



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**  
**Becky Mayad 214-352-1881**  
**Cell 214-697-7745**  
**bmayad@sbcglobal.net**

**T. BOONE PICKENS CONTRIBUTES \$10 MILLION  
TO THE MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE'S EXPANSION PROJECT**

**DALLAS (Feb. 28, 2008)** - Legendary entrepreneur and philanthropist T. Boone Pickens has contributed \$10 million to the Museum of Nature & Science to help construct a new facility at Victory Park in downtown Dallas. Including Pickens' gift, the Museum has now raised more than \$55 million in capital towards its current goal of \$155 million, which will fund the site acquisition, exhibition planning and design, construction of the new building, education programs and an endowment.

"I'm doing this for the kids," Pickens said, in a story that ran today in *The Dallas Morning News*. "I never was a Nobel candidate, but they all say they went to museums that tweaked their imaginations, and from there, they moved on to greater things. I think that goes for most all kids. A museum is a starting point for them, or it's a confirmation of something they've thought about a little bit and now it's elevating them to something beyond."

"Let's face it," he said, "young people are the future of the country. Every time you can give them a better chance to get to where they need to be, why not? I said at one time a dollar saved at my age is a dollar lost. So, go ahead and get it in action."

Pickens built the largest independent oil company in the United States and flourished as an entrepreneur after leaving it, generating hundreds of millions of dollars in the process. Among his lengthy accolades, *Financial World* named him CEO of the Decade in 1989 and the *Oil & Gas Journal* listed him as one of the "100 Most Influential People of the Petroleum Century." Pickens currently is the founder and principal of BP Capital and TBP Investments Management.

In 2006, his charitable activities, which included giving away \$175 million and the establishment of the T. Boone Pickens Foundation, placed him on the Chronicle of Philanthropy's list of top U.S. philanthropists for the second straight year.

"The Museum of Nature & Science is thrilled to have Boone Pickens as a partner in our effort to focus on the importance of science education to both kids and adults," said Forrest Hoglund, chairman of the Museum's Leadership Council. "His generosity is incredible; his passion for the sciences is invaluable."

Plans have been in the works for several years to build a new state-of-the-art museum to supplement the existing Fair Park facilities. The need for additional space became even more critical after the 2006 merger, unlike any in the nation, of the three cultural institutions -- the Dallas Museum of Natural History (est. 1936), The Science Place (est. 1946) and the Dallas Children's Museum (est. 1995).

The new facility will dramatically increase space so the Museum can showcase a wider spectrum of its valuable collections, present distinctive and innovative installations, incorporate modern

- more -

technology, host world-class traveling exhibitions, and greatly expand its educational programs for school children and the general public. Other major lead gifts include \$10 million from Hunt Petroleum, \$10 million from The Rees-Jones Foundation, \$10 million from the Hoglund Foundation and Family, and \$2.5 million from the Corrigan Family.

The approximate 150,000-square-foot facility will be located on a 4.7-acre site at the northwest corner of Woodall Rodgers Freeway and Field Street adjacent to Victory Park.

Groundbreaking is expected to take place in late 2009. For more information, please go to [www.natureandscience.org](http://www.natureandscience.org).

***About the Museum of Nature & Science***

*The Museum of Nature & Science, formerly the Dallas Museum of Natural History, The Science Place and the Dallas Children's Museum, is a non-profit educational organization currently located in Dallas' Fair Park. In support of its mission to inspire minds through nature and science, the Museum delivers exciting, engaging and innovative visitor experiences through its education, exhibition, and research and collections programming for students, teachers, families and life-long learners. The facility also includes the TI Founders IMAX® Theater and a cutting-edge digital planetarium. The Museum of Nature & Science is supported in part by funds from the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, the Texas Commission on the Arts and EDS. To learn more about the Museum of Nature & Science, please visit [www.natureandscience.org](http://www.natureandscience.org).*