

## Robert Hefner III



Robert A. Hefner III is the owner and founder of the Oklahoma City-based GHK Companies. He pioneered deep natural gas exploration and led the development of the innovative technology necessary for the successful exploitation of the Earth's deepest and highest pressure natural gas production, breaking many world records along the way. In the 1970s during a period of near unanimous industry and political consensus of natural gas shortages, he was virtually the lone proponent of America's natural gas abundance, now proven accurate many times over. Hefner holds a degree in Geology from the University of Oklahoma. He is a member of the International Council at Harvard's Belfer Center and a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society of London. He is an Honorary Trustee of the Oklahoma City Ballet and has a long history of supporting the arts in Oklahoma and around the world.

Since 1985, Hefner has actively pursued his interests in China and the areas of energy, foreign affairs, and contemporary Chinese art, developing the internationally known Hefner Collection of Chinese contemporary oil paintings. Hefner and his wife MeiLi founded the Robert and MeiLi Hefner Foundation, which sponsors cultural exchange programs for outstanding Chinese and American high school students.