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BMA ANNOUNCES SHORT LIST OF ARCHITECTURE FIRMS FOR MAJOR RENOVATION

BALTIMORE, MD (February 1, 2011) — The Baltimore Museum of Art’s Board of Trustees today announced the short list of Maryland-based architecture firms selected as candidates to work with the Museum on its ambitious \$24 million capital renovation. The following firms (listed in alphabetical order) were chosen to receive Requests for Proposals, the next stage of the selection process.

Ayers Saint Gross
Design Collective, Inc.
GWWO, Inc./Architects
RTKL Associates Inc.
Ziger/Snead LLP

“Each of these firms has a demonstrated ability to create outstanding design for complex institutional building projects and has experience working with historic buildings,” said Stiles Tuttle Colwill, Chair, BMA Board of Trustees. “Additionally, each of these firms is based in Maryland, which reflects the Board’s commitment to benefit Marylanders by creating jobs in construction and related industries during the three-year design and renovation period.”

In January 2010, the Board appointed an Architect Selection Committee comprised of Trustees and voted unanimously to award the project to an architect headquartered in Maryland. A Request for Qualifications open to all Maryland architecture firms was issued in late December 2010. The short list was developed from an evaluation of the submittals of qualifications received. The BMA will select the project architect in late April/early May 2011.

The BMA’s three-year phased capital renovation will bring significant improvements for visitors, including the enhancements of galleries housing three major art collections—Contemporary, American, and African; improvements to the East Lobby, and upgrades to visitor amenities. Much needed improvements in essential infrastructure, including two new roofs and a state-of-the-art building automation system, will improve care of the 90,000 works of art in the BMA’s world-class collection.

Significant public funds as well as private donations are making this opportunity possible. The project will be funded in part by a \$10 million multi-year commitment from the State of Maryland, as well as \$2.45 million in bond support from the City of Baltimore. Contributions to *In a New Light: The Campaign for The Baltimore Museum of Art* will contribute to the required match for the state’s funding.

The BMA is home to an internationally renowned collection of 19th-century, modern, and contemporary art, including the largest holding of works by Henri Matisse in the world. The Museum's 10-building complex, which was built during a span of 65 years from 1929 to 1994, encompasses more than 210,000 square feet. The project is slated for completion in 2014, the Museum's 100th anniversary. The BMA will remain open and will continue to offer free admission during the renovation to ensure its service to the community.

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