PRESS RELEASE

January 6, 2017

David Rockefeller Fund Commits $3 Million over Three Years to the Arts, Criminal Justice Reform, and the Environment

(New York) The Board of Trustees of the David Rockefeller Fund has announced a commitment of $3 million over three years to U.S. programs focused on art for social impact, criminal justice reform, and the environment, with a focus on climate change. These commitments conclude a strategic review process over the past two years and commit the Fund to multi-year programs and new grants.

For example, at its most recent Board meeting, the Trustees approved new grants totaling $850,000. Among the grants were three-year commitments to “anchor institutions” embodying the values and goals of each program:

**Arts.** In the Arts program, the Fund’s goal is to cultivate, showcase, and disseminate the stories of innovative art for social change. A new grant to A Blade of Grass ($150,000 over 3 years) will support a Criminal Justice Fellowship, which supports artists working at the intersection of art and criminal justice reform and seeks to support progress in this area.

**Criminal Justice.** The goal of the Criminal Justice reform program is to support bold new ideas and policy proposals for transforming U.S. detention and incarceration policies. A new grant to the Center for Constitutional Rights ($150,000 over 3 years) will provide seed funding for a strategic plan that combines high-impact litigation—on behalf of vulnerable clients—with strategic support of social change movements.

**Environment.** The Fund’s environmental focus is on supporting new ideas, initiatives, and policy breakthroughs in support of bipartisan U.S. climate leadership. A new grant to the Center for Climate Security ($150,000 over 3 years) will continue to build a bipartisan national security consensus about climate change impacts and translate that into support for comprehensive action on climate change.

According to DR Fund Chairman Michael Quatrone, David Rockefeller’s grandson, the trustees’ multi-year commitments “are emblematic of their deep concern for the long-term consequences of climate change, mass incarceration and other inhumane detention practices, and the power of art to heal and drive positive social change.”

“The David Rockefeller Fund believes in the catalytic power of strategic philanthropy to address unmet needs, launch big ideas, and support highly-leveraged partnerships, just as our co-founder still demonstrates in his philanthropy,” said Lukas Haynes, Executive Director.
About the DR Fund

The David Rockefeller Fund was established in 1989 by David Rockefeller and his wife Peggy to carry out their annual charitable giving in communities where they had homes outside New York City. In 2001, David Rockefeller expanded the Fund and invited his children and grandchildren and their spouses to take a more active role in the Fund with the idea of transferring to them the family’s philanthropic tradition. The Fund’s work provides a learning environment where more than two dozen family members are able to engage in dialogue and grant-making around shared topics of interest.

Vision

The David Rockefeller Fund is a family foundation inspired by the vision and generosity of our founders, David and Peggy Rockefeller, to foster and embody a more just, creative, and flourishing world.

Mission

We invest in catalytic ideas, people, efforts and institutions working strategically toward ecological regeneration, justice system reform, and art for social impact.

For more information: Lukas Haynes, Executive Director, 212-812-4300