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**Emily Couric Leadership Forum  
Announces 2018 Women's Leadership Award Winner  
EMILY KERNAN RAFFERTY**

Charlottesville, Virginia – The Emily Couric Leadership Forum will present its 2018 Leadership Award to Emily Kernan Rafferty at its Eighteenth Annual Emily Couric Leadership Luncheon. The award acknowledges an exceptional woman who exemplifies leadership in her profession and her community, with Emily Couric herself receiving the first honor in 2001. The Emily Couric Leadership Luncheon will be held Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 12:00 noon at the Omni Hotel.

Emily Kernan Rafferty, President Emerita of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, started at age 25 and served for 40 years at the Museum, as chief of institutional advancement, Senior Vice President of External Affairs, and as President from 2005 to 2015. In that capacity, she was the Museum's chief administrative officer, supervising a staff of some 2,000 full and part-time employees and volunteers. Ms. Rafferty's global experience in some 50 countries on behalf of the Museum included interactions and negotiations with many senior world leaders. In the U.S., she worked with government and private sector officials on initiatives involving funding, marketing, and multiple cultural issues.

Ms. Rafferty served as a Board member of the New York Federal Reserve Bank 2011-2017, (Chair, 2012-2016), and Senior Adviser for Heritage Protection and Conservation for UNESCO, 2015-2017. She continues to serve as Chair of NYC & Company (the city's tourism, marketing, and partnering organization) and Board member of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum. She participated as an Advisory Board member of the eight-women Bipartisan Congressional Commission for The American Museum of Women's History in D.C. (May 2015 - December 2016), and continues as an advisor to the Smithsonian for the advancement of the Women's Initiative project.

As principal of Emily K. Rafferty & Associates, she consults for many organizations including Russell Reynolds Associates in the firm's nonprofit practice and The Shed, a performing arts center under construction in Hudson Yards. She is an Advisory Director to Carnegie Hall, a Board member of Global Hope Coalitions and a member of the Advisory Board of The European Fine Arts Fair.

The recipient of many awards and honors, Ms. Rafferty was named by *Crain's New York Business* one of New York City's 100 most influential women from 2009 through 2013, and in Fall 2015 she was elected to their Hall of Fame. In 2012, she received the New York University Lewis Rudin Award for Exemplary Service to New York City.

**About the ECLF**

The Emily Couric Leadership Forum is dedicated to honoring Emily Couric's contributions to our community by encouraging all women to adopt an active role in government, public issues, and policy debates affecting their communities, and to inspire young women to pursue activities which will enable them to become effective leaders. ECLF is a Charlottesville Albemarle Community Foundation donor advised fund. For more information and luncheon ticket information, visit <http://www.emilycouricleadershiforum.org>.

Rafferty photo:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/2/?ui=2&ik=5d6fee09df&view=att&th=161d803d3d731f15&attid=0.1&disp=safe&zw>

