

ADLER)75

AMERICA'S FIRST PLANETARIUM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMED PRESIDENT FRANK M. CLARK ELECTED ADLER PLANETARIUM'S CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

CHICAGO – Adler Planetarium elected Frank M. Clark its new Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the 75th Anniversary Annual Meeting on May 12, 2005. Clark, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff, Exelon Corporation, and President of ComEd, assumes the position immediately, succeeding Donald C. Clark, Jr., an attorney in private practice.

In his new role, Clark will lead a dynamic group of civic leaders, scientists and philanthropists. On May 12, the Adler Board approved an ambitious new strategic plan to create the world's premiere space science center.

“Frank Clark is an outstanding choice to be the Adler’s Board Chairman,” said President Paul H. Knappenberger, Jr., PhD. “His commitment to Chicago’s cultural community is unparalleled and his leadership will be a valuable asset as we implement our new strategic plan.”

“I am honored to serve as board chairman for this world-class Chicago institution. I’ve enjoyed being a part of the board for the past several years and it is gratifying to take on the chairman’s role, especially in the Adler’s 75th anniversary year,” said Clark. “I look forward to engaging the City in building a 21st century science center to inspire the next generation of explorers.”

Clark was recognized with a special presentation as part of the Adler’s 75th Anniversary Annual Meeting. The evening featured several honored guests, including Captain James A. Lovell, Jr., honorary chairman of the museum’s year-long 75th Anniversary celebration.

In 2002, Clark was ranked as one of the 50 Most Powerful Black Executives in America by *Fortune* magazine.

Clark currently serves as Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff, Exelon Corporation, and President of ComEd. He is active with many civic organizations, including the Chicago Community Trust where he chairs a campaign to build a Legacy Fund for the African-American community. Clark also serves as co-chairman of the DuSable Capital Campaign, a \$24 million initiative to expand the DuSable Museum of African-American History and Culture. In addition, Clark has been instrumental in the revitalization of the Harold Washington Cultural Center (HWCC) on Chicago’s south side.

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FRANK M. CLARK ELECTED ADLER BOARD CHAIRMAN
PAGE TWO

Clark also serves on the board of trustees for DePaul University, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, University of Chicago Hospitals and Health System, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum and Metropolitan Family Services, Governors State University Foundation, Illinois Manufacturers Association, The Illinois Coalition, Big Shoulders Fund and United Way of Metropolitan Chicago.

Clark is a member of numerous civic groups, including the Governing Board of Illinois Council on Economic Education, the Chicago Bar Association, the Economic Club of Chicago, The Commercial Club of Chicago and the Executives' Club of Chicago.

Clark received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Governors State University in 2005 and an honorary doctorate of law from DePaul University in 2004. He also has received numerous awards including the National Humanitarian Award from the National Conference for Community and Justice, the Man of the Year Award from the Rich Township Business Association, the Rerum Novarum Award bestowed by St. Joseph's Seminary of Loyola University and the prestigious HistoryMakers Award in 2002.

Chicago business leader Max Adler founded the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum –America's First Planetarium – in 1930. Celebrating its 75th Anniversary in 2005, the Adler promotes cutting-edge research in astronomy and its fascinating history. The museum is home to one of the world's most important antique instrument collections and is the only museum in the world with two full-size planetarium theaters, including the world's first StarRider Theater. The Adler is also a recognized leader in science education, with a focus on inspiring young people, particularly women and minorities, to pursue careers in science.

On May 12, 2005, the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum will mark its 75th Anniversary by launching a year of celebration and a new direction for the future. A new mission will expand the museum's current focus on astronomy to celebrate human space exploration and America's space heroes. Through this new vision, the Adler will help inspire the next generation of explorers.

The Adler Planetarium is located at 1300 South Lake Shore Drive in Chicago and is open every day except for Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. For more information, call 312.922.STAR, or visit our website at www.adlerplanetarium.org

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