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75th Anniversary Gala to Launch Kresge Challenge to International House – Steven Rockefeller to Keynote

BERKELEY, CA – A lavish fundraising gala on May 9, 2006 featuring environmentalist Steven C. Rockefeller and honoring local humanitarian Martha Sam Hertelendy will celebrate the 75th Anniversary of International House, Berkeley and launch the homestretch of a $10M Campaign for which The Kresge Foundation has recently issued a $500,000 challenge. International House will be able to claim the $500,000 award from The Kresge Foundation only if it succeeds in raising an additional $1.5M by the end of December 2006 towards its campaign for building preservation, scholarships, programs, and technology.

Steven Rockefeller, grandson of “I-House” benefactor John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and chairman of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, will share details of his work promoting the world-wide Earth Charter Initiative and Martha Sam Hertelendy will be recognized for her extensive work with international organizations across the Bay Area as the House’s “Global Citizen of the Year”. Festive cross-cultural music and dance performances by International House residents and a delicious international menu planned by Narsai David will round out the evening, for which ticket prices and table sponsorships range from $275-$25,000.

The Gala is one of dozens of national and international events scheduled throughout 2005 and 2006 to honor the unique history of International House, Berkeley, that since 1930 has served as one of the nation’s first and most noteworthy co-ed multiracial living centers. Having housed over 60,000 alumni from 100+ countries over the years, its distinguished alumni rosters include Nobel Prize winners, United Nations diplomats, and world-renowned leaders that span the globe in virtually every professional and artistic field.

International House is a self-supporting 501c3 non-profit organization affiliated with the University of California, Berkeley. Its mission is to foster inter-cultural respect, understanding, lifelong friendships and leadership skills for the promotion of a more tolerant and peaceful world. The Kresge Foundation is a national foundation with $3 billion in assets that seeks to strengthen nonprofit organizations by catalyzing their growth, connecting them to their stakeholders, and challenging greater support through grants.

The International House 75th Anniversary Campaign has been shaped to preserve its unique purpose for new generations of scholars, and with the help of The Kresge Foundation challenge, every Gala ticket and gift will help further these important aims.

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