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Governors State University Exhibit Features Traditional Art from Ivory Coast

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For Immediate Release

Governors State University exhibit features traditional art from Ivory Coast

University Park, Ill., Feb. 19, 2014 – The GSU Library and GSU Friends of the Library will celebrate Black History Month with “Traditional Art of the Ivory Coast,” the inaugural exhibit of the Skylight Gallery in the Library.

The exhibit’s opening will be Friday, Feb. 21, from 3:30-5 p.m. The opening will begin with a lecture in the E Lounge presented by doctors Arthur P. Bourgeois and Michel Nguessan. Following the lecture at 4 p.m., Bourgeois and Nguessan will lead a gallery tour with commentary. Following the tour will be a ribbon cutting, reception and a few remarks from Governors State University president Elaine P. Maimon and provost Deborah Bordelon.

For more than 25 years, Professor Emeritus Dr. Arthur P. Bourgeois has worked with the foundation to obtain and curate this valuable collection deriving from his professional colleagues and associates.

“The GSU University Foundation's collection of ethnographic arts is a unique collection principally of African, Oceanic, and pre-Columbian objects donated with the intention of assisting classroom study of diverse cultures,” said professor Bourgeois.

"This exhibit gives us a unique look into the history and culture of the people from Ivory Coast," said Lydia Morrow Ruetten, dean of the GSU Library. “The GSU Library and Friends of the Library are pleased to offer this exhibit to the entire GSU community as our

inaugural exhibit,” she said.

The event is free and open to the public. Attendees should enter GSU through the main entrance. There, guides at the information desk will show attendees how to get to the lecture and library.

“Traditional Art of the Ivory Coast” will run from Feb. 21 through April 25 during times when the library is open. For more information, visit www.govst.edu/library.

Governors State University is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park, Ill. 60484-0975.