

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADAA Supports Artist Museum Partnership Act with 50 Artists for 50 States initiative

Second event in support of the Artist Museum Partnership Act will unite New York City arts community and legislators in common cause

NEW YORK, February 4, 2009—Leaders of the cultural and political community will gather on **Thursday February 19th** to support the Art Dealers Association of America's (ADAA) initiative—*50 Artists for 50 States*. This national effort to encourage the passage of the **Artist Museum Partnership Act** will include pledges for the donation of 50 works of art by 50 living American artists, one for each state. **Robert Lynch**, President of Americans for the Arts, and **Richard Armstrong**, Director of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum will offer their remarks on this important legislation.

ADAA President **Roland Augustine** describes the Association's championing of the legislation, saying "We have an obligation to stand up for the meaning and importance of art in our public institutions. When artists are free to donate their works in the same way as art collectors, institutions all across the nation will see their contemporary collections grow and we will expand the audience for contemporary art in the United States."

Americans for the Arts President and CEO Robert Lynch has pledged his organization's support of the *50 Artists for 50 States* initiative stating, "Americans for the Arts is thrilled to support ADAA's important initiative in advancing the Artist Museum Partnership Act. For too long, artists have been treated unfairly by the tax code and our nation's non-profit arts institutions are suffering because of it. By not receiving a fair market tax deduction, many artists choose not to donate their works to non-profit collecting institutions. As a result, a large part of our cultural heritage remains in private collections and out of the public domain."

The event is organized in concert with ADAA's 21st annual **Art Show** to benefit the Henry Street Settlement. The 70 selected gallery exhibitions designed and executed especially for **The Art Show**, present cutting-edge works from the 21st century, alongside museum-quality works from the 19th and 20th centuries.

THE ARTIST MUSEUM PARTNERSHIP ACT

The **Artist Museum Partnership Act** is a bi-partisan effort that addresses the inequity artists face when donating their works to public institutions. Unlike collectors and arts patrons—who receive a tax deduction for the fair market value of artworks they donate—artists receive a deduction only for the cost of materials used to create the work, for example canvas and paint. The current law is unfair to artists, hurts museums and libraries around the country, and results in fewer donations of American art.

50 ARTISTS FOR 50 STATES INITIATIVE

The Association is coordinating pledges by some of the country's leading artists for donation to a museum in each of the 50 states, on the occasion of the passage of the **Artist Museum Partnership Act**. The artists will be chosen by an **Artist Selection Committee**, identified by ADAA, and will be announced over the coming year. *50 Artists for 50 States* will illustrate the profound impact the passage of this bill will have on communities by bringing American art to institutions throughout the country. In working to pass this important legislation, ADAA is joined by **Americans for the Arts** and the **American Association of Museums (AAM)**.

For more information, please contact Lily Mitchem at lmitchem@artdealers.org



**50 Artists for 50 States
An ADAA Initiative**



National Committee

Steve and Ann Ames
Eli and Edythe Broad
Ron and Ronni Casty
Richard Cooper
Beth Rudin DeWoody
Joel and Zoe Dictrow
Frances Dittmer
Stefan Edlis and Gael Neeson
Mandy and Cliff Einstein
Carla Emil and Rich Silverstein
Robert and Esta Epstein
Don and Doris Fisher
Glenn Fuhrman
Jack and Sandra Guthman
Diane and Bruce Halle
Marielise Hessel and Ed Artzt
Marguerite Steed Hoffman
Audrey Irmas
Don Kaul and Barbara Bluhm-Kaul
Jill and Peter Kraus
Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis
Leonard Lauder
Ray Leary and Melva Bucksbaum
Jennifer and Marc Lipschultz
Robert L. Lynch
Bob and Nancy Magoon
Lisa and John Miller
Amy and John Phelan
Ronald A. Pizzuti
Emily Rauh Pulitzer
Howard and Cindy Rachofsky
Anita and Burt Reiner
Mortimer and Jacqueline Sackler
Joan and Michael Salke
Robert and Anna Marie Shapiro
Jerry Speyer and Katherine Farley
Donna and Howard Stone
Fern Tessler
Joel Wachs

ADAA

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