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**THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE RECEIVES \$1 MILLION GIFT FROM BANK OF AMERICA
TO SUPPORT THE FUTURE TRANSFORMATION OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE EXPERIENCE
AS IT EMBARKS UPON ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2024**

*Gift Expands Upon the Longstanding Commitment of Bank of America as
Presenting Sponsor of the Franklin Institute Awards Ceremony for 19 Consecutive Years*

Philadelphia, PA April 27, 2021—The Franklin Institute has received a \$1 million gift from Bank of America to support an ambitious new capital improvement project that will lead the Institute through its landmark bicentennial in 2024. The gift will help fund a series of bold capital initiatives, including the development of six new thematic exhibition spaces, and allow for a historic reimagination of the Institute’s iconic building and the visitor experience.

For generations of visitors, The Franklin Institute has been fostering a passion for learning about science and technology. This multi-phased project will uphold the Institute’s mission and seek to enhance the visitor experience by reimagining its experiential exhibits and digital infrastructure while keeping it a treasured cultural institution for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

“At a time when science and technology have never been more important in our lives, this is the moment to push boundaries, reimagine what’s possible, and begin to rethink the Franklin Institute experience,” said **Larry Dubinski, President and CEO, The Franklin Institute**. “We remain incredibly grateful to Bank of America for their belief in our mission, their longstanding partnership and philanthropic support, and their investment in the future of The Franklin Institute.”

This gift marks a significant milestone in the Institute’s long history of generosity and support from Bank of America, celebrating their 19th year as Presenting Sponsor of the prestigious **Franklin Institute Awards Ceremony**, held virtually on April 29, 2021. Bank of America’s commitment to the Awards program continues through 2024, and their increased support will bolster the daily work of the Institute to inspire and educate while contributing to the overall vitality of the greater Philadelphia region.

“Bank of America has long supported the mission of the Franklin Institute, including this next iteration of the Institute’s offerings and capabilities,” said **Jim Dever, President of Bank of America Greater Philadelphia**. “In the past year, we have experienced the power of technology and innovation in bringing people together during a time when they needed it most. We are confident that this reimagined visitor experience will extend beyond the walls of the Institute and serve as an asset to those in our community and beyond.”

- Learn more about the 2021 Franklin Institute Awards Laureates in this [short video](#).
- Watch the 2021 Franklin Institute Virtual Awards Ceremony [here](#) Thursday, April 29, 2021, at 7:00 pm.
- [Press Kit](#): 2021 Franklin Institute Awards + Franklin Institute Press Images

ABOUT THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE AWARDS

Recognizing extraordinary accomplishments in science and technology since the Institute was founded in 1824, the Franklin Institute Awards remains the oldest comprehensive science and technology awards program in the United States. Honoring extraordinary individuals who shape our world through their groundbreaking achievements in science, engineering, and business, its legacy virtually charts scientific and technological advancement through the past two centuries—from the development of the typewriter to the dawn of quantum computing. The honor roll of more than 2,000 Franklin Institute Awards laureates includes Nikola Tesla, Marie and Pierre Curie, Orville Wright, Thomas Edison, Max Planck, Albert Einstein, Frank Lloyd Wright, Stephen Hawking, Gordon Moore, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Blackburn, Steven Squyres, Bill Gates, Dean Kamen, Subra Suresh, Cornelia Bargmann, Jim Allison, and Frances Arnold. To date, 121 laureates are also Nobel Prize recipients. For more information, visit www.fi.edu/awards.

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

Located in the heart of Philadelphia, The Franklin Institute is a renowned and innovative leader in the field of science and technology learning, as well as a dynamic center of activity. Pennsylvania's most visited museum, it is dedicated to creating a passion for learning about science by offering access to hands-on science education. For more information, visit www.fi.edu.