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Robert Klein  
Chairman  
California Institute of Regenerative Medicine  
210 King St.  
San Francisco, CA  
94107

April 12, 2006

Dear Mr. Klein:

I understand that you, Ed Penhoet, vice chairman, and Zach Hall, president, are serving as honorary co-chairs of the "Reach for Tomorrow, Research Today" gala benefit May 22 to raise money for the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (CIRM).

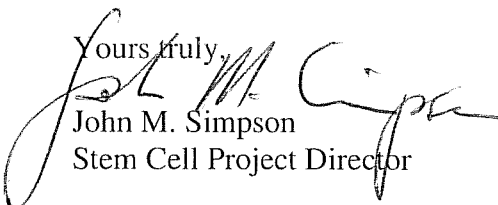
Purchasers of \$5,000 and \$10,000 tickets are being promised an invitation to a preview party, a VIP reception the night of the gala, two tickets to a private scientific briefing and a private tour of Mission Bay, Stanford and UCSF disease research laboratories. Who is most likely to afford and to pay for tickets? People and companies with vested interests in the biotech industry and the future of Proposition 71-funded stem cell research.

This method of raising funds is completely inappropriate. It smacks of selling special access and influence to well-heeled donors. Most Californians' comments are limited to three minutes when items are discussed at your public committee meetings and hearings. Now you are offering exclusive private access to those with enough money. This is not how a public agency managing taxpayer money should behave.

You and the other members of the Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee are entrusted with awarding \$3 billion in grants. CIRM must not create the appearance that a biotech executive -- or other person wishing to curry favor -- can do so and exercise undue influence by writing a big enough check.

CIRM must not solicit donations by offering donors benefits not available to the public.

Yours truly,

  
John M. Simpson  
Stem Cell Project Director

cc: Independent Citizens Oversight Committee



A Gala to Benefit California Institute for Regenerative Medicine

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**REACH FOR TOMORROW  
RESEARCH TODAY**

**Gala Benefit for Stem Cell Research  
Featuring Academy Award-winning Actress  
Julie Andrews &  
Award-winning Composer Marvin Hamlisch**

**HONORARY CHAIRS**

Ann and John Doerr  
Dagmar and Ray Dolby  
Doris and Don Fisher  
Lucy Fisher and Doug Wick  
Ann and Gordon Getty  
Richard N. Goldman

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. (April 4, 2006) – Stars of stage, screen and San Francisco society will turn out on Monday, May 22 for **Reach for Tomorrow, Research Today**, the largest event in U.S. history to benefit stem cell research. Proceeds from the event will go directly to the **California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM)**, the only state-based stem cell research foundation in the United States.

**HONORARY CO-CHAIRS**

Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Mayor Gavin Newsom  
Dr. Paul Berg  
Dr. Jeff Bluestone  
Willie L. Brown, Jr.  
Zach W. Hall, Ph.D.  
Robert N. Klein  
Ed Penhoet, Ph.D.  
Charlotte Mailliard Shultz  
Dr. Irving Weissman

"It is important to me to represent charities that have a far-reaching impact on our society and I believe the work CIRM does will have that impact," said **Deborah Strobin**, Event Chair for Reach for Tomorrow, Research Today. "There is great hope in the knowledge that Stem Cell Research can provide and I am frustrated by the incredible delays in enabling this research to take hold. I want this event to elevate awareness of stem cell research and its potential value to people like my husband who had very little chance to conquer his form of cancer."

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails and a black tie dinner in the San Francisco City Hall Rotunda, catered by Dan McCall of McCall Associates and will feature an elegant all-white décor by designer Lewis Sykes. The Honorary Chairs include Frances Bowes, Ann and John Doerr, Dagmar and Ray Dolby, Don and Doris Fisher, Lucy Fisher and Doug Wick, Ann and Gordon Getty and Richard Goldman – all community leaders who worked tirelessly to bring stem cell research to California and the public's attention.

