Report of the Chairman of the Building of the Century Campaign

The Modern Wing opened in May 2009 to critical acclaim and enormous popular success. Following a more than five-year fund-raising campaign, the Modern Wing opened fully funded and endowed, with more than $400 million having been raised for the design, construction, and endowment of this historic building addition and related capital projects. The Building of the Century Campaign ranks as the most successful fund-raising effort ever undertaken by a Chicago cultural institution. The success of the Modern Wing and the Building of the Century Campaign is a testament to the leadership and vision of the Art Institute’s Board of Trustees, the dedication of the capital campaign committee members, and the inspiring generosity of Chicago’s philanthropic community.

As we conclude this landmark effort, we are truly grateful to the Founders and Benefactors of the Art Institute of Chicago for the 21st Century, a designation that hearkens back to Chicago’s early philanthropists. Building on the legacy of their predecessors, today’s Founders and Benefactors have secured the continued success of the Art Institute as one of the world’s premier encyclopedic museums. We are pleased and proud to acknowledge these donors in the Modern Wing’s Griffin Court, where they will be recognized in perpetuity for their unrivalled civic commitment.

We are likewise deeply grateful for the generosity of the Woman’s Board, the Auxiliary Board, the Leadership Advisory Committee, the Evening Associates, and the Community Associates. These boards and museum affiliates came forward to give additional support for the Modern Wing above and beyond what they provide the Art Institute on an annual basis.

Leading corporations and foundations joined this remarkable effort as well. Their contributions are an investment in the cultural life of the city and an affirmation of the special role the Art Institute has in the lives of Chicagoans. As we celebrate the Modern Wing, we would like to thank and recognize all of the donors who have made gifts in support of the Building of the Century Campaign.

Louis B. Susman
Chairman
Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Clockwise from upper left:
Life trustee David Hilliard and Celia Hilliard with Professor David McTavish of Queens University and trustee Anne Searle Bent at the opening of the Jean and Steven Goldman Prints and Drawings Galleries.
Trustee and gala co-chair Caryn Harris with Louis B. Susman, Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Marjorie Susman at the Modern Wing Opening Gala.
John Nichols and trustee Alexandra Nichols on the evening of the Modern Wing Opening Gala, pictured on the Nichols Bridgeway.
Life trustee John H. Bryan with Emily Rau Pulitzer and life trustee Lewis Manilow during the Modern Wing opening events.
Marlene Baumgarten with life trustee Richard Gray and Mary Gray at the opening of the newly installed galleries in the Richard and Mary L. Gray Wing.
Clockwise from upper left:

Trustee Kenneth Griffin and Anne Griffin on the Bluhm Family Terrace during the Modern Wing opening events.

Trustee Shirley W. Ryan with Corbett and Patrick G. Ryan at the Modern Wing Opening Gala.

Donald Kaul, trustee Barbara Bluhm-Kaul, and President and Eloise W. Martin Director James Cuno on the Bluhm Family Terrace.

Guests attending an event for the Founders and Benefactors of the Art Institute of Chicago for the 21st Century, in November 2008, included, left to right, Elizabeth Connelly, Midwest Regional Director, JPMorgan's Private Wealth Management; William M. Daley, Chairman of the Midwest Region, JPMorgan Chase and Co.; Bernadette Keller; Patrice DeCorrevont, Midwest Regional Manager, JPMorgan Chase and Co.’s Government, Not-for-Profit, and Healthcare; and Craig Duchossois and trustee Janet Duchossois.