

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: HEATHER VIDULICH OR KELLY HUSAK; 561.278.0850  
OR HEATHER@SLATKOWHUSAK.COM

**WILLIAM A. MEYER HONORED AS OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISER**

***Association of Fundraising Professionals selects former Kravis Center and Quantum Foundation Board Chairman for 2017 honor***

**(West Palm Beach, Fla.)** William A. Meyer has been selected to receive the Association of Fundraising Professional's National Philanthropy Day "Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser" for 2017. Mr. Meyer will accept his award at the organization's annual Palm Beach County chapter luncheon, scheduled for November 17. His nomination was presented on behalf of the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts and Quantum Foundation. A kick-off reception honoring the award recipients, past and present, was held on October 17 at the Breakers.

Judy Mitchell, CEO of the Kravis Center, says philanthropy is Bill Meyer's true calling. His parents, Arthur and Sydelle Meyer were active philanthropists for decades and passed their values to their son. He has provided strong and sustained leadership in support of a number of local organizations including the Quantum Foundation, Palm Beach Philanthropy Tank, Jewish Community Foundation, Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, Historical Society of Palm Beach County, Meyer Jewish Academy, JFK Medical Center, Palm Beach Civic Association and more.

"Bill's passion for arts and culture is exemplary," said Mitchell. "He has tirelessly volunteered his time, leadership skills, expertise and financial resources on behalf of the Kravis Center."

Elected to the performing arts center's board in 2004, Meyer quickly rose to become its Vice Chairman, and then elected to Board Chairman from 2007-2013. Following his Chairmanship, Meyer became Treasurer and currently chairs the Operations Committee and serves on the Executive, Finance and Investment Committees and the Corporate Partners Executive Committee.

"Bill has also served on our Development Committee since 2004, and played a critical role in helping the Kravis Center meet and often exceed its fundraising goals each year," continued Mitchell. "In fact, while Bill was at the helm in 2007, annual fundraising hit an all-time high, exceeding its goal of \$5 million that year, despite a major downturn in the economy."

Part of the Kravis Center's mission is to provide the community with a comprehensive arts education program, to which the board allocates more than \$1 million annually. Over 60,000 students attend performances at the Kravis Center each year, and nearly 70 percent are from Title 1 schools.

"Bill is a proponent of this program, and always encourages both staff and the board in the decisions that enable the Center to have the arts education programs as an integral part of our operating budget and mission," said Mitchell. "Thanks to its fundraising efforts, the Kravis Center has been able to remain true to its mission and provide the community with these vital programs. We applaud the Association's decision to recognize Bill's efforts – his enthusiasm and commitment to the Kravis Center are legend."

A resident of Palm Beach since 1978, Meyer is currently chairman of Meyer Jabara Hotels with offices in Danbury, CT and West Palm Beach. Its portfolio includes 30 hotels with nearly 5,000 rooms in 12 states. He has also formed companies to build and operate Florida-based senior housing communities in Wellington, Tampa and Jupiter. In addition, he has developed a number of real estate projects within Palm Beach County. He and his wife Denise have two adult children.

The Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts is a not-for-profit performing arts center whose mission is to enhance the quality of life in Palm Beach County by presenting a diverse schedule of national and international artists and companies of the highest quality; by offering comprehensive arts education programs; by providing a Palm Beach County home in which local and regional arts organizations can showcase their work; and by providing an economic catalyst and community leadership in West Palm Beach, supporting efforts to increase travel and tourism to Palm Beach County. For more information, please visit [kravis.org](http://kravis.org).

###