The U.S. Conference of Mayors and New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu Host 5th Annual World Cultural Economic Forum

New Orleans, LA – The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) and New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu will host the fifth annual World Cultural Economic Forum (WCEF) in New Orleans on Thursday, May 2, 2013. The WCEF convenes mayors, Ambassadors, ministers of culture, business representatives, and cultural leaders from around the world to focus on the powerful impact of culture to drive local economies and spur innovation. Participants will also discuss their experiences implementing safety and security measures during major sporting events, festivals and other large venues.

Mayor Landrieu first launched the WCEF in 2008 when he served as Louisiana Lieutenant Governor, realizing the importance of arts and culture as an important economic development tool. The U.S. Conference of Mayors has undertaken organizing the event starting this year.

According to Americans for the Arts, the arts industry in America is not only resilient in times of economic uncertainty, but also a key component to our nation’s economic recovery. Nationally, in 2010, arts and culture generated $135.2 billion of economic activity and supports 4.13 million full-time jobs. The industry also generates $22.3 billion in revenue to local, state, and federal governments every year.

Who: Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, President of The U.S. Conference of Mayors; New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu, Chair of the USCM Tourism, Arts, Parks, Entertainment and Sports Committee and WCEF event host; Dozens of U.S. Mayors; and World Ambassadors, Ministers of Culture, Business and Cultural Leaders.

What: Mayors and global leaders will convene to discuss the local economic impact of the arts, culture and creative industries. Leaders will also exchange experiences in implementing safety and security measures during large events.

When: Thursday, May 2
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Plenary Sessions (Note: Evening receptions are CLOSED PRESS)
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM – Photo Opportunity and Press Availability

Where: The Roosevelt Hotel, 123 Baronne Street, (located near the French Quarter), Mezzanine Level

Media planning to cover the meeting should rsvp to Elena Temple Webb etemple@usmayors.org or Lina Garcia lgarcia@usmayors.org and must bring an official and updated media credential to the event location.

Follow the meeting on Twitter at @usmayors and @WCEFNewOrleans. The meeting hashtag is #wcef2013.

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