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Foundation For The Carolinas and Charlotte Center City Partners to Co-Host Virtual “Sneak Peek” Premiere Episode of Oprah Winfrey Network’s “Delilah”
Community invited to join virtually; OWN series filmed and set in Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, NC – Foundation For The Carolinas and Charlotte Center City Partners will co-host a virtual sneak peek of the premiere episode of “Delilah,” a production of the Oprah Winfrey Network that was filmed and set in Charlotte.

This virtual community viewing event will be 7-8:30 p.m., March 2. Viewers must register to watch: bit.ly/OWNDelilahEvent. The episode will premiere on OWN at 9 p.m., Tuesday, March 9.

Mayor Vi Lyles and other city leaders will give brief remarks prior to the premiere. Following the episode, there will be a roundtable discussion featuring lead actress Maahra Hill, director/producer Charles Randolph-Wright, who is from nearby York, SC, and others.

“Delilah,” the original drama series from “Greenleaf” creator Craig Wright – who serves as executive producer alongside Randolph-Wright and Oprah Winfrey – stars Hill (“Black-ish,” “How to Get Away With Murder”) as Delilah Connolly, a headstrong, highly principled lawyer living in Charlotte. The show also stars Jill Marie Jones (“Girlfriends”), Susan Heyward (“Orange is the New Black”) and Ozioma Akagha (Marvel’s “Runaways”).

“I am thrilled to have the opportunity to share ‘Delilah’ with the beautiful city of Charlotte, and I am extremely proud to call this wonderful community my home,” said Randolph-Wright. “As a Charlotte native, I am so grateful for the incredible support we have received, including from all of the partners who have made this premiere event possible. We were welcomed with open arms from the beginning, and this extraordinary collaboration continues. Imagine ... a television premiere ... in Charlotte ... of a show that actually takes place here. I can’t stop smiling. Thank you, Queen City!”

FFTC President and CEO Michael Marsicano – who has known Randolph-Wright since they were friends at Duke University – said “Delilah” will be a great opportunity to showcase Charlotte.

“When Charles told me he was working on this project, I was excited for what it would mean for our community,” said Marsicano. “Our city has hosted film and television shoots in the past, but this is one of the few to use Charlotte as Charlotte. The city is part of the show, which will mean a national spotlight for our city.”

The Charlotte Regional Film Commission, a division of the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority, supported the “Delilah” project from its earliest stages, helping to scout locations, providing permitting information and links to crew, equipment and community resources. The organization, which serves 16 counties across North and South Carolina, functions as a hub of information for commercial, television and feature film projects

interested in the region. According to the CRVA, total reported film-related spending in the Charlotte region reached more than \$20 million in FY20.

Michael Smith, president and CEO of Charlotte Center City Partners, said his organization is excited to host the sneak peek and the roundtable discussion, which will also feature President of Tepper Sports & Entertainment Tom Glick and Charlotte City Council Member Braxton Winston to discuss the economic impact of filming in Charlotte.

“We are so pleased to have been the host to OWN, Charles Randolph-Wright, and the television series ‘Delilah,’” said Smith. “This offers incredible economic development and marketing opportunity for our community. Television storytelling as a medium offers powerful brand articulation, much like product placement. We want the world to have a deeper appreciation of Charlotte as a place to live, grow a business, invest and visit; hosting the production of ‘Delilah’ moves the needle toward that aspiration. Film and television productions such as ‘Delilah’ offer well-paying jobs, great applications for our creative community and means of growing Charlotte as a center of innovation, creativity, arts and culture.”

To register, visit: bit.ly/OWNDelilahEvent. Watch the “Delilah” trailer: youtu.be/2R9D1SS4oD4

About Foundation For The Carolinas

Founded in 1958, Foundation For The Carolinas is the sixth-largest nonprofit community foundation in the country, serving donors and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets of nearly \$3 billion, FFTC’s mission is to inspire philanthropy and empower individuals to create a better community. Visit www.ffc.org.

About Charlotte City Center Partners

Charlotte Center City Partners boldly envisions and activates strategies and actions that will assure Charlotte Center City is a welcoming and equitable, economically vibrant, culturally rich and beloved place for all. For more information, please visit www.charlottecentercity.org.

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