

The Menil Collection's *Corporate Conversations IV*

Featuring Keynote Speaker Dr. Michael Feinberg

Tuesday, April 17, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Luncheon Event Generously Underwritten by The Linbeck Family Charitable Trust

Houston, March 15, 2012—Menil Director Josef Helfenstein has announced that *Corporate*



Conversations IV, the signature event of the museum's corporate program, will take place in the Menil's foyer on Tuesday April 17th, 2012. The luncheon will feature keynote speaker Dr. Michael Feinberg, co-founder of the renowned Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP).

In addition to Dr. Feinberg's presentation, the luncheon will educate attendees about ways to support the museum and provide networking opportunities for Houston business executives. Menil curator Michelle White will also offer guests a private tour of the celebrated Menil exhibition, *Richard Serra Drawing: A Retrospective*, recently arrived from its triumphant debut at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York

"It has been a special joy and privilege to host this gathering of forward-thinking and enlightened members of our professional community," said Menil Director Josef Helfenstein, "and we look forward to making new friends in the corporate world. We are deeply grateful to The Linbeck Family Charitable Trust for making this year's event possible – and also singularly exciting."

Dr. Michael Feinberg will discuss the importance of the role of the arts in education. With David Levin, Dr. Feinberg founded KIPP in 1994, establishing KIPP Academy Houston a year later.

Today, KIPP consists of a network of 109 high-performing public schools around the nation, serving more than 33,000 students.

An Ashoka Fellow, Dr. Feinberg has been awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Yale University, the Thomas B. Fordham Prize for Excellence in Education, the National Jefferson Award for Greatest Public Service by a Private Citizen, the Charles Bronfman Prize, the William E. Simon Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Social Entrepreneurship, and the Presidential Citizens Medal.

Corporate Conversations IV is made possible through the generosity of The Linbeck Family Charitable Trust. Leo Linbeck III, executive chairman of Linbeck Group, LLC, stated “On behalf of Linbeck Group, LLC, we are pleased to support the Menil Collection’s *Corporate Conversations IV*. I encourage other leaders in the corporate community to attend this signature event in order to learn more about how corporations can invest in and partner with the Menil Collection.”

The Menil Collection has established a number of opportunities for collaboration with the most dynamic corporations in Houston, including the sponsorship of events, such as Men of Menil and “WHO R U?”, as well as membership in the museum’s Corporate Partners Program.

Created by John and Dominique de Menil, the Menil Collection is recognized as one of the most significant privately assembled art collections of modern times. The ever-growing holdings – more than 17,000 paintings, sculptures, drawings, photographs, films, and rare books – embody the founders’ belief that art has the power to touch the human spirit. Admission to the museum – as well as to all exhibitions and public programs – is free of charge, encouraging frequent visits. As Dominique announced on the Menil’s opening day in 1987, “Houston, this is your museum.”

Owing in part to investments from the corporate community, the Menil provides a means for Houston’s corporate citizens to assist the museum in continuing to offer these extraordinary opportunities to our city.

For more information write to press@menil.org or call 713-535-3170