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**KQED CELEBRATES LATINO HERITAGE MONTH WITH YOUTH SPIRIT AWARDS
--Three Local Heroes to be Honored by KQED and Kaiser Permanente in an Awards
Ceremony at Chabot Space & Science Center--**

San Francisco, California, September 22, 2008-- KQED proudly celebrates the culture, heritage and impact of the Latino experience in the United States with an event honoring outstanding individuals in the Latino youth community.

The special day of recognition, hosted by KQED and Kaiser Permanente, takes place on Saturday, September 27 at 2pm at the Chabot Space & Science Center in Oakland. There will be live entertainment by La Familia Pena-Govea and an awards ceremony at 2pm. The three honorees have been chosen from community nominations of young leaders, ages eleven and older, or adults who lead the young.

The 2008 Latino Heritage Month Youth Spirit honorees are: **Gabriel Gutierrez** (Herman Intermediate School), **Jorge Lopez** (Oakland Charter Academy), and **Michelle Martinez** (Carlmont High School).

Latino Heritage Month programs and resources are listed in KQED's online Latino Heritage Month Resource Guide with program listings and descriptions in English and Spanish. To download a copy or to learn more about our Latino Heritage Month programs and events, visit <http://www.kqed.org/heritage/>.

Chabot Space & Science Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit interactive science center whose mission is to inspire and educate students of all ages about Planet Earth and the Universe. Founded in 1883 and currently celebrating its 125th anniversary, the Center is located at 10000 Skyline Blvd. just off Highway 13 in the Oakland hills. For more information, visit www.chabotspace.org.

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 not-for-profit Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and their subsidiaries, and the for-profit Permanente Medical Groups. Nationwide, Kaiser Permanente includes approximately 160,000 technical, administrative and clerical employees and caregivers, and more than 13,000 physicians representing all specialties. The organization's health care Labor Management Partnership is the largest health care partnership in the United States. It governs how more than 130,000 workers, managers, physicians and dentists work 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.

KQED (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

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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, featuring unique content on one of the most-visited station sites in public broadcasting.

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