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The Museum of Modern Art

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The Museum of Modern Art today announced the appointment of James C. Crimmins as Chairman of the Museum's Junior Council. He succeeds Mrs. Douglas Auchincloss and Mrs. Alfred R. Stern, who have served as Co-Chairmen since 1964. Founded in 1949 to extend the Museum's services to its members and to the community, the Junior Council is made up of 60 men and women volunteers. The activities they sponsor include operating the Art Lending Service, the Museum's Television Archive of the Arts, and recently with the New York City Housing Authority and the Park Association of New York City, the design and construction of three new playgrounds. The Council also arranges lectures and special film showings, publishes a yearly appointment calendar, commissions artists to design Christmas cards sold through the Museum, as well as special books on occasion.

Mr. Crimmins has been a member of the Junior Council since 1964 and has served on the Council's Executive Committee, Calendar Committee and several of its film projects. A graduate of Princeton University, he is now with the Promotion Department of Newsweek, Inc. Prior to joining the Newsweek staff he was President of the J. C. Crimmins Publishing Company, assistant to the President of Vector Manufacturing Co., an electronics firm, and held various positions at the Saturday Evening Post. Mr. Crimmins is also the author of a children's book, "Nicholas, the Boy Who Wanted to be Santa Claus," published by J. P. Lippincott, Co.

The new Chairman of the Junior Council was born in 1935 in Palo Alto, California. He attended the Town School in San Francisco and the Buckley School in New York. He and his wife, the former Marcy Tench, live in Princeton, New Jersey, with their three children, Ethan, 4, Samantha, 1 1/2, and Paige, who is four months old. In 1961, while living in Philadelphia, Mr. Crimmins helped to start the Young Member's Committee and the Friends of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

The Junior Council's program is administered by a permanent staff housed in the Museum's office building at 21 West 53 Street. A major continuing activity is the

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Art Lending Service which was established in 1950 to encourage the purchase of contemporary art. Members of the Museum may rent paintings and sculpture, and drawings and prints for two or three months with an option to buy; they may also purchase photographs from the Service. All works are selected, with curatorial advice, from more than 70 New York City galleries.

Among the many lectures and symposia sponsored by the Council have been poetry readings by Carl Sandburg, Katherine Anne Porter, Padraic and Mary Colum, Wallace Stevens and ee cummings; and a series of symposia on "Related Arts of Today" which touched on such diverse subjects as "The Art of Matisse," "The Poetry of Dylan Thomas" and "The Writer Looks at Painting." In 1959 and 1960, the Council sponsored a series of talks called "Dimensions" in which Dr. Paul Tillich, Dr. Theodore Reik, Professor John Kenneth Galbraith and Walter Kaufman participated. In 1965, the Council sponsored "Six Lectures on the Collections" in which the heads of each of the Museum's curatorial departments explained the aims and achievements of their departments to the public.

Since 1956, the Junior Council has published a yearly appointment calendar, using works from the Museum collections as illustrative material. The 1968 Appointment Calendar, will feature "Artists by Artists," portraits and self-portraits in all media, including painting, sculpture, drawings, prints, photographs and film clips.

Each year since 1954, the Junior Council has also selected the Museum's Christmas cards. Last year, the Council issued a limited edition portfolio, Etchings from Ecclesiastes by William Majors, with an introduction by Fritz Eichenberg. The Council has also published the Guide to Modern Art in Europe in cooperation with Pan American World Airways. The pocket-size paperback was recently re-issued by the Museum.

Additional information and photographs available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. Circle 5-8900.