COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS 200 N. Arthur Ashe Blvd. I Richmond, Virginia 23220 www.VMFA.museum/pressroom



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dominion Energy Renews Jazz Café Sponsorship at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts VMFA hosts the popular free performance series every Wednesday evening



Dominion Energy Jazz Café takes place every Wednesday evening at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Dominion Energy sponsors the weekly series featuring some of the area's best musical performers, ensuring that it remains free to the public. Photo by Sandra Sellars © 2022, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Richmond, VA — The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA) is excited to announce that Dominion Energy has renewed its sponsorship of the popular free weekly jazz performance series, the Dominion Energy Jazz Café.

VMFA began Jazz Café in partnership with the Richmond Jazz Society in 2010, as a way to attract new audiences to the museum. The Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation, sponsor of the series since 2015, recently renewed its three-year commitment to the program, ensuring that the museum's weekly event series, featuring some of the area's best musical performers, remains free to the public.

The performance series, Dominion Energy Jazz Café, presented Wednesday evenings in VMFA's Cochrane Atrium, showcases a changing roster of talented musicians performing a broad spectrum of jazz styles. While at the museum, audiences also have an opportunity to view art in VMFA's permanent collection galleries, which are always free of

charge. Dominion Energy Jazz Café is an anchor in the museum's evening programming, which plays an important role in increasing accessibility to the museum. VMFA is open until 9 p.m. on Wednesday through Friday evenings.

"The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts serves the community by offering diverse programs and events throughout the year, in addition to offering free access, 365 days a year, to our remarkable global art collection" said Director and CEO Alex Nyerges. "Dominion's generous support of our popular Jazz Café series is instrumental in helping to provide more Virginians with access to the arts and introduces the museum to new audiences."

"The Dominion Energy Jazz Café engages audiences from all walks of life in extraordinary art and cultural experiences," said Hunter A. Applewhite, President of the Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation. "Our longtime partnership with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts reflects Dominion Energy's dedication to supporting the communities we serve."

Dominion Energy's partnership with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts spans more than 25 years. Dominion Energy has a rich legacy of sponsoring the museum's free cultural programs and landmark exhibitions including *Treasures of Ancient Egypt: Sunken Cities* (2020), *Congo Masks: Masterpieces from Central Africa* (2018), *Posing Beauty in African American Art and Signs of Protest* (2014), *Dynasty and Divinity: Ife Art in Ancient Nigeria* and *Picasso: Masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso, Paris* (2011). In addition, VMFA's Dominion Energy galleries house one of the strongest public collections of African art in the United States.

Visit <u>www.VMFA.museum</u> for more information about Dominion Energy Jazz Café concerts, including the list of upcoming performers.

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About the Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation

More than 4.5 million customers in 13 states energize their homes and businesses with electricity or natural gas from Dominion Energy (NYSE: D). Through its <u>Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation</u>, as well as <u>EnergyShare</u> and other programs, Dominion Energy contributed \$46.7 million in 2023 to community causes. The Foundation supports nonprofit causes that meet basic human needs, protect the environment, promote education, and encourage community vitality. Please visit <u>www.DominionEnergy.com</u> to learn more.

About the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond, Virginia, is one of the largest comprehensive art museums in the United States. VMFA, which opened in 1936, is a state agency and privately endowed educational institution. Its purpose is to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret art, and to encourage the study of the arts. Through the Office of Statewide Partnerships program, the museum offers curated exhibitions, arts-related audiovisual programs, symposia, lectures, conferences, and workshops by visual and performing artists. In addition to presenting a wide array of special exhibitions, the museum provides visitors with the opportunity to experience a global collection of art that spans more than 6,000 years. VMFA's permanent holdings encompass nearly 50,000 artworks, including the largest public collection of Fabergé outside of Russia, the finest collection of Art Nouveau outside of Paris and one of the nation's finest collections of American art. VMFA is also home to important collections of Chinese art, English silver, and French Impressionist, Post-Impressionist, British sporting and modern and contemporary art, as well as renowned South Asian, Himalayan and African art. In May 2010, VMFA opened the James W. and Frances G. McGlothlin Wing I after a transformative expansion, previously the largest in its history. A new expansion, the McGlothlin Wing II, is planned to open in 2028. Comprising more than 170,000 square feet, it will be the largest expansion in the museum's history and will make VMFA the fifth largest art museum in the United States.

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts is the only art museum in the United States open 365 days a year with free general admission. For additional information, telephone (804) 340-1400 or visit www.VMFA.museum.

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