

Mississippi Development Authority  
P.O. Box 849  
Jackson, MS 39305

Media Contact: Sherry Vance, Director of Communications 601.3593041

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MISSISSIPPI  
IN CENTRAL PARK SET FOR SATURDAY JUNE 9**

NEW YORK, NY – Great food, fun and fellowship along with down-home Southern hospitality is on tap for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mississippi in Central Park, June 9<sup>th</sup>.

“Mississippi The Right Location” is the theme for the event celebrating its 22<sup>nd</sup> year and offering contests, great music and a delicious fare of fried catfish, hushpuppies and coleslaw. Sponsored by The New York Society for the Preservation of Mississippi Heritage, the picnic brings together Mississippians and New Yorkers with ties to the Magnolia State for a Southern-style picnic in the heart of Central Park.

The picnic will occur from noon until 6 p.m. in the park’s East Meadow, 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 97<sup>th</sup> Street. In the event of inclement weather, the picnic will be held in the Arsenal Building in Central Park. The address is 830 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Gallery.

“I’m truly looking forward to having the opportunity to share in the celebration with everyone the banner year Mississippi is experiencing with our new economic development strategy, the Advantage Mississippi Initiative,” said Governor Ronnie Musgrove. The Governor’s plan created the framework for Mississippi securing the \$930 million Nissan assembly plant in Canton.

The Mississippi picnic began in 1979 when a group of Mississippians in New York City, wishing to strengthen ties with their native state, formed The New York Society for the Preservation of Mississippi Heritage. The event continues to grow in popularity each year.

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