

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sand, Gravel Portrait in Washington Highlights Importance of Aggregates

NSSGA Sponsors Webcam of “Facescape”

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Oct. 4 – The largest gravel, sand and soil portrait ever commissioned by the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery on the National Mall naturally caught the attention of the **National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association (NSSGA)**.



The massive image, stretching over six acres, is the work of Cuban-American artist Jorge Rodríguez-Gerada. His “Facescape” is a composite portrait of more than one hundred people photographed in Washington, D.C., and is aptly called “Out of Many, One.” Creation of the piece began in September and will be on view during the month of October.

“‘Out of Many, One’ highlights the important role that stone, sand and gravel has in our country. Just as sand and gravel are essential to this portrait, aggregates are literally the foundation of our economy and society,” NSSGA’s President and CEO Mike Johnson said.

Chaney Enterprises, Inc., of Waldorf, Maryland, an aggregates producer and NSSGA member, supplied the 2,000 tons of sand required to create the image.

To support the project, the association’s Rocks Build American Foundation is sponsoring the portrait on a live webcam positioned at the top of the Washington Monument. [Click here for a link to the webcam.](http://www.nssga.org/WAMO/) (<http://www.nssga.org/WAMO/>)

Johnson added that the materials in “Out of Many, One,” sand and gravel, are the same essential raw materials needed to construct every home, building, road, bridge and many everyday consumer products.

“The aggregates industry contributes to the safety and security of the nation, but is often taken for granted. We are proud to support this amazing project,” Johnson said.

NSSGA is the leading voice and advocate for the aggregates industry. Its members – stone, sand and gravel producers and the equipment manufacturers and service providers who support them – produce the essential raw materials found in homes, buildings, roads, bridges and public works projects and

represent more than 90 percent of the crushed stone and 70 percent of the sand and gravel mined annually in the United States. Production of aggregates in the U.S. in 2013 totaled more than 2 billion metric tons at a value of \$18.6 billion. The aggregates industry employs approximately 100,000 highly-skilled men and women.

###

CONTACT: Bailey Wood
(703) 526-1095
(202) 557-1674 (m)
bwood@nssga.org