

Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum Touts Annual Commemorative Holiday Ornament Showcasing 30th Anniversary of Mizner Park

**Charming Holiday Collectible is Only \$20 &
Available for Purchase Now & Pick-Up in December**

(Boca Raton, FL – November 19, 2020) **Mary Csar**, Executive Director of the **Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum (BRHS)** today revealed the nonprofit organization's annual commemorative holiday ornament. This year's seasonal collectible showcases the 30th anniversary of **Mizner Park** in downtown Boca.

"We produce fewer than 150 holiday collectibles each year, so history and holiday fans should make their online purchase today by visiting www.BocaRatonOrnaments.com," said Csar. "We will soon announce dates in December when buyers can pick up their ornament in front of the museum, located at 71 North Federal Highway."

In 1998, the talented Boca Raton artist **Barbara Montgomery O'Connell** created her first ornament—depicting old Town Hall—for BRHS. A 30-year resident of Boca Raton, the artist has donated her time and talent ever since to create the artwork on the annual ornament, always based on information and photographs from BRHS.

In 1980, the Community Redevelopment Agency was established to combat blight in the downtown area. CRA director Jamie Snyder called for the construction of an "Art Park" to replace the aging Boca Raton Mall on Federal Highway. In 1988, developer Tom Crocker answered the call with his "Mizner Park" project which would combine cultural facilities, residential, and office space with a variety of retail establishments in a Mediterranean Revival style complex. The completed Mizner Park opened to great fanfare in January 1991.

About the Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum:

The mission and the purpose of the Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum is to collect, preserve, and present information and artifacts relevant to the past and evolving history of Boca Raton and to

maintain a visible role in the education and the advocacy of historic preservation in the community, particularly through its ongoing project, *History Alive!* Although currently closed due to the COVID pandemic, BRHS is using this time to completely reimagine and renovate the museum, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2022.

When it officially reopens early next year, the new Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum will feature a series of dynamic immersive and interactive exhibits showcasing critical moments and figures in the city's development: Early History/Pioneer Days, Addison Mizner, Boca's critical role in World War II, the groundbreaking role of IBM and the first functioning personal computers, and more.

Appealing to local historians, tourists and residents, the museum's Fire Bay Gift Shop will, when it reopens, feature unique and educational gifts for all ages, including crafts by local artisans, historic photographs, unusual Boca-based gifts and souvenirs, books by local authors, and *The History of Boca Raton* DVD—as well as the annual holiday ornaments.

For more information about BRHS, please call 561.395.6766 or visit www.BocaHistory.org.

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