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**Heinz Awards Honor Five Eminent Americans
with 14th Annual Human Achievement Prize**

Trailblazers in five categories to share \$1.25 million awards

PITTSBURGH, September 9, 2008 – Celebrating the unbridled human spirit to change the world around us in ways great and small, in the here and now, and for generations to come, the Heinz Family Foundation today announced the recipients of the 14th annual Heinz Awards, among the largest individual achievement prizes in the world.

The \$250,000 awards recognize significant accomplishments in five distinct categories – the arts and humanities; the environment; human condition; public policy; and technology, the economy and employment. Each area was of particular interest to John Heinz, the late U.S. Senator for whom the awards are named.

The recipients, in their respective categories, are:

- **Arts and Humanities: Ann Hamilton**, 52, visual artist and educator, from Columbus, Ohio
- **Environment: Thomas FitzGerald**, 53, founder and director of the Kentucky Resources Council, from Louisville, Ky.
- **Human Condition: Brenda Krause Eheart**, Ph.D., 64, founder of Generations of Hope and Hope Meadows, from Champaign, Ill.

- **Public Policy: Robert Greenstein**, 62, founder and executive director of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, from Washington, D.C.
- **Technology, the Economy and Employment: Joseph DeRisi**, Ph.D., 38, molecular biologist, researcher and inventor, from San Francisco, Calif.

“If history teaches us anything,” said Teresa Heinz, chairman of the Heinz Family Foundation, “it is that civilizations advance on the backs of singular individuals whose inspiration, foresight and determination know no bounds. In a world in which many among us awake to the resignation of the status quo, these extraordinary individuals have succeeded in challenging conventional wisdom with new ideas, uncommon insight and an undaunted conviction to find a better way. They are, at turns, instigators, innovators and heroes, but mostly, they are the unheralded agents of change. We are proud to recognize them and celebrate their achievements with the 14th annual Heinz Awards.”

Mrs. Heinz established the Heinz Awards through the Heinz Family Foundation of Pittsburgh in 1993 to honor and sustain the legacy of her late husband, U.S. Senator John Heinz, who died two years earlier. The awards recognize exceptional leadership and accomplishments in areas of special interest to Senator Heinz. “The most important investments – and the most profitable,” he once said, “are investments in people.”

The following are synopses of this year’s recipients, by category:

Arts and Humanities: A visual artist internationally recognized for the sensory surrounds of her large-scale, multimedia installations, **Ann Hamilton** is one of contemporary art’s most influential voices. Noted for a dense accumulation of materials, Hamilton’s installations create immersive experiences that respond to the architectural presence and social history of their sites. She has forged a reputation as a perceptive, poignant observer whose art explores the places and forms for live, visceral, face-to-face experiences. A professor of Art at The Ohio State University, she is an inspiration and guiding force among a new generation of artists.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Ms. Hamilton's earliest interest was in textile design, and later, after earning her Master's in Fine Arts from Yale University, in sculpture. Influenced by the disciplines of sculpture, photography, textiles, poetry, video and performance, her installations often involve impressive arrangements of materials: a room lined with small canvas dummies, 48,000 used blue work shirts layered on a platform, a floor covered in a "skin" of 750,000 copper pennies and honey. Known to utilize sound, found objects and the spoken word, Hamilton's environments are sensory explorations of time, language and memory. Over the past 30 years, Ms. Hamilton's works have appeared in exhibitions around the world, including at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, the Musée d'art contemporain in Lyon, France and at the 48th Venice Biennale, where she represented the United States. In 2002, *Ann Hamilton*, a comprehensive monograph of Hamilton's work was published, followed by *Ann Hamilton: An Inventory of Objects* in 2006.

Environment: The founder and director of the Kentucky Resources Council – dubbed the “watchdog of the environment” within the Bluegrass state – **Thomas FitzGerald** has been an influential force in improving the environmental landscape within his home state and nationwide. An authority on the enforcement of the national Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, the federal law designed to protect against the adverse environmental and societal effects of surface coal mining operations, Mr. FitzGerald has dedicated his life's work to helping citizens and organizations within Kentucky and across the country secure full and fair implementation of policies intended to safeguard their health, safety and quality of life. His influence also extends well beyond issues related to coal. Working always pro bono, he has helped draft ordinances to protect communities from sewage sludge disposal and factory hog farms as well as negotiated environmental protections related to brownfield redevelopment, the siting of new power plants, solid and hazardous waste management and renewable energy and energy efficiency.

After earning his law degree, Mr. FitzGerald worked as a law clerk and environmental specialist for the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund, and in 1984, reshaped the Kentucky Resources Council, providing free legal assistance on environmental matters, pursuing environmental advocacy and making the name “Fitz” synonymous with environmental protection in Kentucky. He regularly carries a caseload of individual cases where communities or individuals are

threatened by air, land or water pollution but are unable to represent themselves. He also is looking toward the future. He has developed plans for an environmental leadership training program designed to cultivate the next generation of environmental watchdogs and create teams of volunteers to assist citizens and communities impacted by pollution.

