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Contact: Randy L. Kaplan
(516) 639-6137
randy_kaplan@yahoo.com
www.lbjlibrary.org

**The Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library and Museum
is Proud to Present:**

***“On the Ball: A Collection of Heads of State Signatures”
featuring the Randy L. Kaplan Collection of Autographed
Baseballs from World Leaders and Heads of State***

(June 24, 2014) Long Island, New York. -- The Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library and Museum in Austin, Texas is pleased to announce that from June 24, 2014 through December 14, 2014, it will be exhibiting a portion of the internationally recognized Randy L. Kaplan Collection of autographed baseballs from world leaders and heads of state. The exhibit, *“On the Ball: A Collection of Heads of State”* features 116 signed baseballs from leaders, both past and present, from all over the globe, including the late South African President Nelson Mandela, former leaders Mikhail Gorbachev and Margaret Thatcher as well as the nation’s sitting President Barack Obama.

Randy, who is a governmental affairs specialist in New York, has been collecting signed baseballs from world leaders and heads of state since 1996 when then President Bill Clinton signed a baseball for him at a meeting in Washington, D.C.

This unique idea to begin a collection of signed baseballs from Presidents and world leaders came to Randy after seeing a display of opening day baseballs that were ceremoniously tossed by former U.S. Presidents at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY

Over the years Randy has been able to meet, greet and persuade many world leaders to sign official Rawlings Major League baseballs for his unique collection. His goal to have this collection on display in the National Archives and Records Administration’s Presidential Library system became reality in 2008 when the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan, exhibited a portion of his collection in the “Born to Play Ball” exhibit.

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The interesting twist on this collection is that all of these baseballs were received in person by Randy or obtained through the assistance of a top government official such as NY Congressman Gregory Meeks who surprised Randy by having former South African President Nelson Mandela sign a baseball for him at a Congressional Black Caucus Meeting Washington, D.C. in 2005.

According to Randy, “The collection has taken on a life of its own. Almost everyone who I ask is honored to sign a baseball. It is as if every political figure secretly yearned to be a professional ballplayer, at least that is what most of them tell me!”

A portion of Randy’s collection is currently on exhibit at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda, California and has previously been exhibited at the William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock, Arkansas in 2012 and at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan in 2008.

It has been featured on ESPN.com; the BBC Radio Network; the Jordana Green Show on WCCO 830AM in Minneapolis; Newsday; The Ellis Henican column; News 12 Long Island, Autograph Collector Magazine, The Pen and the Quill, as well as on the Imus in the Morning show on MSNBC.

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Attached is the list of all 116 baseballs that will be on exhibit at the LBJ Presidential Library and Museum.

Signed Baseballs from World Leaders and Heads of State

1. Hamid Karzai	President (2004-)	<u>Islamic Republic of Afghanistan</u>
2. *Cristina Fernández de Kirchner	President (2007 -)	<u>Argentine Republic</u>
3. Kevin Rudd	Prime Minister (2007-2010)	<u>Commonwealth of Australia</u>
4. *Julia Gillard	Prime Minister (2010-2013)	<u>Commonwealth of Australia</u>
5. Dr. Heinz Fischer	President (2004-)	<u>Republic of Austria</u>
6. Mathieu Kérékou	President (1996-2006)	<u>Republic of Benin</u>
7. Nebojša Radmanović	President (2012- 2013)	<u>Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina</u>
8. Željko Komšić	President (2013-)	<u>Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina</u>
9. Fernando Cardoso	President (2013-)	<u>Federative Republic of Brazil</u>
10. Petar Stoyanov	President (1997 – 2002)	<u>Republic of Bulgaria</u>
11. Pierre Trudeau	Prime Minister (1968-1979)	<u>Canada</u>
12. Brian Mulroney	Prime Minister (1984-1993)	<u>Canada</u>
13. Stephen Harper	Prime Minister (2006 -)	<u>Canada</u>
14. Pedro Pires	President (2001-2011)	<u>Republic of Cabo (Cape) Verde</u>
15. Sebastián Piñera	President (2010-2014)	<u>Republic of Chile</u>

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16. *Michelle Bachelet	President (2014-)	<u>Republic of Chile</u>
17. Álvaro Uribe Velez	President (2002-2010)	<u>Republic of Colombia</u>
18. Juan Manuel Santos	President (2010-)	<u>Republic of Colombia</u>
19. Óscar Arias	President (2006-2010)	<u>Republic of Costa Rica</u>
20. *Laura Chinchilla	President (2014-)	<u>Republic of Costa Rica</u>
21. Václav Havel	President (1993-2003)	<u>Czech Republic</u>
22. Václav Klaus	President (2008-2013)	<u>Czech Republic</u>
23. Anders Fogh Rasmussen	Prime Minister (2001-1009)	<u>Kingdom of Denmark</u>
24. Leonel Fernández	President (2004-)	<u>Dominican Republic</u>
25. Alfredo Palacio	President (2005-2007)	<u>Republic of Ecuador</u>
26. Toomas Hendrik Ilves	President (2006-),	<u>Republic of Estonia</u>
27. Meles Zenawi	Prime Minister (1995-2012)	<u>Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia</u>
28. Hailemariam Desalegn	Prime Minister (2012-)	<u>Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia</u>
29. Martti Ahtisaari	President (1994-2000),	<u>Republic of Finland</u>

