



For Immediate Release

KQED Announces Passing of Former Board Chair

Kermit H. Boston (1935–2008)

December 1, 2008—KQED learned of the sudden passing of their long-time board member and friend Kermit H. Boston. Boston served on the KQED Board of Directors from 1997-2002, assuming the role of chair of the KQED Board of Directors from 2001-2002. Following his tenure as Board Chair, Boston remained active in KQED's undertakings as an advisor and friend. Boston also served as KQED's representative on the board of the Association of Public Television Stations (APTS). In that role, Mr. Boston was a strong advocate for public television interests at the national level, as well as advocating for consistent leadership and information in marshaling support for APTS' members: the nation's public television stations. Boston was recently elected to a second three-year term on the APTS Board, serving as Lay Vice Chair and Co-Chair of the APTS search committee seeking a new President and CEO for APTS.

“Kermit was a great friend to KQED and to the people of San Francisco and beyond,” stated Jeff Clarke, President and CEO of Northern California Public Broadcasting (KQED, KTEH, KQET, KQEI). “He has always been engaged in the community and in the life of many organizations throughout the Bay Area. Under Kermit's leadership of the KQED board, he helped us prepare for the 21st century. He remained generous with his time, knowledge and wonderful connections in the community as an off-board member of the KQED/NCPB Nominating and Governance Committee after leaving the KQED Board. Kermit was a staunch volunteer at the national level as well, walking the halls of Congress on our behalf and as our voice on the APTS Board. He also provided us with sage and wise counsel along the way as a mentor and friend. We will miss him deeply.”

Boston was a senior partner at BKB Associates, Inc., San Francisco, providing professional development in management leadership and diversity, employee relations, and other areas of corporate education. From 1991-1999, Boston was Director of Corporate Education, Computer Curriculum Corporations/Simon and Schuster Technology Group, in Sunnyvale, CA, where his responsibilities included implementation of Management /Executive Development Programs and Organization Development Initiatives. He trained over 900 employees in the areas of Diversity Awareness, Solving Conflict and Recruiting for Results. For more than 20 years, Boston held various top management positions with McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, where he became the first African-American Corporate Vice President and General Manager of two revenue divisions. Boston began his career as a teacher before entering the world of publishing and media.

Boston dedicated his life to service and that is reflected in the many organizations where he dedicated his time and support. Boston grew up in the Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Germantown,



and became a member of their Trustee Board in 1964. He moved on from there to the Riverside Church of New York City, where he became the Chair of the Board of Deacons. When he came to San Francisco, he became a member of Grace Cathedral, where he was the immediate Past Chair of their Board of Trustees and was named Trustee Emeritus. He was past Chairman of the KQED Board of Directors, and served on the Boards of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, the vice president of Lay Community of the Association of Public Televisions Stations, a founder and vice president of the Bay Area Community Development Corporation, the Bishop's representative and board member of the Episcopal Senior Communities, Incorporated. He was a Life Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and a past president of the San Francisco Graduate Chapter. He was also a member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity – the Boule – and was immediate past sire archon of Beta Upsilon Boulé of San Francisco and was elected Regional Sire Elect for the Pacific Region in October, 2007.

Boston's commitment to his community can also be seen by many member organizations and affiliations to whose existence he contributed: Chief Learning Officer for Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity University, Past President, San Francisco Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; Past President, Board of Managers, Buchanan Street YMCA-S.F.; Chairman Trustee Board of Grace Cathedral, S.F.; Chair of Elkus Ranch Board, UC Extension; Member, Board of Directors, Black Executives, Exchange Program of the National Urban League; Founding member and Vice President of the Bay Area Community Development Foundation; and a Founding member of The Western Addition Literary Reading & Discussion Group. Boston's past member organizations and affiliations include: Member, Board of Directors, Literacy Volunteers of New York City and Member and Chairman of Board of Deacons, Riverside Church, New York

Among Boston's many awards are the James R. Ball Award from the American Society of Training and Development (ASTD); Outstanding Alumni of Cheyney University; Blacks in Industry Award from the Harlem YMCA; Gamma Chi Lambda Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha, "Man of the Year"; and the Business Achievement Award, Cheyney University.

Boston earned his BS in Education from Cheyney University, Cheyney, PA and his MS in Administration from University of Pennsylvania.

Boston is survived by his wife, Barbra Ruffin-Boston; daughter, Kimberly Ketchum of Tucker, GA; grandson Markus Alixander; granddaughter, Alicia Marie; sister, Jane Jordan of Philadelphia, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Memorial Services will be held in both San Francisco and Philadelphia. The San Francisco Memorial Service will take place on Tuesday, December 9 at Grace Cathedral, 1100 California Street. Acknowledgements from other organizations and Omega Services: Sigma Pi Phi and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternities will begin at 1:30 pm, followed by a Memorial and Service of Thanksgiving, beginning at 3:00.

Philadelphia services will be conducted on Saturday, December 20, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Germantown, 41 W. Rittenhouse Street Philadelphia, PA 19144. The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Omega Service will be conducted at 10:30 a.m.



The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations are made in Kermit's name to: Bay Area Community Development Corporation, Inc. {Scholarship Fund}, 595 Market St., Suite 2160, San Francisco, CA 94105

Or:

The Boulé Foundation, 50 Hart Plaza, Suite 750 Atlanta, GA 30303

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