## DAVID ROCKEFELLER PLEDGES \$100 MILLION TO THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

## Largest Monetary Gift in MoMA's History Will Support Endowment

**New York, NY, April 13, 2005**—Glenn D. Lowry, Director of the Museum of Modern Art, announced today that David Rockefeller, Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Trustees, has pledged \$100 million to the Museum, the largest monetary gift ever donated to the Museum. The pledge will be used toward the Museum's endowment to help further its programmatic mission, secure its intellectual future, and insure its long-term financial stability. The current value of the Museum's endowment is \$475 million.

Mr. Lowry said, "For more than half a century David Rockefeller has demonstrated unparalleled generosity and commitment in supporting virtually every aspect of the Museum of Modern Art, from its buildings to its collections to its programs. This extraordinary gift represents the very definition of philanthropy--supporting innovative programs that transform society. Our gratitude to David for his enlightened and sustained support of this institution over many decades cannot be overstated."

Mr. Rockefeller's mother, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller, co-founded the Museum in 1929. Mr. Rockefeller said, "I have watched the Museum of Modern Art grow from an idea in the minds of my mother and her friends to its position today as one of the world's greatest museums. My association with MoMA has been among the richest and most rewarding of my life. My late wife Peggy and I always derived great pleasure from collecting beautiful works of art and during more than half a century of married life, we treasured our involvement with the Museum. MoMA has remained true to its mission to represent the finest in modern and contemporary art, which encourages openness and change. I am delighted to be able to support the Museum with this pledge and hope that it will encourage others to support our common goals."

## **David Rockefeller and MoMA**

Mr. Rockefeller has been a key benefactor through many phases of the Museum's development. For the current \$858 million Capital Campaign for the renovated and expanded Museum, he has donated \$77 million. His participation was instrumental in securing early and crucial contributions from the City and State of New York of \$65 million and \$10 million, respectively, and 55 gifts of \$5 million or more from individuals who are founders of the new MoMA.

The David and Peggy Rockefeller Building, housing six stories of galleries and overlooking the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden, is named in honor of Mr. Rockefeller and his late wife, Peggy. Mr. Rockefeller has been a member of the Museum's Board of Trustees since 1948 when he succeeded his mother and has served as Chairman three times, the last time from 1987 to 1993. He currently serves as Chairman Emeritus, and is active on many committees. David and Peggy Rockefeller have given many works of art to the Museum, including numerous masterworks of modern painting, drawings, and prints through donations, promised gifts, and by providing funds for purchase. Highlights include paintings by Pierre Bonnard, Georges Braque, Paul Cézanne, André Derain, Paul Gauguin, Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, and Paul Signac, as well as works of Latin American and contemporary American art. Works from the Rockefeller collection, including many promised gifts, were exhibited in 1994 in *Masterpieces from the David and Peggy Rockefeller Collection: Manet to Picasso.* 

Mr. Rockefeller will be honored this June at the Museum's annual gala, Party in the Garden, which will be held in the restored Sculpture Garden designed by Philip Johnson and dedicated to Abby Aldrich Rockefeller in 1953. Mr. Rockefeller has been a longtime supporter of the Sculpture Garden and events held there, such as Summergarden, a musical series. An annual corporate luncheon is held in his honor each March to highlight a member of the local business community who exemplifies Mr. Rockefeller's tradition of civic involvement and enlightened philanthropy. The Chairman's Council is an affiliate committee of the Museum, established by Mr. Rockefeller, comprised of collectors and patrons who provide significant annual support to the Museum.

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