30. Jacques Chirac	President (1995-2007)	<u>French Republic</u>
31. François Hollande	President (2012-)	<u>French Republic</u>
32. Eduard Shevardnadze	President (1995-2003)	<u>Georgia</u>
33. Irakli Garibashvili	Prime Minister (2013-)	<u>Georgia</u>
34. Helmut Schmidt	Chancellor (1974-1982)	<u>Federal Republic of Germany</u> (West Germany)
35. Helmut Kohl	Chancellor (1982-1990)	<u>Federal Republic of Germany</u> (West Germany)
	Chancellor (1990-1998)	<u>Federal Republic of Germany</u> (Unified Germany)
36. Gerhard Schroeder	Chancellor (1998-2005)	<u>Federal Republic of Germany</u>
37. *Angela Merkel	Chancellor (2005-)	<u>Federal Republic of Germany</u>
38. Jerry John Rawlings	President (1993-2001)	<u>Republic of Ghana</u>
39. Tillman Thomas	Prime Minister (2008-2013)	<u>Grenada</u>
40. Antonis Samaras	Prime Minister (2012-)	<u>Hellenic Republic</u> (Greece)
41. *Mary Robinson	President (1990-1997)	<u>Republic of Ireland</u>
42. Brian T. Cowen	Taoiseach (2008-2011)	<u>Republic of Ireland</u>
43. Enda Kenny	Taoiseach (2011-)	<u>Republic of Ireland</u>
44. Shimon Peres	President (2007-)	<u>State of Israel</u>
45. Yitzhak Shamir	Prime Minister (1986-1992)	<u>State of Israel</u>
46. Yitzhak Rabin	Prime Minister (1992-1995)	<u>State of Israel</u>
47. Benjamin Netanyahu	Prime Minister (2009-)	<u>State of Israel</u>
48. Mario Monti	Prime Minister (2011-2013)	<u>Italian Republic</u>
49. Enrico Letta	Prime Minister (2013-2014)	<u>Italian Republic</u>
50. Shinzo Abe	Prime Minister (2012-)	<u>State of Japan</u>
51. His Majesty Hussein bin Talal	King (1952-1999)	<u>Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</u>
52. His Majesty Abdullah II bin al-Hussein	King (1999-)	<u>Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</u>
53. Raila Odinga	Prime Minister (2008-2013)	<u>Republic of Kenya</u>
54. *Atifete Jahjaga	President (2011-)	<u>Republic of Kosovo</u>
55. Cassam Uteem	President (1992-2002)	<u>Republic of Mauritius</u>
56. Ernesto Zedillo	President (1994-2000)	<u>United Mexican States</u>
57. Vicente Fox	President (2000-2006)	<u>United Mexican States</u>
58. Felipe Calderón	President (2006-2012)	<u>United Mexican States</u>
59. His Excellency Joseph J. Urusema	President (2003-2007)	<u>Federated States of Micronesia</u>

60. His Excellency Emanuel “Manny” Mori President (2007-) Federated States of Micronesia
61. His Serene Highness Albert II Prince (2005-) Principality of Monaco
62. Willem "Wim" Kok Jr. Prime Minister (1994-2002) Netherlands
63. *Helen Clark Prime Minister (1999-2008) New Zealand
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64. Olúségun Ọ́básanjó President (1999-2007) Federal Republic of Nigeria
65. *Gro Harlem Brundtland Prime Minister (1990-1996) Kingdom of Norway
66. *Benazir Bhutto Prime Minister (1995-1996) Islamic Republic of Pakistan
67. Pervez Musharraf President (2001-2008) Islamic Republic of Pakistan
68. Alan Garcia Pérez President (2006-2010) Republic of Peru
69. *Corazón Aquino President (1986-1992) Republic of the Philippines
70. * Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo President (2001-2010) Republic of the Philippines
71. Lech Wałęsa President (1990-1995) Republic of Poland
72. Aleksander Kwaśniewski President (1995-2005) Republic of Poland
73. Jorge Sampaio President (1996-2006) Portuguese Republic
74. Anibal Cavaco Silva President (2006-) Portuguese Republic
75. His Highness Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani Emir (2013–present) State of Qatar
76. Ralph Gonsalves Prime Minister (2001-) St. Vincent and the Grenadines
77. Macky Sall President (2011-) Republic of Senegal
78. Borut Pahor President (2012-) Republic of Sloveni
79. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud President (2012-) Federal Republic of Somalia
80. F.W. de Klerk State President (1984-1994) Republic of South Africa
81. Nelson Mandela President (1994-1999) Republic of South Africa
82. Jacob Zuma President (2009-) Republic of South Africa
83. Kim Dae-jung President (1998-2003) Republic of Korea (South Korea)
84. Lee Myung-bak President (2008-2013) Republic of Korea (South Korea)
85. José Maria Aznar Prime Minister (1996-2004) Kingdom of Spain
86. Chen Shui-Bian President (2000-2008) Republic of China (Taiwan)
87. Benjamin Mkapa President (1995-2006) United Republic of Tanzania
88. His Holiness Tenzin Gyatso Dalia Lama (1950-) Central Tibetan Administration (Govt in Exile)
89. Mehdi Jomaa Prime Minister (2014-) Tunisian Republic

112. Laura Bush First Lady (2001-2009)
113. Dick Cheney Vice President (2001-2009)
114. Barack Obama President (2009-) United States of America
115. Michelle Obama First Lady (2009-)
116. Joe Biden Vice President (2009-)

