Media Advisory

WHAT: Press preview and photo opportunity of the grand-salon styled painting, “The Four Justices”

WHEN: Monday, Oct. 28
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery
Eighth and G streets N.W.

WHO: Nelson Shanks, artist
Brandon Fortune, chief curator, National Portrait Gallery

On Oct. 28, the National Portrait Gallery will install a portrait of the first four female Supreme Court Justices, Sandra Day O’Connor, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan.

The 9-foot-tall oil painting by Nelson Shanks features the four women in an interior based on the Supreme Court building and will be displayed in the museum for three years. This portrait serves as a tribute to the achievements of these four women—the first to serve on the nation’s highest court.

Shanks was commissioned to paint this piece by art collectors Ian and Annette Cumming. For this portrait, completed in 2012, Shanks rethought the conventional 17th-century format for group paintings. Shanks works that are represented in the National Portrait Gallery’s collection include portraits of Denyce Graves and President Clinton.

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Oct. 23, 2013