



Altria Group is proud to be the Presenting Sponsor of *Forbidden City: Imperial Treasures from the Palace of Museum, Beijing* at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA). The landmark exhibition, exploring 500 years of Chinese history and culture, is the result of an unprecedented cultural exchange between VMFA and the Palace Museum, Beijing. VMFA is the exclusive United States venue for this exquisite array of objects—many never before seen outside of China—that illuminate life inside the ancient imperial palace during the Ming and Qing dynasties.

“We are proud to support the *Forbidden City* exhibition and congratulate VMFA on continually making Richmond an inspiring and culturally rich city. Our partnership with VMFA has lasted over 50 years because both organizations recognize the value that diverse, world-class arts and cultural programming brings to our community,” said Marty Barrington, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Altria Group and a VMFA trustee.

Altria and its companies’ past exhibition support includes *Chibuly at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts* and also *Picasso: Masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso, Paris*. Altria has a tradition of sponsoring major exhibits, bringing educational programs to patrons and contributing to campaigns that have made VMFA one of the nation’s top art museums.

Altria and its companies believe that investing in leading arts and cultural organizations in its key communities helps create vibrant and engaging communities. The company focuses much of its support on select major exhibition sponsorships that bring thought-provoking, world-class cultural experiences to its communities. And it champions organizations that inspire and reflect the qualities it values in its business operations – creativity, diversity, excellence and innovation.

Altria Group is a FORTUNE 200 company that owns the premier tobacco companies in the United States, Philip Morris USA, U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Company, John Middleton and Nu Mark, all headquartered in Richmond, Va. Their premium brands include Marlboro, Copenhagen, Skoal and Black & Mild. Altria also owns Ste. Michelle Wine Estates, one of the country’s top premium wine producers, Philip Morris Capital Corporation, an investment company; and has a continuing economic and voting interest in SABMiller.