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Mayor Daley and Chicago Leaders Kick Off Unprecedented Alliance to Fight Global Warming With *Cool Globes: Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet*

Chicago (Feb. 6, 2007) – Leaders from Chicago’s corporate, public and nonprofit sectors will come together today at a kickoff breakfast for *Cool Globes: Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet*, the innovative outdoor art and education exhibit debuting this summer along Chicago’s lakefront. Among those attending will be Mayor Richard M. Daley, John W. Rowe, chairman, president and CEO of presenting sponsor Exelon Corporation, and John McCarter from the Field Museum.

Presented by Exelon, *Cool Globes*, in partnership with the Field Museum and the City of Chicago Department of Environment, showcases Chicago’s leadership as one of the country’s “greenest” big cities. The summer-long exhibit will display more than 70 five-foot-in-diameter globes, each depicting an environmentally important message and potential solution for global warming. One of the globes, “Innovation: Nanotechnology,” designed by Chicago artist Penny Feuerstein, will be on display at the breakfast, to be held at the Mid Day Club.

“I’m proud that Chicago has become nationally known for its leadership in protecting the environment,” said Mayor Richard M. Daley. “The object of Cool Globes is to get average people not only to think about global warming, but also to do something about it – to change their lifestyles and to put pressure on the people who run our businesses and make our laws.”

Support from Chicago’s business community

“Climate change is an issue that can’t wait, and we are excited about Cool Globes’ potential to convey the urgency of global warming,” said Rowe. “Exelon has been an early and vocal advocate for regulation of carbon dioxide, and, in fact, has already taken significant voluntary steps toward greenhouse gas reductions. We believe that Cool Globes will help others make changes and advocate for legislation that will ultimately make a difference.”

The exhibit represents an unprecedented collaboration between the public and private sectors, with heads of the four major environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, on its board and corporate sponsors that include Exelon, Pepsi, Walgreens, Medline Industries, NBC5, and Starbucks. Major artists, including Peter Max and Jim Dine, will design globes for the effort, and luminaries such as President Bill Clinton, Sen. Barack Obama, Jodie Foster, Leonardo DiCaprio and Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai will write texts to accompany the globes. One globe, “Use Your Feet,” will be covered in “recycled” shoes from famous athletes, from Baseball Hall of Famer Dave Winfield to Chicago Bulls, Bears, and Sky players.

“Mayor Daley’s environmental stewardship, along with the generous support of Exelon and other businesses, has allowed us to bring this exciting exhibit to Chicago,” says Cool Globes chairwoman Wendy Abrams. “It is our hope that *Cool Globes* will not only educate millions of viewers about global warming, but inspire them to do something about it.”

In addition to the aforementioned corporate sponsors, a variety of organizations are sponsoring individual globes, including Sony, Tecta Roofing, Goldman Sachs, and the World’s Largest Laudromat, which uses solar power, located in Berwyn. The *Cool Globes* program will also include a business roundtable in which the city’s business leaders will gather to discuss efforts to advance environmental responsibility in the corporate community, a *Cool Globes by Cool Kids* contest with student designed papier-mâché globes on display at the Chicago Children’s Museum, and an opening gala at the Field Museum, featuring keynote speaker Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. on June 2 kicking off the exhibit.

Cool Globes will run through September 2007, and is anticipated to draw millions of visitors to the city. At the conclusion of the exhibit, the globes will be auctioned and proceeds will benefit educational programs in the Chicago Public Schools, including Mayor Daley’s Chicago Conservation Clubs which focus on teaching children the importance of being environmentally responsible.

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