Human Condition: The founder of Generations of Hope and the intergenerational community, Hope Meadows, where foster children, their adoptive parents and senior citizens live as neighbors, **Dr. Brenda Krause Eheart** has created an innovative model for mutual support that has provided a renewed sense of meaning for countless Americans. Her dream of creating a place where children – particularly the more than 129,000 children waiting in foster care to be adopted in the United States – would be adopted by caring parents who would themselves be supported by fulltime therapists and psychologists, has grown in size and scope. By incorporating seniors into her vision, she has given birth to an innovative and vibrant paradigm of interdependent community living, one which fosters a caring and supportive environment for all.

After adopting an infant son herself, Dr. Eheart (at the time a University of Illinois specialist in behavioral sciences and sociology) conducted a 10-year study on adoption and the foster-care system in Illinois. Her research found that foster children were typically placed in multiple homes before age 18, a situation due largely to a lack of social and emotional support. Such findings propelled her in 1994 to found Generations of Hope, creating a breakthrough model that works like this: In exchange for agreeing to take in three to four children, adoptive families live rent-free in large homes, with the stay-at-home parent receiving a modest salary. More experienced foster and adoptive parents mentor newer families. The seniors in the community pay below-market rent for their condos. Therapists, social workers and counselors work on site with the foster and adoptive families. The model has met with so much success over the years that it is being replicated in other states.

Public Policy: The founder of the non-partisan, Washington, D.C.-based Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, which analyzes the impact of federal and state budget and tax policies on low- and moderate-income people, **Robert Greenstein** has served as a thoughtful and persuasive

advocate on behalf of low-income Americans for close to three decades. Respected by policymakers on both sides of the political aisle, Mr. Greenstein has provided a clear, exacting and persuasive voice in matters affecting millions of people whose concerns are often unheard in the nation's capital. He is widely viewed as an objective, credible authority on a range of issues related to both fiscal policy and poverty, and his work has helped improve the economic outlook of many of America's poorer citizens.

Mr. Greenstein has influenced the shape of major federal initiatives. In particular, he and the center helped to design and win congressional approval of every expansion over the past quarter century of the Earned Income Tax Credit, which now lifts more children out of poverty than any other federal program. He also has helped make anti-poverty programs more effective and efficient, and he and the center continue to play a key role in ongoing debates about the future of Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and other vital programs.

Before creating the center in 1981, Mr. Greenstein served as an administrator of the Food and Nutrition Service within the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where he oversaw the Food Stamp Program, the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, and the school lunch and other child nutrition programs. In this position, Mr. Greenstein played a central role in crafting, securing enactment of and implementing new policies that extended food stamp benefits to millions of the nation's poorest people who had previously been shut out of the program.

Technology, the Economy and Employment: An innovative, selfless and generous researcher whose breakthrough creation of a viral detection platform for malaria and other infectious diseases has helped advance biomedicine's ability to detect both existing and new viruses, **Dr. Joseph DeRisi** stands at the intersection of the disciplines driving the life sciences – genomics, bioinformatics, virology, materials science and computer engineering. His pioneering invention – the ViroChip, a band-aid-sized glass wafer that contains a microarray of 22,000 DNA sequences from more than 1,300 viral families – provides “diagnostics on a chip,” enabling scientists to not only quickly and accurately identify existing viruses, but also to detect new viruses that could emerge as pandemic threats. In 2003, the ViroChip identified the SARS virus within 24 hours.

Notwithstanding his work in virus detection, Dr. DeRisi's primary focus has been on finding a cure for malaria, a disease that infects up to 500 million people annually, killing between 700,000 and 2.7 million, mostly children. Dr. DeRisi, together with his longtime collaborator, Dr. Don Ganem, and his team at the University of California, San Francisco developed a malaria-specific DNA chip, similar to the ViroChip, that enabled them to characterize the parasite's distinctive 48-hour life cycle, a breakthrough that could pave the way for potential drug and vaccine therapy. He also has taken on a number of other challenges, from investigating a cure for the common cold to an analysis of the disappearance of a half-million honeybee colonies in the United States. Driven by scientific discovery alone, Dr. DeRisi has distinguished himself within the highly competitive world of biomedicine by giving most of his research and knowledge away for free.

About the Heinz Foundation

The Heinz Family Foundation, one of the Heinz Family Philanthropies, began as a charitable trust established by the late Senator Heinz in 1984. His widow, Teresa Heinz, created the Heinz Awards in 1993 as the primary activity of the foundation. In addition to the Heinz Awards, the foundation directs a grant-making program that is active in a wide range of issues, principally those concerning women's health and environment, health care cost and coverage, as well as pensions and retirement security.

Nominations for the Heinz Awards are submitted by an invited Council of Nominators, all experts in their fields, who serve anonymously. Award recipients are selected by the board of directors for the Heinz Awards upon recommendation by a blue-ribbon panel of jurors in each category.

Past recipients of the Heinz Awards include author Dave Eggers, personal computer inventor Steve Wozniak, energy authority Amory Lovins, gerontologist Robert Butler, medical anthropologist Paul Farmer, global warming scientist James Hansen, marine biologist Jane Lubchenco and Paul Anastas, a leader in the "green chemistry" movement.

In addition to the \$250,000 award for their unrestricted use, recipients are presented with a medallion inscribed with the image of Sen. Heinz on one side and a rendering of a globe passing between two hands on the other. The medallion symbolizes the partnership, continuity and values carried on to the next generation. The hands also suggest passing on the stewardship of the earth to future generations.

The Heinz Awards will be presented at a private ceremony in Pittsburgh on October 21.

Additional information is available online www.heinzawards.net

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