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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MYSTIC KREWE OF AQUARIUS**

**History**

The Mystic Krewe of Aquarius was organized in March of 1985 to celebrate the revival of Mardi Gras festivities on Galveston Island. Aquarius led its first carnival parade in 1986, making it the second oldest carnival parade of the revival. When Galveston decided to extend the annual Mardi Gras celebration to two weekends, this enthusiastic Krewe volunteered to organize a daytime parade along the famous Seawall Boulevard beachfront to open the first week of Mardi Gras festivities. The tradition continues today.

**Mystic Krewe of Aquarius Coronation Ball & Royal Pageant**

The Krewe of Aquarius will present the eighth annual Coronation Ball and Royal Pageant on Saturday, January 30, from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., in the Hope Arena at Moody Gardens, Two Hope Boulevard. Themed "Puttin' on the Ritz," the ball will feature a King and Queen Coronation and music by the Kit Reid Orchestra. Dress is costume or after-five attire. BYOB. Advance tickets are \$25 per person or \$30 at the door.

For additional information and advance ticket sales, call 409/938-7933 or 409/762-2287.

**Mardi Gras Parade**

The Mystic Krewe of Aquarius will sponsor the seventh annual Mardi Gras Kickoff Parade on Saturday, February 13, at 12 noon. As the krewe's largest procession ever, "Broadway on Parade" will showcase 130 costumed krewe members showering beads and doubloons over parade revelers. Such classics as *Guys and Dolls*, *South Pacific* and *Camelot* will be featured floats in this 60-unit procession, which also includes drill teams and ten marching bands. The parade will begin at 14th Street and Seawall Boulevard, proceeding west on Seawall to 59th Street. In the morning hours before the parade, costumed members will deliver Mardi Gras souvenir gift bags to children in Galveston-area hospitals. Free admission.

For additional information, call 409/763-0820 or 409/935-9544.

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