**EVENT CHAIR**

Deborah Strobin

Following the formal dinner, guests will proceed to the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium for a visit with Academy, Tony, Emmy, Grammy, and Golden Globe Award-winner, **Julie Andrews**, who

- more -

Event Office: #5 Third Street, Suite 612 • San Francisco, CA 94103 • (415) 495-9130 Fax (415) 495-9133

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will speak about her life and career and will then entertain a brief question and answer session. Celebrity-filled performances will round out the evening with multi-award-winning composer **Marvin Hamlisch**, performing a solo concert that will include some of his timeless classics from *A Chorus Line* and *The Way We Were*, and Broadway stars **George Dvorsky**, **Rebecca Luker** and **Lee Roy Reams**, with **Larry Blank** and his orchestra accompanying.

The **California Institute for Regenerative Medicine** (CIRM) has a clear and simple mission: to fund stem cell research directed toward therapies for those suffering from chronic disease and disability. CIRM was overwhelmingly approved by California voters in 2004. Stem cell research is perhaps the most exciting medical technology of the 21st Century. Stem cells hold the promise of treatments and cures for more than 70 major diseases and conditions that affect millions of people, including Diabetes, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, cancer, Multiple Sclerosis, Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS), spinal cord injuries, blindness, HIV/AIDS, to name a few. CIRM is making solid progress: grants to 16 institutions in 2006 will train the next generation of stem cell scientists and clinicians; regulations protecting the public interest and ensuring scientific integrity are in place; and experts from around the globe are recognizing California as a new leader in stem cell research.

"We are grateful for the leadership of Deborah Strobin and her outstanding executive committee for their commitment to stem cell research and therapies," said **Zach W. Hall**, President and Chief Scientific Officer for CIRM. "At this crucial moment in our history their generosity and dedication to the cause of stem cell research is a source of inspiration to us."

**Reach for tomorrow, Research Today** takes place on Monday, May 22 at the San Francisco City Hall Rotunda. Cocktails will be served at 5:30 p.m., with a formal dinner at 6:15p.m. The gala performance will immediately follow dinner at 8 p.m. at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium. Individual tickets range in price from \$1,500 to \$10,000 for both the dinner and performance, and \$35-\$100 for the performance only. (See attached pricing sheet for a full list of table and ticket options.)

To purchase tickets, call City Box Office 415-392- 4400 or visit [www.cityboxoffice.com](http://www.cityboxoffice.com). For additional information, visit [www.reachfortomorrow.info](http://www.reachfortomorrow.info).

**Reach for tomorrow, Research Today** sponsors include: Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Bryan International Travel, *Nob Hill Gazette* and the Hearst Corporation.

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For more information and digital images, please contact Charles Zukow Associates:  
(415) 296-0677 / [charlesz@charleszukow.com](mailto:charlesz@charleszukow.com)

# REACH FOR TOMORROW RESEARCH TODAY

## Table and Sponsorship Packages

**Founding Chair**                      **\$100,000 Table of Ten or \$10,000 Individual Ticket**

Includes:

- Table of ten tickets for Dinner with priority seating for ten at Gala Performance
- Invitation to May 21st Preview Party
- Full Page Acknowledgement in Event Program (Deadline May 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Invitation to VIP Reception prior to dinner
- Two tickets to a Private Scientific Briefing
- Private Tour of Mission Bay, Stanford and UCSF Disease Research Laboratories

**Founding Benefactor**                **\$50,000 Table of Ten or \$5,000 Individual Ticket**

Includes:

- Table of ten tickets for Dinner with priority seating for ten at Gala Performance
- Invitation to May 21st Preview Party
- Listing in Event Program (Deadline May 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Invitation to VIP Reception prior to dinner
- Two tickets to a Private Scientific Briefing
- Private Tour of Mission Bay, Stanford and UCSF Disease Research Laboratories

**Founding Patron**                      **\$25,000 Table of Ten or \$2,500 Individual Ticket**

Includes:

- Table of ten tickets for Dinner with priority seating for ten at Gala Performance
- Invitation to May 21st Preview Party
- Listing in Event Program (Deadline May 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Invitation to VIP Reception prior to dinner

**Founding Sponsor**                    **\$15,000 Table of Ten or \$1,500 Individual Ticket**

- Includes: Table of ten tickets for Dinner and Gala Performance
- Listing in Event Program (Deadline May 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Individual Ticket**                      **\$1,500 per person**

Includes: One ticket for Dinner and Gala Performance

## Performance only

**Tickets:**            \$100, \$75, \$50, \$35