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TRISTAR Acquires More Than 12,000 Signed Baseballs:

The World's Greatest Autographed Baseball Collection - The Kevin Keating Collection

HOUSTON, March 24 - When it comes to collecting and authenticating baseball autographs, there are very few people who possess the combination of knowledge, experience and expertise of Kevin Keating. Keating, the founder of Quality Autographs in 1992 (and his full-time business from 1999-2016), is widely recognized for his expertise in the autograph industry. In 2016, Keating left his own business to become a full-time authenticator for PSA/DNA, the leading authenticator of sports autographs, where he previously served as an autograph consultant since 2009 and now works as their principal authenticator. Keating has also written an award winning screenplay and multiple baseball books, including the current Amazon best seller, *Waiting for a Sign*.

One of Keating's contemporaries in the autograph industry is Jeffrey Rosenberg, founder and CEO of TRISTAR Productions, Inc. Rosenberg began collecting autographs in person as a 14-year-old collector in 1979 and parlayed that interest into his current role at TRISTAR, one of the leading sports autograph companies in the world. Rosenberg has overseen the signing of more than one million autographs by sports legends during his career.

Keating and Rosenberg share a passion for collecting autographs, especially from their baseball heroes of the past and present. For many years as a young collector, Rosenberg admired Keating as both an industry leader and collector due to his business ethics and acumen in the sports autograph world. When Rosenberg first met Keating, Rosenberg has said he knew he had met a kindred collecting spirit and someone with whom he felt an instant connection.

In 2018, Keating and Rosenberg began a discussion about the possibility of Keating parting with his beloved collection of autographed baseballs, meticulously accumulated over more than 30 years! Keating's incredible collection of signed baseballs—more than 95% which he obtained directly from their signers—is arguably the world's greatest collection of its kind and not surprisingly includes all the greats. From Mel Ott to Jimmie Foxx, Cy Young to Jackie Robinson, Thurman Munson to Honus Wagner. There were single-signed balls, multi-signed balls, inscriptions, vintage and modern balls; Keating had it all! A deal was struck, and now several months later, TRISTAR has announced that a small portion of *The Kevin Keating Collection* is now available to collectors to add to their private collections. All of the high-value signed baseballs in the Collection have been authenticated by PSA/DNA or JSA, and in some cases both. The autographed balls that are not as high in value include TRISTAR Authentication, as well as a Keating letter attesting to each ball's origin as an authentic item from his personal collection.

When asked why Keating selected TRISTAR to acquire his massive collection, Keating said, "I have known and trusted Jeff and his team at TRISTAR for many years and knew they would do the best job of placing my collection in the hands of collectors who would treasure each and every ball, just as I have for so many years."

Rosenberg said, "It is an honor that such a well-respected industry veteran as Kevin Keating would allow TRISTAR to become the home of his very personal and valuable collection. I am humbled by this task and know that we will make him proud by offering so many one-of-a kind pieces of sports history to collectors who will cherish them for generations."

Autographed baseballs currently available from *The Kevin Keating Collection* can be found on <u>TRISTAR's website</u>. For those interested in learning about *The Kevin Keating Collection* of autographed baseballs as they become available in the future, please sign up for the mailing list on the bottom of the <u>TRISTARProductions.com</u> home page.

Houston-based TRISTAR Productions, Inc. is the nation's leading producer of sports collectibles and memorabilia. With more than 300 autograph signings annually with the top sports superstars of yesterday and the brightest stars of today, more than 200,000 authentic autographed items are produced annually at TRISTAR signings. For more information about TRISTAR Productions, Inc., contact TRISTAR at 713-666-9595 / info@tristarproductions.com, mail correspondence to 4025 Willowbend, Suite 312, Houston, Texas 77025, follow TRISTAR on social media - Twitter and Instagram: @TRISTAR1 and Facebook.com/tristarproductions, or visit TRISTAR's website at TRISTARProductions.com.