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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 10, 2003

MAYOR HAHN TO PRESENT AWARDS TO LATINO HERITAGE MONTH AWARD WINNERS

Los Angeles - Mayor Jim Hahn will present awards to the recipients of this year's Latino Heritage Month awards on Sunday, October 12 at the Latino Heritage Month closing ceremonies in Hollywood. Honorees are being recognized for empowering and uniting Los Angeles's Latino communities. Awards will be presented in honor of Latino civic leaders, artists, and humanitarians whose bodies of work are of global significance.

"Los Angeles benefits greatly from the vast accomplishments and contributions of our Latino community. The award recipients represent the diversity, creativity, and integrity of Los Angeles's vibrant Latino culture," said Mayor Hahn.

Award Descriptions and Recipients

Rigoberta Menchú Humanitarian Award: Musician Carlos Santana is being honored for his commitment to bringing peace and unity to the communities around him.

- Carlos Santana, a Grammy-Award winning musician, and his wife Deborah, have responded to the escalating HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa, through the donation of proceeds from the United States portion of their Shaman World Tour, to Artists For A New South Africa (ANSA). Funds will be earmarked for grants and material aid to effective South African nonprofit organizations working on the frontlines to combat HIV/AIDS through prevention, treatment, care, de-stigmatization, advocacy, and infrastructure development.

Mario Moreno "Cantinflas" Award: Comedian Ernie G is being recognized for representing the Latino community with the same humor and distinction as the legendary Mario Moreno "Cantinflas." Like Cantinflas, Ernie G utilizes his influence to help those most in need.

- Ernie G is one of the country's most multi-talented, young Latino entertainers. Ernie's stand-up comedy blends witty and insightful observations on life as a Latino, with his loveable and warm demeanor and engages audiences with his unique form of comedy he calls "Edutainment."