

The Museum of Modern Art

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART RECEIVES \$40 MILLION GIFT FROM LEON AND DEBRA BLACK

NEW YORK, November 20, 2018—The Museum of Modern Art announced today a gift of \$40 million, made by Debra and Leon Black in support of the Museum’s capital campaign. The gift will support the Museum’s ongoing renovation and expansion project, which will add 40,000 square feet of gallery space, allowing the Museum to reconceive the presentation of its collection and exhibitions. In recognition of his extraordinary generosity, MoMA will create The Debra and Leon Black Family Film Center, which spans two floors of the Museum’s Ronald and Jo Carole Lauder Building and includes multimedia exhibition galleries and two state-of-the-art theaters.

The Debra and Leon Black Family Film Center is home to the first and longest-running museum-based film program in the world. With over 50 exhibitions, including New Directors/New Films, The Contenders, and To Save and Project, and 1,200 screenings annually, The Debra and Leon Black Family Film Center will host a rich range of film exhibitions and premieres with influential directors, actors, and other cinema enthusiasts.

“Debra and Leon Black are consummate collectors and distinguished patrons of the arts,” said MoMA Director Glenn D. Lowry. “We are delighted to recognize their generosity and long-standing interest in film with the naming of The Debra and Leon Black Family Film Center.”

“Throughout its remarkable 89-year history, MoMA has established the highest reputation in building a great film library, being at the forefront of film conservation, and leading the way with groundbreaking film openings,” said Leon Black. “As a lifelong lover of film, my family and I are honored to have our name associated with the Film Center of this great institution.”

Leon D. Black assumed leadership of the Board of Trustees as the Museum enters a new phase in its 90-year history, with the opening of the new MoMA expected in 2019. A Museum trustee since 1997, Mr. Black, as co-chairman of the Board since 2015, has been instrumental to the Museum’s newest building project and is active in the Executive Committee, along with many other MoMA committees, including Finance, Investment, and Painting and Sculpture, as well as the International Council and Chairman’s Council. He is an internationally respected collector, a generous philanthropist, and a longtime supporter of the Museum and its mission.

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