



Quality programs that inform, involve and inspire

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON STATE EXCEPTIONAL CAREGIVER AWARDS NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

KCTS 9 seeks nominations for outstanding home-based caregivers making a difference in the lives of children ages birth to five years.

SEATTLE—KCTS 9, Seattle's PBS affiliate, is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the second round of the Washington State Exceptional Caregiver Awards, which recognize professional in-home caregivers statewide doing an outstanding job and making a difference in the lives of young children. Six exemplary childcare providers will be honored at a special ceremony at KCTS 9's professional development conference this November. The honorees will also receive on-air recognition of their achievements, as well as a financial award.

The professional development conference will feature eight training sessions around *A Place of Our Own* and *Los Niños en Su Casa*, early learning programs for parents and caregivers. Keynote Speaker Jone Bosworth, director for the Department of Early Learning, will recognize the honorees and their achievements at the closing luncheon. The conference will be an excellent opportunity for all professional caregivers to enhance their skills while learning from other professionals in the field.

KCTS 9 would like to give special thanks to the organizations that support this project, whose collaboration and support make a positive impact in the community through a focus on early learning: Washington State Childcare Resource and Referral, The Department of Early Learning, Child Care Resources, Washington Association for the Education of Young Children, Local SEIU 925 and Circle of Success. Funding for *A Place of Our Own* and *Los Niños en Su Casa* is provided by BP, First 5 California and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Nomination forms are available at KCTS9.org/caregivers or by calling 1.800.930.6060, and must be e-mailed, faxed or postmarked by Monday, September 15, 2008. For more information about the Washington State Exceptional Caregiver Awards, visit us online at KCTS9.org/caregivers.

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The KCTS 9 mission is to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve by providing meaningful programming on-air, online and in the community that informs, involves and inspires.