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**STATE STREET CORPORATION SUPPORTS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON,
WITH \$10 MILLION—LARGEST CORPORATE GIFT IN MFA HISTORY**

Museum's State Street Fenway Entrance to Open in Spring 2008

BOSTON, MA (September 17, 2007) – State Street Corporation (NYSE: STT), one of Boston's premier financial institutions, has made a gift of \$10 million to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA). It is the largest corporate donation in the Museum's history and is part of the Museum's \$500 million *Building the New MFA* Campaign, for which \$415 million now has been raised. In recognition of this generous gift, the MFA will name the Museum's Fenway entrance—which has been closed for more than two decades—the State Street Fenway Entrance. It will open to the public in Spring 2008 and is the first major construction milestone of the MFA's Building Project. This gift, which represents a continuation of State Street's long-standing partnership with the Museum, will enhance the MFA's connection to its surrounding Fenway and Longwood neighborhoods. It also will enliven the relationship between the Museum and the Back Bay Fens, promising to renew the appeal of one of the great urban parks in the country—Frederick Law Olmsted's Emerald Necklace.

“State Street's generosity marks their enormous commitment to the Museum, the cultural community, and the City of Boston,” said Malcolm Rogers, Ann and Graham Gund Director of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. “Their gift recognizes our commitment to accessibility, and greatly enhances our efforts to connect with and celebrate our surrounding neighborhoods. It signifies a strong belief in the Museum's place in the life of Boston, and demonstrates an investment in the future of Boston's cultural vitality and its reputation as a world-class city.”

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Long a supporter of Boston's cultural development, State Street Corporation has been a corporate partner at the MFA since 1986. With this gift, State Street Corporation becomes a Museum Millennial Benefactor (representing giving of more than \$10 million).

Most recently, State Street Global Advisors, the investment management arm of State Street Corporation, sponsored the MFA exhibition, *Fashion Show: Paris Collections 2006* (November 2006 to March 2007). In 2000/2001, State Street Global Advisors was also a corporate sponsor of two MFA exhibitions, *Art and the Camera: The Photographs of F. Holland Day* and *Boston 1900*.

"We're pleased to support the Museum of Fine Arts at this important time in its history as it re-energizes its connection with Boston, the Fenway, and its neighbors through the re-opening of the Fenway doors," said Ronald E. Logue, Chairman and CEO, State Street Corporation. "We see the Museum's building project as an extension of its strong cultural leadership in Boston and its commitment to the communities it serves, which are values we strongly share at State Street."

The Museum of Fine Arts opened its granite Beaux-Arts building, designed by Boston architect Guy Lowell, on Huntington Avenue in 1909. (The Museum was previously located at Copley Square, from 1876 to 1909.) In 1915, the Robert Dawson Evans Wing opened, reflecting Lowell's original classical revival design. Its dramatic, columned entrance overlooks the Fens section of Olmsted's majestic green space, the Emerald Necklace. This entrance has been closed since the early 1980s, when the Evans Wing was renovated and the entrance to the West Wing became the main entry point for visitors when it opened in 1981. (In 1995, the Museum's Huntington Avenue entrance, which had been closed since 1991, also re-opened, welcoming neighbors to the south in Mission Hill.)

When it opens in Spring 2008, the north-facing State Street Fenway Entrance will welcome visitors through one of the Museum's original grand and historic entrances. This reinforces the strong north/south axis of Lowell's original master plan for the building, which was a key design element incorporated by Foster and Partners (London), architects of the Museum's Building Project. The design for the State Street Fenway Entrance features ramps on either side of the entrance for increased accessibility, new sidewalks, granite walkways, enhanced landscaping,

dramatic lighting, and contemporary reflecting pools with jet fountains. Working with Foster and Partners is landscape architect Kathryn Gustafson of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol Ltd.

The State Street Fenway Entrance will open to a lobby and ticketing desk as visitors enter the Museum. Continuing along, they will then arrive at the relocated Jean S. and Frederic A. Sharf Visitor Center (nearly 5,000 square feet), where they can learn more about the Museum's exhibitions and programs and plan their visit. The MFA's Building Project includes the construction of a new American Wing along Forsyth Way, the creation of the glass-enclosed Ruth and Carl J. Shapiro Family Courtyard, the development of new educational facilities and conservation labs, the renovation of existing galleries, and the addition of new visitor amenities. The Building Project is expected to be completed in late 2010.

Digital Images

Images are available upon request. Please call Kelly Gifford at 617.369.3540 or email at kgifford@mfa.org.

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The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), opened the doors of its red brick and terra-cotta building in Copley Square on July 4, 1876. Over time, the rapid growth of the collection made a new location necessary and the Museum hired architect Guy Lowell to develop a master plan for a grand, classical museum. In 1909, the MFA moved to its present Beaux-Arts-designed granite structure on Huntington Avenue. Throughout the century, the Museum continued to expand with such major additions as its Evans Wing (designed by Lowell) in 1915, and its West Wing (designed by I.M. Pei) in 1981. In 1999, the MFA commissioned the architectural firm, Foster and Partners (London), to develop a master site plan that would reflect the strong north/south axis of Lowell's original design while addressing the MFA's growing collection as well as the visitor experience.

The Museum's Building Project, supported by the Building the New MFA Campaign, will enrich the ways in which visitors encounter the Museum's great works of art, improve navigation through its galleries, as well as enhance and increase space for the MFA's encyclopedic collection, educational programs, conservation facilities, and special exhibitions. Funds raised in the \$500 million Campaign will support substantial building and renovation enhancements to the Museum, strengthen the endowment for programs and positions in perpetuity, and support critical annual operations. The Building Project is scheduled to be completed in late 2010.

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, is recognized for the quality and scope of its encyclopedic collection, which includes an estimated 450,000 objects. The Museum's collection is made up of: Art of the Americas; Art of Europe; Contemporary Art; Art of Asia, Oceania, and Africa; Art of the Ancient World; Prints, Drawings, and Photographs; Textile and Fashion Arts; and Musical Instruments.