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NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
AWARDS MEDALS TO LEADERS IN CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY
FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO EDUCATION


“What distinguishes our recipients tonight is that each has understood the importance of corporate identity with the arts. They recognize the importance of beauty to the needs of the spirit and to the nurturing of creative souls,” said Smith.

All four recipients have a long tradition of partnership with the Gallery. Their corporations sponsor major exhibitions and support educational programs and materials, such as teaching packets, brochures, and virtual classrooms, that complement the exhibitions.

CHARLES R. LEE

GTE Corporation has been a major supporter of the Gallery for the past twenty years. Its continued commitment is a result of Chuck Lee’s leadership in art and education. “We combine support for the arts with support for other aspects of education because society needs that cultural and ethical framework,” said Lee.


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During the Calder exhibition, GTE and the Gallery launched a virtual classroom on the Web for selected middle schools and high schools in communities where the company has offices. GTE has also made donations to the Gallery’s Patrons’ Permanent Fund and New Century Fund campaigns and has supported the Collectors Committee since 1980.

**LUCIO A. NOTO**

Mobil’s partnership with the Gallery reflects Lucio A. Noto’s sense of purpose. According to Noto, “In this shrinking world, we need well-informed, open-minded people who understand each other and appreciate each other’s values. That is what exposure to the arts produces.” Noto and his wife Joan are longtime supporters of the Gallery. He has been a member of the Gallery’s Trustees’ Council since 1996 and is an advisor to the Finance Committee of the Gallery’s Board of Trustees.

Exhibitions sponsored by Mobil have enabled visitors to explore diverse cultures. They include *Edvard Munch: Symbols and Images* (1978–79), *The Sculpture of Indonesia* (1990), *The Glory of Venice: Art in the Eighteenth Century* (1995) and *Mark Rothko* (1998). Mobil has also supported educational film projects related to the exhibitions, including *The Search for Alexander* (1980), *Suleyman the Magnificent* (1987), and *Art of Indonesia: Tales from the Shadow World* (1990). This year Mobil is among the supporters for the Gallery’s upcoming film on the only painting by Leonardo da Vinci in the western hemisphere, *Ginevra de’ Benci* (c. 1474), which is in the National Gallery’s collection.

**EDMOND J. AND LILY SAFRA**

For more than two decades, Edmond J. and Lily Safra have supported ten exhibitions at the Gallery, as well as the Gallery’s Fund for the International Exchange of Art. “To partake in the Gallery’s exquisite exhibitions was every time the realization of a wonderful dream,” said Lily Safra.


**PAST RECIPIENTS**


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