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Real estate philanthropist, Kent Swig, is Man of the Year

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In a fitting gesture to its half-century of good deeds and contributions to the real estate community, the Realty Foundation of New York will honor one of the top leaders in the industry, Kent M. Swig, as its "Man of the Year" at the Foundation's annual luncheon to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria, Starlight Roof on April 26, 2005.

Swig has been a Vice President of the Foundation for many years, contributing his time and efforts in support of their philanthropic endeavors.

"It is a special honor to be named The Realty Foundation of New York's 'Man of the Year,'" said Swig. "Jack Weiler, who co-founded this wonderful organization with Harry Helmsley, was my grandfather's business partner and our families have been partners since 1936. My family and our businesses have always been deeply involved with the Realty Foundation and, as I receive this award, I feel that I have come full circle."

Swig is an Owner and Co-Chairman of Terra Holdings, LLC, a company that owns and operates several real estate service firms including Brown Harris Stevens and Halstead Property, which combined sold more than \$6 billion of apartments and townhouses during the calendar year of 2004, and manage more than 300 buildings comprising over 20,000 residential units.

Swig is also a principal in Swig Burris Equities, LLC, an investment and development firm focusing on the acquisition and development of real estate in New York City and California. Swig Burris Equities owns and manages more than 2.8 million square feet of commercial office properties and over 1100 residential units.

Swig also serves as Chairman of The Swig Company, a family business that owns more than 11 million square feet of commercial office buildings and two of the more than 50 Fairmont Hotels.

In addition to his service to the Realty Foundation, Swig serves on several civic, charitable and industry organizations including Vice Chairman of the Real Estate and Construction Division of State of Israel Bonds where he was awarded Israel's Peace Medal in 2003 at its annual luncheon. In 2000, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York presented Swig with its "Man of the Year Award."

The Realty Foundation was created in 1954 by a group of leading real estate executives to assist indigent individuals within the industry. In 1968, the Foundation began the Scholarship Awards Program, which is now available to employees of member firms of the Foundation.

"Because of the Realty Foundation's unique scholarship program, they are able to assist our next generation to achieve their goals in terms of higher education, and I am proud to be a part of this," said Swig. "The Realty Foundation is truly vital to the well being of our real estate community."

The Realty Foundation has a distinguished Board of Directors, led by Chairman Larry A. Silverstein and President Jerry L. Cohen. The Foundation's membership is 75-strong, and includes many of the real estate community's most prominent members. Since its inception, the Foundation has disbursed over \$2,220,000 in financial aid and over \$2,300,000 in scholarship awards.

For information on purchasing tickets to the event, or on advertising in the Foundation's Journal, call Patricia Frank at 212-697-3943.

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