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## **JEFFREY R. IMMELT, CHAIRMAN AND CEO OF GE, JOINS BOARD OF THE RONALD REAGAN PRESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION**

**(SIMI VALLEY, Calif.)** – The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation Board of Trustees has announced the appointment of Jeffrey R. Immelt to its Board of Trustees.

“Jeff shares the same commitment to America and in teaching its values to students as Ronnie did,” said former first lady Nancy Reagan. “He will be a wonderful addition to our Board.”

Mr. Immelt is the ninth chairman of GE, a post he has held since September 7, 2001. He has been with GE since 1982. Mr. Immelt has been named one of the “World’s Best CEO’s” three times by *Barron’s*, and since he began serving as chief executive officer, GE has been named as both “America’s Most Admired Company” and one of “The World’s Most Respected Companies” in polls by *Fortune*, *Barron’s* and *The Financial Times*.

“Jeff is a world class leader,” said Frederick J. Ryan, Jr., Chairman of the Reagan Foundation’s Board of Trustees. “We’re honored to have the man who oversees the company President Reagan compared to his ‘graduate course in political science’ on our Board.”

From 1954 through 1962, Ronald Reagan worked for GE as host of a weekly television series, *General Electric Theater*, and traveled as a GE spokesman to 139 GE plants meeting more than 250,000 employees as their Goodwill Ambassador. As part of each episode, Reagan highlighted the work of these employees by promoting GE products like automatic dishwashers and electric can openers, products that were transforming American homes with the era’s emerging technologies.

GE is the presenting sponsor of the Ronald Reagan Centennial Celebration, a two-year-long celebration for President Reagan’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 6, 2011. GE’s participation in the Reagan Centennial includes advertising and promotion of the Centennial Celebration, money to support the completely transformed, state-of-the-art Museum at the Reagan Library which opens on February 6, 2011 which includes a new General Electric Theater that focuses on Ronald Reagan’s career in radio, television and film, \$5 million to launch and support a GE-Reagan Scholars program which provides 200 four-year college scholarships, a donation to the Reagan

Foundation of 208 restored episodes of General Electric Theater, an interactive internet presence and a series of public affairs lectures. To announce this partnership and to discuss Ronald Reagan's important role with GE, Mr. Immelt spoke at the Reagan Library on March 17, 2010. During that speech Mr. Immelt discussed the time in GE when the company was looking to hire a goodwill ambassador. Mr. Immelt remarked, "They were looking for someone who could do more than entertain people, but inspire them; someone who possessed that quality of character called 'moral fiber.' They found that person in Ronald Reagan." To see a transcript of the speech and to watch the video, please visit [www.reaganfoundation.org/pastevents](http://www.reaganfoundation.org/pastevents).

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation's Board includes Mrs. Ronald Reagan, The Honorable Frederick J. Ryan, Jr., Mr. Joe Allbritton, Mrs. Catherine G. Busch, Mr. Rick Caruso, Mr. Michael Castine, Mr. Lodwick Cook, Mr. Steve Forbes, Mr. Bradford Freeman, The Honorable Rudolph Giuliani, Mr. Robert Higdon, Jr., The Honorable Ann McLaughlin Korologos, Mr. J. Terrence Lanni, Mr. K. Rupert Murdoch, The Honorable Ted Olson, Mr. Gerald Parsky, Mr. Jim Pattison, Mr. A. Jerrold Perenchio, Mr. T. Boone Pickens, The Honorable John F. W. Rogers, The Honorable George Shultz, The Honorable Bob Tuttle, and The Honorable Pete Wilson.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the legacy of Ronald Reagan and his timeless principles of individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy, and national pride. It sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Presidential Learning Center and The Air Force One Pavilion. Located in Simi Valley, California the Library houses 63 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It now also serves as the final resting place of America's 40th President.

[www.reaganfoundation.org](http://www.reaganfoundation.org)

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