

ATTENTION: IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION!
2008 DISTRIBUTION ALLOCATIONS
5.875% Cumulative Preferred Shares

To All Shareholders:

Set forth below is the allocation of net investment income, short-term capital gains and long-term capital gains for the 2008 distributions of the 5.875% Series D Cumulative Preferred Shares of **The Gabelli Equity Trust Inc.**

Please contact Marc Rinaldi at (914) 921-5070 with any inquiries.

		\$ PER SHARE				
		1ST QTR	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR	TOTAL
	Record Date	03/18/08	06/19/08	09/19/08	12/18/08	
	Payment Date	03/26/08	06/26/08	09/26/08	12/26/08	
SOURCE						
	Net Investment Income (a)	\$0.3671875	\$0.3671875	\$0.3671875	\$0.3671875	\$1.4687500
	Short-Term Capital Gains (a)	\$0.0000000	\$0.0000000	\$0.0000000	\$0.0000000	\$0.0000000
	Long-Term Capital Gains (b)	\$0.0000000	\$0.0000000	\$0.0000000	\$0.0000000	\$0.0000000
	TOTAL	\$0.3671875	\$0.3671875	\$0.3671875	\$0.3671875	\$1.4687500

		PERCENTAGES				
		1ST QTR	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR	TOTAL
	Net Investment Income (a)	100.0000%	100.0000%	100.0000%	100.0000%	100.0000%
	Short-Term Capital Gains (a)	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
	Long-Term Capital Gains (b)	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
	TOTAL	100.0000%	100.0000%	100.0000%	100.0000%	100.0000%

Ordinary Dividends and Capital Gains:

100% of the ordinary income (net investment income and short-term capital gains) paid by the Fund in 2008 was classified as "Qualified Dividends" subject to a maximum Federal tax rate of 15% for individual taxable accounts (or 5% depending on an individual's tax bracket). Ordinary income is reported in box 1a and qualified income is reported in box 1b of Form 1099-DIV. Capital gain distributions are subject to a maximum Federal tax rate of 15% for individual taxable accounts (or 5% depending on an individual's tax bracket). Capital gain distributions are reported in box 2a of Form 1099-DIV.

Corporate Dividends Received Deduction and U.S. Government Securities Income:

The percentage of the ordinary income paid by the Fund in 2008 that qualifies for the dividends received deduction available to corporations is 94.57%. The percentage of the ordinary income paid by the Fund in 2008 that was derived from U.S. Government Securities was 0.33%. The percentage of U.S. Government Securities held by the Fund as of December 31, 2008 was 4.88%. (c)

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- (a) Distributions from net investment income and short-term capital gains are taxable as ordinary income and will appear on Form 1099-DIV under Total ordinary dividends in box 1a.
 - (b) Taxable as long-term capital gains reportable in column (f), line 13 on Form 1040, Schedule D. Since there were no retained capital gains in 2008, Form 2439 will not be necessary.
 - (c) Certain states require that 50% of the Fund's portfolio be invested in U.S. Government Securities at the end of each calendar quarter to allow "pass-through" treatment of income derived from U.S. Government Securities. The Fund did not meet this strict requirement in 2008.