



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
ANNOUNCES AN ADDITIONAL**

## **\$40 MILLION OF FUNDING FOR THE EXPANSION PROJECT**

**TO DATE, \$90 MILLION HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE  
\$125 MILLION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

(WASHINGTON, D.C.)—David M. Rubenstein, Chairman of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, today announced an additional \$40 million in gifts for the Kennedy Center expansion project, including a significant leadership pledge from Michael and Noémi Neidorff and the Centene Charitable Foundation. Mr. Neidorff and David Rubenstein serve as co-chairs of the expansion project's capital campaign. With these new commitments and the initial \$50 million pledge from Mr. Rubenstein, \$90 million has been raised for the Kennedy Center's \$125 million campaign. As previously announced, the design and construction costs for the expansion project will be paid for entirely with private funds.

"I am proud the capital campaign has been extremely successful over the past several months," stated Kennedy Center Chairman David M. Rubenstein. "The generosity of the Kennedy Center's broad donor base will allow us to fully fund the project in the coming months. I thank Michael Neidorff for the hard work he has done as co-chair of the capital campaign. His generosity sets a wonderful example for others to follow."

Kennedy Center Treasurer Michael Neidorff is the co-chair of the expansion project's capital campaign. He stated, "It is an honor and pleasure to be chairing the Kennedy Center's capital campaign. I am profoundly grateful to the remarkable philanthropists who, through their generous participation, will enable the institution to enhance its facility while maintaining the highest level of artistic excellence."

Kennedy Center President Michael M. Kaiser stated, “Heading a capital campaign in the current economic climate is never easy and I thank David Rubenstein and Michael Neidorff for their continued leadership and philanthropy.”

With Mr. Rubenstein’s \$50 million lead gift announced earlier this year, the Center began a major fundraising campaign of \$125 million: \$100 million for the expansion and an additional \$25 million for major Kennedy Center programming initiatives during its design and construction. These initiatives include the Washington National Opera production of Wagner’s four opera *Ring* cycle that will take place in the spring of 2016.

The Kennedy Center’s expansion project will be constructed south of the existing facility and will include rehearsal space as well as dedicated classroom space and multipurpose rooms for the Center’s extensive arts education programs. Public access spaces will include gardens which will fuse the Kennedy Center with the landscape and river and an outdoor video wall upon which simulcast performances and other multimedia events may be projected. The exteriors will utilize translucent Okalux, glass, and Carrara marble, the same Italian marble which clads the original facility.

The expansion is being designed by Steven Holl and senior partner Chris McVoy of Steven Holl Architects of New York in partnership with BNIM Architects of Kansas City. The expansion is currently in design development and groundbreaking is expected in late 2014. Construction is expected to be completed in 2017.

### **ABOUT THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

Designed by American architect Edward Durell Stone, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is America’s living memorial to President Kennedy. Under the guidance of Chairman David M. Rubenstein, President Michael M. Kaiser, and Music Director Christoph Eschenbach, the nine theaters and stages of the nation’s busiest performing arts facility attract audiences and visitors totaling 3 million people annually; Center-related touring productions, television, and radio broadcasts welcome 40 million more.

Opening its doors on September 8, 1971, the Center presents the greatest performances of music, dance, and theater; supports artists in the creation of new work; and serves the nation as a leader in arts and arts management education. With its artistic affiliates, the National Symphony Orchestra and Washington National Opera, the Center’s achievements as a commissioner, producer, and nurturer of developing artists have resulted in more than 300 theatrical productions, and dozens of new ballets, operas, and musical works.

Each year, millions of people nationwide take part in innovative, inclusive, and effective education programs initiated by the Center, including school- and community-based residencies and consultancies, age-appropriate performances and events for young people, career development for young actors, dancers, singers and instrumentalists, and professional learning opportunities for teachers, teaching artists and school administrators. These programs have become models for communities across the country. The

Center's *Any Given Child* program works with selected local school districts and seeks to provide a comprehensive arts education to children K-8. The Center also has been at the forefront of making the performing arts accessible to persons with disabilities, highlighted by the work accomplished with its affiliate, VSA.

As part of the Kennedy Center's Performing Arts for Everyone outreach program, the Center stages more than 400 free performances of music, dance, and theater by artists from throughout the world each year on the Center's main stages, and every evening at 6 p.m. on the Millennium Stage. Announced in 2011, the *Rubenstein Arts Access Program* expands the Center's efforts to make the arts accessible to children, young adults, and to people who have little or limited ability to attend and enjoy the performing arts, enabling audiences to engage in more ways, at more times, and in more places than ever before.

**For more information about the Kennedy Center expansion project,  
please visit [www.kennedy-center.org/expansionproject](http://www.kennedy-center.org/expansionproject).**