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WQED PITTSBURGH AND THE DOMINION FOUNDATION CELEBRATE VOLUNTEERS IN THE ARTS

WQED Multimedia and The Dominion Foundation
present

A Year of Volunteers

A special luncheon celebrating the contributions of the 2009 Dominion VITA Award winners

Thursday, October 29, 2009

11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**David L. Lawrence Convention Center
Second Floor, Concourse C
Downtown Pittsburgh**

PITTSBURGH - For 21 years, the Dominion VITA (Volunteer In the Arts) Award, coordinated by WQED Multimedia, has honored dedicated individuals who have given their time and talents to ensure that the arts thrive in our region.

The Dominion VITA Award was established in 1988 to recognize the efforts of volunteers of all ages who give of themselves to help keep arts and cultural programs in Western Pennsylvania alive and thriving.

Each year, VITA awardees are selected from hundreds of nominations received. A committee of Pittsburgh area professionals interested in cultivating the invaluable volunteer arts force selects the winners.

“The VITA Awards showcase the importance of volunteers to our community,” said Deborah L. Acklin, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of WQED Multimedia. “They are the backbone of any nonprofit organization, and they have been responsible for the success of WQED and many arts organizations throughout the region.”

The 2009 Dominion VITA Award winners are:

- **Roberta Horwitz – Point Park University’s Pittsburgh Playhouse**
- **Luethel Kormanski – Altoona Symphony Orchestra**
- **Edie Moser – Pittsburgh Cultural Trust**
- **Richard Pierchalski – Polish Cultural Council**
- **Harley Trice – Westmoreland Museum of American Art**
- **Sandee Gertz Umbach – Washington Community Arts & Cultural Center**

The Dominion VITA Award was established in 1988 to recognize the efforts of volunteers who give of themselves to help keep arts and cultural programs in western Pennsylvania alive and thriving. Since its inception Dominion has honored more than 200 volunteers from 155 arts organizations throughout western Pennsylvania.

Dominion is one of the nation's largest producers and transporters of energy, with a portfolio of more than 27,500 megawatts of generation. Dominion operates the nation's largest natural gas storage systems and serves retail energy customers in 12 states. For more information about Dominion, visit the company's Web site at www.dom.com

WQED Pittsburgh, honored with the 2007 and 2006 Mid-Atlantic Emmy® Award for Station Excellence, was founded in 1954 as the nation’s first community-supported broadcaster. WQED creates, produces and distributes quality programs, products and services to engage, inform, educate and entertain the public within its community and around the world. WQED Pittsburgh is one of the first broadcasters in the country to be fully high-definition (HD) in its studio and field production capabilities. It is the parent company of WQED-TV (PBS); WQED: The Neighborhood Channel; WQED: The Create Channel; WQEX-TV (A ShopNBC affiliate); Classical WQED-FM 89.3/Pittsburgh; Classical WQED-FM 89.7/Johnstown; local and national television and radio productions; WQED Interactive (www.wqed.org); and The WQED Education Department.

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