



PRESS RELEASE

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

JACKSON, Miss. – Last week, 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 “America 250” and included the Statue of Liberty by artist Gabrielle Chambers; the 1776 American Flag by artist Robin Smith; the symbolic Bald Eagle by artist Caroline Wilkerson; the Nation’s Capitol by artist Jerry Dearing; the Nation’s First President, George Washington, by artist Russell Cobb; President Abraham Lincoln by artist Peyton Dill; the Declaration of Independence by artist Logan Chew; the Liberty Bell by artist Jeff Brock; Uncle Sam by artist Kate Dickens; The Great Frontier by artist Charlie Winstead; and the Washington Monument by artist Jane Kileen, as well as a commemorative egg displaying America 250 by artist Tyler Honigfort.

“I was honored to have several phenomenal Seedsters present their Easter eggs at the Governor’s Mansion,” said First Lady Elee Reeves. “This tradition with the Mustard Seed, Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, and Mississippi Department of Agriculture is one of my favorites each year! This year’s “America 250” celebration theme, was perfectly captured, and displayed the incredible talent and creativity of the Seedsters!”

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 lemonade following the presentation. “It’s truly an honor 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 to bring their own interpretation to these eggs, and the result is always amazing. And on behalf of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, I want to thank First Lady Elee Reeves and her entire staff for hosting us at this annual event. We hope to continue this long-standing 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.



The Mississippi Egg Marketing Board presented 12 eggs created by The Mustard Seed ‘Seedsters’ to First Lady Elee Reeves. Pictured L-R Top: Paige Manning, member of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board; Mark Leggett, member of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board; Leslie Gipson; Commissioner Andy Gipson, member of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board; the Easter Bunny; Seedster Artist Jerry Dearing; Seedster Artist Russell Cobb; Seedster Artist Jeff Brock; Seedster Artist Charlie Winstead; and First Lady Elee Reeves. L-R Bottom: Seedster Artist Robin Smith; Seedster Artist Payton Dill; Seedster Artist Logan Chew; Seedster Artist Caroline Wilkerson; Seedster Artist Tyler Honigfort; and Seedster Artist Gabrielle Chambers. Not Pictured: Ryn Laster, Ph.D, President of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board; Seedster Artist Kate Dickens; and Seedster Artist Jane Kileen.



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