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CONTACT: Diane Charles
Vice President of Corporate Communications
Art Van Furniture
dcharles@artvan.com
(586)983-3022 office - (586)850-7332 cell



ART VAN FURNITURE TO GRAND OPEN CHICAGO'S BIGGEST FURNITURE STORE AT SHOWSTOPPING GALA WITH CHICAGO'S BIGGEST STAR, JENNIFER HUDSON, ON JULY 30!

Grammy Award-winning recording artist, Academy Award-winning actress and best-selling author to headline retailer's star-studded VIP event in Downers Grove

WARREN, Mich. (July 22, 2015) – “*Dreamgirl to dazzle Downers Grove!*” Chicago’s own Jennifer Hudson, who has earned worldwide acclaim as a Grammy Award-winning recording artist and an Academy Award-winning actress, will perform live for 1,000 VIP guests at Art Van Furniture’s grand opening gala in Downers Grove on July 30. The exclusive, invitation-only event will be held at the Midwest’s No. 1 furniture and mattress retailer’s spectacular, two-story, 112,000 square foot showroom, located at 1021 Butterfield Road. Currently under construction, it will be the largest Art Van Furniture store among the company’s 90 Midwest locations and the largest furniture store in Chicagoland.

“I told my team that if I were a younger man, I would be running this store,” said Art Van Elslander, founder and chairman of Art Van Furniture. “Downers Grove will be Art Van Furniture’s crown jewel in Chicagoland and the Midwest, and we are planning the hottest, most talked about event of the year to celebrate the grand opening.”

Hilary Farr, internationally renowned interior designer and star of HGTV’s “Love It or List It”, and Nigel Barker, internationally renowned fashion photographer and bestselling author of *Models of Influence*, will also be on hand to mix and mingle with attendees. Other VIP guests at the Art Van Furniture “Art of Style” soiree will include business leaders, city and state officials, vendors, buyers, and members of the media.

Art Van Furniture’s current Chicagoland locations are Chicago (Logan Square), Bedford Park, Orland Park, Batavia, Woodridge and Merrillville, Indiana. The company’s seventh store in the region opened in Naperville on June 25. For more information, visit artvan.com.

About Art Van Furniture

Art Van Furniture is the Midwest's largest furniture retailer and America's largest independent furniture retailer. The company operates 89 stores throughout Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, and Indiana, including freestanding Art Van PureSleep mattress stores, Art Van Flooring stores, and Art Van Furniture franchise locations as well as a full service e-commerce website. Founded in 1959, the company is family-owned and headquartered in Warren, Michigan. Visit artvan.com for more information.

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