



FOR RELEASE

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DAVID M. CHILDS NAMED CHAIRMAN OF MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY

Joins New President Vin Cipolla as MAS Enters Critical Era of Change

New York, NY – February 23, 2009: David M. Childs, the internationally acclaimed architect who served as a design partner and Chairman of Skidmore Owings & Merrill LLP, has been named Chairman of the Municipal Art Society of New York, succeeding Philip K. Howard, who for 10 years has served as chairman of the 115-year-old advocacy group.

Mr. Childs, who has been a board member of MAS since 1986, will work alongside new MAS President Vin Cipolla, a nationally recognized leader in the preservation, arts and business communities who joined the organization in January 2009. Mr. Howard will assume the role of Chairman Emeritus.

"We are honored that David Childs will serve as chairman of MAS as the organization enters a new phase of growth and influence in New York City," said Mr. Howard. "David's knowledge of New York City is unparalleled, and his expertise and judgment are widely sought. He is an urban champion, and, as Chair, will provide powerful leadership for MAS in its mission to achieve intelligent urban planning, design, and preservation."

"I am excited to take on this new role at MAS, which has been a tireless advocate of New York City and those who love it," said Mr. Childs. "MAS has an opportunity to provide invaluable guidance as the city evolves to meet new challenges and to further establish its position as a model for sustainable urban development and living."

Mr. Childs is the designer for the World Trade Center Freedom Tower at the World Trade Center site, and the new Pennsylvania Station at the historic Farley Post Office building. His more recently completed work includes the new 7 World Trade Center; Terminal 3 at Changi International Airport, Singapore; and Time Warner Center at Columbus Circle, which includes the Mandarin Hotel, a residential tower, a major retail center, and Jazz@Lincoln Center.

Examples of Mr. Childs' other completed projects include Worldwide Plaza on Eighth Avenue; the Bicentennial Redevelopment of the National Mall and Constitution Gardens; the U.S. Courthouse in Charleston, West Virginia; the Ben Gurion International Airport in Tel Aviv, Israel; the United States Embassy in Ottawa, Canada; and Tokyo Mid-Town, a five-million square foot mixed-use development for Mitsui.

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Among his many civic involvements, Mr. Childs has served on the boards of the American Academy in Rome, the Museum of Modern Art, and the National Building Museum. He has received Presidential appointments as Chairman of the National Capital Planning Commission and as Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Founded in 1893, MAS has achieved remarkable success in its history, helping New York City to maintain its unique character during its continual growth. Among its many accomplishments, MAS prevented the destruction of Grand Central Terminal and saved the lights, signs and theatres of Times Square. MAS also was responsible for the creation of New York City's landmarks law and New York City's planning commission.

Mr. Howard, a partner at the law firm of Covington & Burling, is a well-known leader of legal reform in America. He is the author of the newly released *Life Without Lawyers*, the best-seller *The Death of Common Sense* and *The Collapse of the Common Good*. He is the founder of Common Good, a national bipartisan coalition organized to restore common sense to American law, and he has long been active in New York City civic issues.

Mr. Cipolla, who assumed his position with MAS in January 2009, previously was President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Park Foundation and is former Executive Vice President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the country's largest historic preservation organization. In the private sector, he has been a six-time corporate CEO including three successful start-up businesses in media and technology.

Mr. Cipolla succeeded Kent Barwick as president of MAS. Mr. Barwick, who will take a one-year sabbatical before returning to MAS as President Emeritus, is a leading authority on planning and preservation, has had a long association with MAS, working with the organization in different roles from 1969 until the present.

The Municipal Art Society of New York is a private, non-profit membership organization that fights for intelligent urban planning, design and preservation through education, dialogue and advocacy. The organization was founded in 1893. For more information, please visit www.mas.org.

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