

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **New BKD Building to Feature Local and Regional Artworks**

*Facility to house firm's national office and Springfield office*

SPRINGFIELD, MO. – **Neal Spencer, BKD, LLP** chief executive officer, announces the firm has selected 51 pieces of local and regional art to be featured in its new building, which is currently under construction in Springfield, Missouri.

Tentatively scheduled for completion in August, the four-story building will house various works of art, both purchased and commissioned, throughout three floors the firm will occupy. An art committee comprised of four BKD employees and one partner, along with the direction of Paul Dorrell of Leopold Gallery in Kansas City, Missouri, selected the pieces.

Members of the volunteer art committee have an interest in art and design and have been meeting monthly since August 2008, when the first call for artists was announced. More than 150 artists responded to the call, with 32 being chosen from artists in southwest Missouri and northwest Arkansas. The gallery-style art that was selected ranges from glass works, sculptures and pine needle and wooden baskets to photography and landscape, abstract and figure paintings in oil and acrylics. Fifteen of the photographs are by BKD employees with subjects taken in the region or city where the employee lives.

“We really worked hard to look beyond our likes and dislikes to pick pieces that would make people think and talk about the art,” says Jeffrey Paulette, who is a member of the art committee. “All styles and all mediums were considered to help us obtain the variety we wanted for the new building.”

The newly acquired art replaces several pieces of framed corporate art previously displayed throughout the firm's national office and Springfield office. Those items are being auctioned to employees with the money benefiting the BKD Foundation.

In addition to the art, the new building's second floor will feature a painted mural depicting various BKD buildings. The fourth floor lobby walls will include an art collage representing the history of BKD with items incorporated from long-term BKD clients.

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**BKD, LLP** with offices in Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky,  
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BKD's art project also is the subject of a documentary by local Drury University student Chris Beckman, who is chronicling the process for a film to be shown at a later date on public broadcast.

"We're very pleased to be bringing our staff, clients and our community not only a new, state-of-the-art building, but also a one-of-a-kind art collection showcasing the rich diversity of local and regional artists," Spencer says. "We hope this gallery-quality collection is something our current and future BKDers enjoy for many years to come."

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**About BKD**

**BKD** is the top-tier U.S. CPA and advisory firm that delivers its experience and service with a deep understanding of your business, your needs and what it takes to improve your business performance. BKD's approximately 2,000 personnel, including approximately 250 partners, are based in 32 offices serving clients in 50 states. To learn more, visit [www.bkd.com](http://www.bkd.com).

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