when Cal Expo board member Larry Davis personally acquired and donated 125,000 pounds of wreckage from the World Trade Center. A massive I-beam extracted from Ground Zero, which had been a horizontal support beam from the North Tower, was among the debris. Davis personally arranged for the wreckage to be shipped via rail to California. Through private donations to the 501(c)(3) California State Fair Memorial Plaza Foundation, the exhibit has been expanded to include additional elements.

The public is welcome to visit the 9/11 Memorial from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. and should enter Cal Expo using the Main Gate. Parking is free and is available in Lot B to the right of the Main Gate.



About Cal Expo

Cal Expo is home to the California State Fair and plays host to hundreds of other signature events each year including Global Winter Wonderland coming in November 2015. Featuring 400 acres of open space along the American River Parkway and 350 beautifully landscaped acres, Cal Expo facilities were dedicated as a place to celebrate California's achievements, preserve a slice of Americana, and provide a window into the future.

For media inquiries and information please contact Jennifer Castleberry at 916-263-3066.