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Contact: Meredith Gandy  
(415) 553-2116, [mgandy@kqed.org](mailto:mgandy@kqed.org)  
[www.kqed.org/pressroom](http://www.kqed.org/pressroom)

**KQED HOSTS A CELEBRATION OF DISABILITY CULTURE THIS OCTOBER**

- *Disability-Related Programs to Air on KQED Public Television Throughout the Month* -
- *Three Local Heroes to be Honored at Ceremony on October 29* -
- *Sponsored by Kaiser Permanente* -

**San Francisco, California, October 6, 2008** – This October, KQED proudly celebrates the culture, history, and political and artistic expressions of people with disabilities in the United States. This month-long commemoration includes unique programming and an event honoring outstanding local leaders who have given their time, creativity and passion to serving the disabled community.

The special evening of recognition, hosted by KQED and Kaiser Permanente, takes place on Wednesday, October 29 at the KQED Broadcasting Center from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. There will be a reception, a tour of KQED Broadcast Studios and an awards ceremony. The three honorees have been chosen based upon their commitment and contributions to their local communities and the Bay Area community at large.

The 2008 Celebration of Disability Culture honorees are: Charlie Dorris (Access Advisors of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco and San Francisco Chapter of the California Council of the Blind), Craig McCulloh (San Mateo County Aging and Adult Services/Commission on Disabilities), and Julie Venuto (LeConte Elementary School Inclusion Program).

KQED will air a selection of programs throughout October that explore a complex web of experiences and issues faced by people with disabilities—some joyful, some humorous, some inspiring and some painful. Some highlights of the month include:

- **Champions on Wheels** highlights five amazing human beings and extraordinary athletes. The action begins in Sydney and follows as they compete to make Team USA and represent the US in Athens' Paralympics four years later. It is a story of courage, determination, preservation, faith, belief in self, powerful athleticism, zest for life and a great desire to be seen as a person just like anyone else.  
*Saturday, October 11 at 4pm on KQED 9*
- **Including Samuel** takes a look at photojournalist Dan Habib and his disabled son Samuel. Before having his son, Habib rarely thought about inclusion, but now he thinks about it every day. Habib's documentary examines the educational and social inclusion of youth with disabilities as a civil rights issue.  
*Saturday, October 18 at 6pm on KQED 9*
- **Outsider: The Life and Art of Judith Scott** is an snapshot of the artist who is determined to share her inspiration. As a woman with Down's syndrome, who is deaf and does not speak, these sculptures are Judith's most complex means of

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communication. Her abstract works involve large, colorful, body-like sculptures made of objects and yarn.

*Thursday, October 19 at 2pm on KQED 9*

- **P.O.V. “Big Enough”** revisits people affected with dwarfism twenty years after they appeared in the film, “Little People.” From navigating everyday life to dating and marrying, they confront physical and emotional challenges with humor, grace and sometimes, frustration.

*Tuesday, October 21 at 11pm on KQED 9*

Repeats and more program listings and descriptions can be found in the KQED Celebration of Disability Culture Guide, online at [www.kqed.org/disabilityculture](http://www.kqed.org/disabilityculture).

**Kaiser Permanente** is America's leading integrated health plan. Founded in 1945, it is a not-for-profit, group practice prepayment program headquartered in Oakland, Calif. Kaiser Permanente serves the health care needs of nearly 8.7 million members in nine states and the District of Columbia. Today it encompasses the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and their subsidiaries, and the Permanente Medical Groups. Nationwide, Kaiser Permanente includes approximately 160,000 employees and more than 14,000 physicians representing all specialties. The organization's Labor Management Partnership is the largest health care partnership in the United States. It governs more than 130,000 workers, managers, physicians and dentists working together to make Kaiser Permanente the best place to receive care and the best place to work. For more Kaiser Permanente news, visit the KP News Center at [www.kp.org/newscenter](http://www.kp.org/newscenter).

**KQED** ([www.kqed.org](http://www.kqed.org)) is a service of Northern California Public Broadcasting, Inc. (NCPB). KQED Public Television 9, the nation's most-watched public television station, is the producer of local and national series such as *QUEST*; *Check, Please! Bay Area*; *Jacques Pepin: Fast Food My Way*; and *Jean-Michel Cousteau: Ocean Adventures*. KQED's digital television channels include KQED HD, KQED Life, KQED World, KQED Kids and KQED V-me, and are available 24/7 on Comcast. KQED Public Radio, home of *Forum with Michael Krasny* and *The California Report*, is the most-listened-to public radio station in the nation with an award-winning news and public affairs program service (88.5 FM in San Francisco and 89.3 FM in Sacramento). KQED Education Network brings the impact of KQED to thousands of teachers, students, parents and the general public through workshops, community screenings and multimedia resources. KQED Interactive offers video and audio podcasts and live radio stream at [www.kqed.org](http://www.kqed.org), featuring unique content on one of the most-visited station sites in public broadcasting.

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