



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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***Remember Them* Project Provides Humanitarian Education to the World Through Monument and Curriculum**

Oakland Project challenges us to honor & emulate 25 people who changed the world

Oakland, Calif. — The *Remember Them: Champions for Humanity* project is an inspirational and educational project that has as its centerpiece a world-class monument featuring 25 humanitarians. *Remember Them* has also developed a captivating platform for educators to introduce the concepts of human rights, peace and freedom through curricular materials developed in cooperation with the King Institute at Stanford University.

Oakland artist Mario Chiodo developed the concept and committed himself to the project after the fateful events of 9/11. The educational monument has been completely funded through private donations, with Chiodo donating his sculpting time, while the educational components and unique visually impaired art feature are currently still in the fundraising process.

Remember Them is a nonprofit project of the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization. Major supporters include Kaiser Permanente, The Clorox Company, Wells Fargo, AT&T, Dignity Health, Bank of America, Rotary International #3 (Oakland), Securitas, Ramsell, The Whalen Family Foundation, Horizon Beverage, and others.

The first three sections of the four piece *Remember Them* monument were unveiled September 6, 2011 at the Henry J. Kaiser Memorial Park in downtown Oakland. The four-piece sculpture will stand 52 feet wide by 33 feet tall, cover 1,000 square feet and use over 40,000 lbs. of bronze. A special feature for the visually impaired will allow visitors to explore life-sized bronze busts of each humanitarian. We look forward to the completion of the remaining elements in order to donate the monument, in its entirety, not only to the City of Oakland, but also the world.

The *Remember Them* educational monument is:

- The largest cast bronze representational sculpture west of the Mississippi
- The first grouping in the United States of international humanitarian portraits
- The first representational monument in the United States that honors diversity

“I have chosen these humanitarians because, regardless of their individual backgrounds or missions, they share the common threads of courage, perseverance, education, sacrifice and a sincere desire to strive for a better life for all,” Chiodo says. “From the vast numbers of humanitarians in the world worth being acknowledged, this unique grouping offers 25 individuals who have touched my heart and inspired me in times of darkness.”

Remember Them encourages us to not only explore the lives of humanitarians honored on the monument and in the curriculum, but also challenges us to make our contributions to causes within our own communities and beyond.

Visit *Remember Them: Champions for Humanity* at www.remember-them.org for information and images.



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Remember Them: Champions for Humanity **Project Facts, Figures & Firsts**

Remember Them Educational Monument Facts:

- A world-class educational monument featuring sculptures of 25 humanitarians
- Location: The Henry J. Kaiser Sculpture Park in Uptown, downtown Oakland
- The four-piece sculpture will stand 52 feet wide by 33 feet tall
- The monument will cover 1,000 square feet and use over 40,000 pounds of bronze
- A visually impaired feature will allow visitors to touch and feel the faces of the 25 humanitarians in one place, and will include quotes in Braille
- The monument is designed on a spiraling axis emulating the helix of the common DNA of all humans
- The base will include sculptures of books to illustrate the importance of education in the lives and work of all of the humanitarians
- The base will also feature fourteen Local Champions proving that heroes exist within our communities

Remember Them Educational Components:

- Educational Curricula was developed collaboratively with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute at Stanford University as part of its Global Liberation Project.
- The curricula was developed for use in 9-12 classrooms throughout OUSD, and will be available for free to the world at www.remember-them.org.
- School field trips are in progress to learn about the 25 humanitarians and the art process.
- Art Internships at Chiodo Art Development through the East Bay YMCA have allowed students to assist with the development of the educational monument.
- A commemorative book will feature biographies and quotes of the 25 *Remember Them* humanitarians.
- A full-length documentary was created about the monument with brief stories about the humanitarians.
- The National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tenn., will permanently display small-scale casting of the educational monument in their museum.

Remember Them Monument Firsts

The *Remember Them* educational monument will be the:

- Largest cast bronze representational sculpture west of the Mississippi
- First grouping in the United States of international humanitarian portraits
- First representational monument in the United States that honors diversity
- First depiction of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King in a sculpture together
- First time that "March on Selma" figures, including Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, and Ralph Abernathy have been sculpted and placed in a public setting
- Largest sculptures in the world of Maya Angelou, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Mother Teresa, and Thich Nhat Hanh

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Remember Them: Champions for Humanity **The 25 Humanitarians Featured in the Monument and Curriculum**

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In alphabetical order, the 25 *Remember Them* featured humanitarians are:

**Ralph
Abernathy**

Maya Angelou

Susan B. Anthony

Ruby Bridges

Cesar Chavez

Chief Joseph

Sir Winston Churchill

Fredrick Douglass

Shirin Ebadi

Mahatma Gandhi

Helen Keller

Coretta Scott King

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Abraham Lincoln

Nelson Mandela

Harvey Milk

Mother Teresa

Rosa Parks

Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Oskar Schindler

Thich Nhat Hanh

Rigoberta Menchu Tum

The Unknown Rebel of Tiananmen Square

Elie Wiesel

Malcolm X

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Remember Them: Champions for Humanity **Key Project Partners**

Oakland, Calif. — The *Remember Them: Champions for Humanity* project is an inspirational and educational project that has as its centerpiece a world-class monument featuring 25 humanitarians. *Remember Them* has also developed a captivating platform for educators to introduce the concepts of human rights, peace and freedom through curricular materials developed in cooperation with the King Institute at Stanford University. Kaiser Permanente Inc. made an initial gift of \$2 million as the first funder of the project. Other organizations that are key partners to the *Remember Them* educational project are listed, following Kaiser Permanente, alphabetically:

KAISER PERMANENTE

The Clorox Company

Wells Fargo

AT&T

Dignity Health

Bank of America

Rotary International #3 (Oakland)

Securitas

Ramsell

The Whalen Family Foundation

Horizon Beverage

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REMEMBER THEM
CHAMPIONS FOR HUMANITY