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Enchanted Forest Festival of Trees Holiday Tradition to Open November 21

MEMPHIS, TENN. – The Enchanted Forest Festival of Trees will kick off the 2009 holiday season on Saturday, Nov. 21 at The Pink Palace Museum. The event, presented by TWIGS of Le Bonheur (Together We Initiate Growth and Sharing), is a vital part of Mid-South holiday traditions. On **Saturday, Nov. 21, Santa** will make his grand entrance on the lawn of The Pink Palace by helicopter at **9 a.m.** In 2008, nearly 1,200 people attended the opening ceremony. Santa will be available for pictures through Dec. 24. The Enchanted Forest will be open through Dec. 31.

As they walk through the Enchanted Forest, children of all ages will be charmed by the animated characters set in a magical snowy setting. Teddy bears beckon, elves are busy at work and penguins play in the snow. Santa enthusiastically greets guests at the end of the Forest and poses for holiday photos. It is a perfect holiday tradition for the whole family to enjoy! Special events include the Snow Forest Ball, Storytime with Santa, and Senior Stroll with Santa.

Event hours are **Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 pm.** Group rates are available; admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and children

Key Dates

Preview Party
Fri., Nov. 20
7:30 – 11:30 p.m.

Grand Opening –
Sat., Nov. 21
Santa arrives
9 a.m.

Photos with Santa –
Nov. 21 – Dec. 24

Snow Forest Ball –
Sun., Nov. 22
2 -5 p.m.

Storytime with
Santa –
Tues., Dec. 8 &
Fri., Dec. 18
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Closing Day –
Thurs., Dec. 31

ages 3 to 12. Children age 2 and under are free.

Founded in 1978, TWIGS is an auxiliary group that supports Le Bonheur Children's through fundraising, health advocacy and promotional events. For more than 30 years, members of TWIGS have supported the excellent pediatric care at Le Bonheur and get to share the satisfaction of knowing they are helping more than 130,000 children who are treated annually. TWIGS have raised more than \$4 million for Le Bonheur Children's. Most recently, TWIGS have donated nearly \$1 million toward the construction of the new Le Bonheur scheduled to open in 2010.

Founded in 1952, Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center is the Mid-South's first and only comprehensive pediatric medical facility. Every year Le Bonheur treats almost 140,000 children from throughout the U.S. and the world. Le Bonheur is home to one of the nation's 10 busiest pediatric emergency departments and hosts one of the largest pediatric surgical brain tumor programs. Le Bonheur Children's is building a new state-of-the-art hospital. The \$340-million facility is scheduled to open in 2010 and will significantly increase the space for patient care, research and teaching. For more information, please call (901) 287-6030 or visit www.lebonheur.org.

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