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ONLINE BMB100 HOLIDAY POP-UP SHOP NOW OPEN! STORE FEATURES LIMITED EDITION BEAR MOUNTAIN BRIDGE CENTENNIAL MERCHANDISE

Online Store Open Nov. 13 through 27

SHOP NOW

Fort Montgomery, N.Y. – As part of the Bear Mountain Bridge's upcoming centennial in 2024, the New York State Bridge Authority (NYSBA) is excited to announce the opening of its first online "BMB100 Pop-Up Shop" just in time for the holiday season. The e-commerce site offers a variety of unique gift ideas commemorating the 100th anniversary of the first vehicular span across the Hudson River south of Albany. The pop-up shop, open for a limited-time only, will run through Nov. 27, 2023, which is both Cyber Monday and the 99th anniversary of the public opening of the bridge in 1924, so act fast!

Dr. Minosca Alcantara, NYSBA Executive Director, said, "If you're looking for unique gift items for someone who loves the Bear Mountain Bridge, look no further. These items will help us all feel part of this historic moment, as we celebrate the centennial of this beloved Hudson Valley landmark. Happy shopping!"

The pop-up shop will include limited edition prints and notecards featuring the work of Hudson Valley artist John F. Gould (1906-1996) as well as his son Paul Gould. John Gould was noted for drawing and painting a number of scenes depicting the Hudson Valley's history, landscape, and infrastructure. The prints are inspired by earlier drawings Gould created of NYSBA spans in 1982, when commemorative tiles were produced to celebrate the Bridge Authority's 50th anniversary. As a special offer, those who spend \$100 or more on their order will receive a free, unframed copy of the Centennial Bear Mountain Bridge print.

Also featured is a custom "BMB100 - Centum" T-shirt designed by Ulster County resident, Jonah Perry, a student at <u>Ulster BOCES/Hudson Valley Pathways Academy</u> (HVPA). HVPA is an Early College High School program at the SUNY Ulster campus located in Stone Ridge, NY. This custom artwork by Jonah was selected as part of a partnership between NYSBA, <u>Historic Bridges of the Hudson Valley</u>, and Ulster BOCES/HVPA, which gave students the opportunity to utilize their acquired skills to design "BMB100" merchandise.

The online pop-up shop is being offered through a partnership with <u>Spectrum Designs</u>, a non-profit that is dedicated to providing meaningful employment opportunities to those on the autism spectrum.

They are a New York-based full-service custom apparel and promotional products business and a member of the Preferred Source program through the New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID).

A number of items will be for sale through the online store, including:

- Apparel, such as hats, T-shirts, sweatshirts, and onesies
- Tote bag
- Holiday ornament
- Kitchen apron

Many of the products are made to order and items will be produced and shipped out after the online pop-up store closes on Nov. 27th. Orders are expected to begin shipping out mid-December. Delivery by Christmas Day is not guaranteed.

The Bear Mountain Bridge was dedicated on November 26, 1924. It was a groundbreaking engineering achievement for its time, being the first vehicular bridge over the Hudson River south of Albany and the first suspension bridge with a concrete deck. For a brief period, it also held the title of "bridge with the longest suspended span in the world." Many consider the innovations with the Bear Mountain Bridge to have spurred a boom in bridge building in New York State and the entire country in the years following.

Other events and celebrations for the Bear Mountain Bridge Centennial are in the works. Please visit www.nysba.ny.gov/bmb100 for info.

About the New York State Bridge Authority

The New York State Bridge Authority (NYSBA) operates the Bear Mountain, Newburgh-Beacon, Mid-Hudson, Kingston-Rhinecliff and Rip Van Winkle Bridges. It also owns and maintains the structure of the Walkway Over the Hudson pedestrian bridge. The Authority receives no operating funding through state or federal tax dollars, with nearly all of its revenue coming through tolls. Tolls are reinvested back into capital improvements on the Authority's spans, ensuring these critical pieces of infrastructure can continue serving the Hudson Valley for decades to come. Learn more at www.nysba.ny.gov.

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