



For Immediate Release
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Contact:
Hilarie Szarowicz (616) 742-6397

SMG-managed DeVos Place® Continues Efforts to Make Downtown Grand Rapids Greener **Convention Center Contributes to ArtPrize Eight Environmental Initiatives**

Grand Rapids— As one of the 170 venues in this year's **ArtPrize Eight**, [DeVos Place](#) convention center continues its efforts to keep Grand Rapids a sustainable area for those who come downtown to enjoy another year of ArtPrize. DeVos Place, participating as an ArtPrize venue for the eighth consecutive year, is contributing to the overall green efforts of ArtPrize while implementing continued sustainability initiatives to increase energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact.

In 2015, DeVos Place decreased energy usage by 6.03 percent by installing new equipment and reducing wasted resources. Not only did DeVos Place replace hundreds of fluorescent lights in the parking garage and exit signs throughout the facility with more efficient LED lighting, the convention center also replaced six air handling units and converted men's restroom stalls to solar power with an automatic flush feature designed with sanitation and cleanliness in mind. The automatic flush was adjusted to 48 hours, an increase from 24 hours, in order to reduce water usage and energy consumption.

As a result of these green efforts, DeVos Place finished second in the 2nd Annual Michigan Battle of the Buildings Energy Summit earlier this year. The Michigan Battle of the Buildings Program is an awards recognition program that was created with the purpose of reducing energy use in all Michigan commercial and industrial buildings. The program, along with partners such as Consumers Energy and DTE Energy, encourages energy-efficient practices by rewarding building owners and operators for their forward-thinking energy operations in this friendly competition. In 2010 DeVos Place was awarded Green Venues Michigan Certification for green practices which conserve natural resources and prevent pollution.

DeVos Place is part of the 2030 District, a building district in downtown Grand Rapids that aims to dramatically reduce environmental impacts of building construction and operations through education and collaboration. Members aim to meet the 2030 Challenge that will dramatically reduce environmental impacts of building construction and operations, while contributing to the growth of West Michigan's robust economy.

The Grand Rapids 2030 District is facilitated by the U.S. Green Building Council of West Michigan with help from the Institute for Energy Innovation.

DeVos Place features two of the ArtPrize Eight Public Vote Final 20. Joao Paulo Goncalves' [Portraits of Light and Shadow](#) and Pettit Smith's [The Butterfly Effect](#) are eligible for a chance to win over \$200,000 in cash prizes. Public voting ends tonight, October 6, 2016 at 11:59 PM EST.

About SMG

Founded in 1977, SMG provides management services to more than 240 public assembly facilities including convention and exhibition centers, arenas, stadiums, theatres, performing arts centers, equestrian facilities, science centers and a variety of other venues. With facilities across the globe, SMG manages more than 14.4 million square feet of exhibition space and over 1.75 million sports and entertainment seats. As the recognized global industry leader, SMG provides venue management, sales, marketing, event booking and programming, construction and design consulting, and pre-opening services for such landmark facilities as McCormick Place & Soldier Field in Chicago, Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco, Houston's NRG Park and the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. SMG also offers food and beverage operations through its concessions, catering and special events division, SAVOR, currently servicing more than 130 accounts worldwide. For more information visit www.smgworld.com

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Van Andel Arena®
130 Fulton West
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2601
616.742.6600

DEVOS PLACE

DeVos Place®
303 Monroe Ave. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2233
616.742.6500

