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PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM HONORS THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF WALLIS ANNENBERG

Palm Springs, CA (July 28, 2025) — Palm Springs Art Museum honors the life and legacy of Wallis Annenberg, CEO and Chair of the Annenberg Foundation, who passed away today at the age of 86.

A national leader in philanthropy, Wallis Annenberg advanced access to the arts, education, and civic engagement through her work at the Annenberg Foundation. Her commitment to cultural institutions and public service shaped communities across the country, including in the Coachella Valley.

The Annenberg family has played a critical role in the growth and success of Palm Springs Art Museum for nearly five decades. Their contributions totaling more than eight million dollars supported capital campaigns, exhibitions, education programs, transportation for school children, theater programming, and annual fundraising events.

The Annenberg Wing and the Annenberg Theater, named in honor of Walter and Leonore Annenberg, opened on January 24, 1976, as part of the museum designed by E Stewart Williams in downtown Palm Springs. The Annenberg Theater remains a central part of the museum's campus and serves as a venue for performing arts and film, including the Palm Springs International Film Festival and Modernism Week.

Palm Springs Art Museum is grateful for the Annenberg Foundation's longstanding support and leadership in advancing the arts in the Coachella Valley and beyond. We extend our deepest condolences and heartfelt thoughts to the Annenberg family during this time.

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About Palm Springs Art Museum

Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley. The flagship building, located in downtown Palm Springs, features compelling art exhibitions, a vast permanent collection, and the Annenberg Theater, all in a 150,000-square-foot, architecturally significant building. Five blocks away, the Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion, features exhibitions and programming that explore the rich topics of architecture and design. The museum's collection also contains two icons of modernist design: Frey House II on the mountainside behind the main building and Aluminaire House™ on museum grounds.