



PRESS RELEASE

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Mississippi Egg Marketing Board Presents Mustard Seed Easter Eggs to First Lady Reeves

JACKSON, Miss. – Today, the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board presented 12 eggs created by The Mustard Seed ‘Seedsters’ to First Lady Elee Reeves. The Board worked with The Mustard Seed, a Christian community for adults with developmental disabilities, to craft the eggs.

Twelve Mustard Seed community members were given the opportunity to decorate an egg representative of Mississippi. The theme for this year’s egg presentation was “Mississippi Creatures Great and Small” and included Wood Duck Swimming in a Pond with Cattails by artist Jerry Dearing; Honey Bee with Flowers by artist Nia Reed; Deer in a Cotton Field by artist Will Gibbes; Beaver in a Lake with Trees by artist Matthew Davis; Mississippi’s Butterfly Under the Sunshine by artist John Carl McKeller; Redbird and Sunflowers by artist Kristy LaDue; Bottlenose Dolphin in the Mississippi Gulf Coast by artist Jacob Gulland; Opossum and Owl Under a Starry Night Sky by artist Russell Cobb; Catfish and Riverboat on the Mississippi River by artist Gabrielle Chambers; Black Bear and Pink Flowers in the Mississippi Delta by artist Kate Dickens; Bald Eagle in Pine Trees by artist Logan Chew; and Alligator in the Mississippi Natchez Cypress Swamp by artist Caroline Wilkerson.

“I was honored to have several phenomenal Seedsters present their Easter eggs at the Governor’s Mansion,” said First Lady Elee Reeves. “These eggs perfectly capture this year’s theme, as well as the incredible talent and creativity of the Seedsters! This tradition with the Mustard Seed, Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, and Mississippi Department of Agriculture is one of my favorites each year!”

The 12 artists were invited to the Governor’s Mansion to personally present their Easter eggs to the First Lady and to enjoy cookies and juice following the presentation. “It’s such a treat to be a part of this unique event each year,” said Ryn Laster, president of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board. “These talented Seedsters work hard on their eggs and the result is always beautiful. And on behalf of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, I want to thank First Lady Elee Reeves and her entire staff for putting on this annual event. We hope to continue this tradition for years to come.”

For more information about the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, contact Katie Sansing at (601) 359-1140 or email katie@mdac.ms.gov.

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Photos attached.



Today, the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board presented 12 eggs created by The Mustard Seed ‘Seedsters’ to First Lady Elee Reeves. Pictured L-R: Hayes Patrick, Deputy Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce; Jennifer Thompson, Director of the Bureau of Regulatory Services at the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce; Seedster Artist John Carl McKeller; Seedster Artist Nia Reed; Seedster Artist Kate Dickens; Seedster Artist Will Gibbes; Seedster Artist Jerry Dearing; First Lady Elee Reeves; Seedster Artist Logan Chew; Seedster Artist Russell Cobb; Seedster Artist Caroline Wilkerson; Seedster Artist Kristy LaDue; Ryn Laster, Ph.D, President of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board; Seedster Artist Matthew Davis; and Gene Robertson, Member of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board. Not pictured: Mustard Seed artists Jacob Gulland and Gabrielle Chambers.



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